

# National Central Library

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## Spotlights

### ■ IFLA President Ellen Tise's Visit to Taiwan

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is an independent international NGO, with a formal relationship with the U.N.'s Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). It has observer status at the United Nations, and in 1999 was also granted observer status at the World Trade Organization. Currently there are over 1,600 members of IFLA throughout the world. National Central Library was honored to have IFLA President Ellen Tise visit our facilities from April 21 to 26.

Ellen Tise has over 25 years of experience in prominent university libraries in South Africa. From 1998 to 2002, she served as the first president of the Library and Information Association of South Africa. She has been the recipient of many prestigious awards and honors for her outstanding leadership abilities and contributions to the library science field, including special commendations from the International Relations Committee of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) in 2010. Ellen Tise was elected president of the IFLA in 2009. Previous to this, she served as a standing committee member on IFLA Federation's Governing Board and Executive Committee from 2001 to 2005.



The host and panelists at the public library forum (from left): Professor Wu Mei-mei from National Taiwan Normal University, Director Lu Chun-chiao of National Taichung Library, Director Huang Wen-ling of National Taiwan Library, Director-general Tseng, Ellen Tise, Professor Yang Mei-hua from National Cheng-chi University, Professor Lin Chi-feng from Shih Hsin University, and Director Hung Shi-chang from the Taipei Public Library.

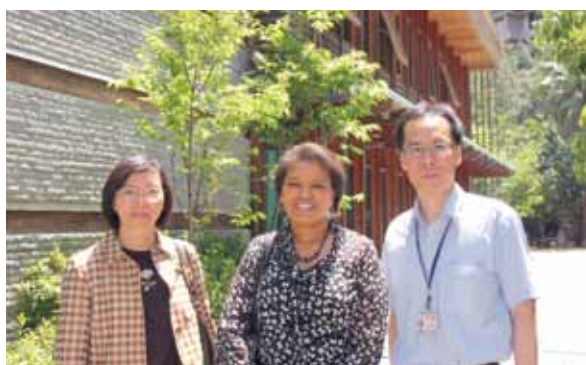


*IFLA President Ellen Tise expressed a keen interest in NCL's rare book collection while touring it during her visit and posed many questions to researchers.*

On April 22, NCL arranged for her to give a speech on "Libraries are critical institutions for growth and development" at National Taiwan University's College of Liberal Arts Auditorium. Following her remarks, there was a 30 minute discussion time where she interacted with library and information science professors, students, professionals, and others interested in library development. On April 25, a forum was held at NCL's conference room on "How public libraries encourage and increase public reading abilities?" Those in attendance included professionals from the public library sector in Taiwan, including Taipei Public Library, the Kaohsiung Public Library, the National Taichung Library, and the National Taiwan Library. Discussion centered on "What roles libraries should play in encouraging and improving the reading literacy of the public," "Experiences and difficulties in public library reading programs," and "How public libraries can popularize reading," with many sharing their experiences and ideas. Many library professionals were also in attendance and were greatly enriched by the discussion. During the forum, Ms. Tise complimented the efforts of Taiwan libraries, stating that various efforts to promote reading in other parts of the world have already been implemented or are currently being tried in Taiwan. Also, the overall high level of education in Taiwan is a direct reflection of diligence on the part of libraries here.

National Central Library actively participates in international professional organizations and events in order to facilitate a close connection

between Taiwan libraries and international developments. As a continuation from IFLA secretary-general Jennefer Nicholson's visit to NCL last October, having IFLA President Ellen Tise visit Taiwan marks the highest level international dignitary in the library science field to visit Taiwan in the last 20 years. Her visit provided an opportunity for Taiwan library professionals to hear more information and inspiration from abroad on how to provide innovating reader services. It also provided her a lasting impression of Taiwan's achievements in strengthening culture as she toured library and cultural facilities here.



*Ellen Tise toured the Beitou branch of the Taipei Public Library and was very complimentary of the eco-friendliness of the facilities. From left: Director-general Tseng, Ellen Tise, Taipei Public Library Director Hung Shi-chang.*

### ■ ***National Central Library Participates in the Pacific Neighborhood Consortium's 2010 Annual Conference***

The Pacific Neighborhood Consortium (PNC) originated from a combined meeting of public university presidents from countries around the Pacific Rim. From this grew a plan to assist countries in the Pacific region. Former chancellor of UC Berkeley Chang-Lin Tien and Professor Curtis Hardyck spearheaded the project and formally named the organization. PNC's mission is to promote the internet and the exchange of information between Pacific Rim countries via state-of-the-art internet technology. In this way, these countries can evolve into a "neighborhood," given their close proximity and relationships.

PNC's 2010 annual conference was held on December 1-4 at the City University of