

by March 2011. Dr. Mai suggested that if the NCL runs into problems when converting to MARC21, it could establish a communication channel with the Library of Congress to discuss solutions. At the same time, the NCL introduced Dr. Mai to the library's efforts in the area of bibliographic record format conversion. It also introduced database systems currently under development by the library, including a wide area bibliographic database, Taiwan thesis system, daily book information system, and encyclopedia subject service system. Dr. Mai lauded the NCL's work in these areas and suggested that the NCL could share its results at international library conferences.

### ■ *Beiguan Music Treasures Displayed at NCL Arts and Audiovisual Center*

The Arts and Audiovisual Center of NCL and Taiwan Music Center, Preparatory Office of the National Headquarters of Taiwan Traditional Arts jointly held an exhibition on Beiguan music from October 11. This was the first music-themed exhibition to be hosted by the library.

The Taiwan Music Center is dedicated to preserving Taiwan's traditional music through the survey, collection, research, preservation, presentation, teaching, and popularization of national music. The Beiguan exhibition co-hosted with the Arts and Audiovisual Center builds on this mission by promoting Beiguan Music and research in this important area of Taiwan's music tradition.

The Han-Yang Beiguan Troupe and Yilan's Luodong Fulan Group provided items for the displays. Taiwanese hip-hop band Kou Chou Ching

contributed hip-hop, reggae, and other renditions of Beiguan scores to add a fresh note to this traditional music form. Designed by Chuang Chin-tsai and the Han-Yang Beiguan Troupe, the exhibition vividly presented Beiguan's past and present.

Beiguan music has played a very important role in Taiwanese society. Its influence can be seen in many areas, from temple celebrations to religious ceremonies. Performance styles vary from a capella to instrumental (string, wind and percussion) to opera. With rapid change and economic growth, Beiguan has lost its original place in society, underscoring the need to revive this traditional art form with new blood. The preservation of Beiguan music also depends on greater public awareness and talented teachers like Chuang Chin-tsai to pass the tradition on to the next generation so this cultural treasure is not forgotten.

### ■ *Chiang Fu-tsung Memorial Symposium*

September 21, 2010, marked the 20th anniversary of the death of Mr. Chiang Fu-tsung. During his lifetime, Mr. Chiang was a student of philosophy and a professional in the library field, in which he made considerable contributions. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Mr. Chiang was distinguished by his erudition in literature and other fields of knowledge. He was once described as a "Chinese encyclopedia" by a German friend visiting the National Central Library (NCL). He later remarked, "Librarians need to be in contact with different kinds of readers and deal with different kinds of knowledge. A librarian depending on professional skill, without other learning, is useless." During a half-century of service at the NCL, Mr. Chiang dedicated his full energy to assisting development of the library's operations. He was a man who acted on his words and became a paragon among peers for his contributions to the library.

During his long career, Mr. Chiang also dedicated himself to saving national documents and the planning of the NCL and National Palace Museum (NPM) to protect the country's rare historic treasures and promote Chinese culture to the world. In memory of his contributions, the NCL and NPM jointly held a memorial symposium on September 23.

The symposium consisted of two sessions: Libraries and Literature, and Museums and Historiography. The former was moderated by



*Chuang Chin-tsai (middle), NCL Director-general Ku (fourth from left), Deputy director Wu (fifth from right) and all the important visitors to the Beiguan exhibition in the Arts and Audiovisual Center of the National Central Library.*

former NCL director-general Prof. Wang Cheng-ku. Former dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Fu Jen Catholic University Prof. Lu Hu-sheng, former directors of the NCL International Publication Exchange Department Teresa Y. Wang and Ku Rui-lan, and Prof. Lu Chin-tang of the Graduate Institute of Chinese Bibliography and Textual Criticism at National Taipei University all presented speeches on the work and life of Mr. Chiang. The second session was moderated by National Palace Museum Deputy Director Fung Ming-chu. Speakers included Aurora Art Museum Director Chang Lin-sheng, former NPM Director Lin Po-ting, former director of the NPM's Department of Rare Books and Historical Documents Wu Chih-fu, Prof. Huang Kuan-chung of the Center for General Education at Chang Gung University, and director of the Institute of Modern History at Academia Sinica Huang Ke-wu.

An exhibition also was arranged in conjunction with the symposium. Exhibits were divided into four sections focusing on historical documents and certificates, rare books, photographs, and manuscripts and works.

The symposium was also joined by members of Mr. Chiang's family, including Mr. Chiang Tsu-yi, Ms. Liu Lin-lin, and Ms. Chiang Chen. Also participating was the wife of former Taiwan diplomat Fu Wei-hsin, director of the Institute of Chinese Contemporary History, Hong Kong Hu Chih-wei, secretary-general of the China Democracy Party Overseas Headquarters Lu Yi, director of the Historical Documents Center at the Shanghai Library Huang Xiangong, Prof. Ma Han-pao and his wife, Prof. Nancy Ou-lan Chou, Prof. Huang Hung-chu, and Prof. Cheng Heng-hsiung Chiang Fu-tsung, as well as friends, students and colleagues.



*Mr. Chiang Fu-tsung (front row, sitting middle) with NCL staff at first January 1941.*

During the symposium, NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku underscored the significant contributions made by Chiang Fu-tsung to the library and museum worlds of Taiwan. He described Mr. Chiang as a "20th century guardian saint of Chinese treasures," noting that many of the country's rare books and other historic assets would have been difficult to save without his dedication to their preservation. Director-general Ku also noted the achievements of Mr. Chiang in promoting international exchanges with other libraries and museums to promote Chinese culture around the world.

### ■ *Taiwan Retrocession Memorial Event*

October 25 marked the 65th anniversary of Taiwan's liberation from Japanese colonial rule. That day in 1945 also represented a start for Taiwan, one that would carry the country into the modern era that would see the replacement of an authoritarian government with democracy, the creation of an economic miracle, and the formation of a collective national identity. For the anniversary occasion, the National Central Library (NCL) collaborated with the Taipei Municipal University of Education, National Taiwan Library, National Taichung Library, and Chinese Taipei Film Archive to hold a symposium, movie screening, and discussion activity on the theme of the social changes in Taiwan from the pre- to post-liberation periods.

The theme of the symposium was "Social Change in Taiwan Before and After Retrocession." Four heavyweight historians participated in the discussions to broaden reader understanding of the historical facts and social changes in Taiwan after its liberation. The event also sought to stimulate new perspectives on Taiwan's history and promote the various Taiwan studies resources available at the NCL.

At the movie screening and discussion, a documentary on the years of 1945 to 1947 produced by the Taiwan Film Cultural Company was presented. The film content covered the repatriation of Japanese nationals and prisoners of war, the opening ceremony of the first Taiwan Province Youth Summer Camp, field training by the 70th division of the Chinese army based in Taiwan, a scientific survey of Lanyu (Orchid Island), an eastern inspection tour by Taiwan's first governor Wei Tao-ming, a visit to Taiwan by ROC Minister of National Defense Pai Chung-hsi, the celebration of the second anniversary of Taiwan's liberation, and other historical events.