

National Central Library

In this issue

Spotlights	1-3
Events	3-7
NCL International Exchange Events	8-9
Chinese Studies Symposium	9-11
CCS News and Activities	11
NCL Publications	11-13
LIS Seminars	13-14
News from Taiwan Libraries	14-16

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Spotlights

■ *New Services: NCL Welcomes High School Students*

On July 1, 2011, National Central Library officially lowered the minimum age requirement to apply for a library card to 16, or high school students who are not yet 16. This new patron group will be able to access all library services, with hopes that these privileges will aid in the education and scholarly development in Taiwan. This is not only a new milestone for NCL, it is also highly significant for Taiwan's educational development.

In March 1956, NCL opened a reading room. In June of the same year, it did away with having patrons take a wooden pass to access the reading room and replaced this with a reading card.

When current NCL Director-general Shu-hsien Tseng assumed her post at the end of 2010, she noticed an increase in high school students' ability to conduct academic research and their needs to access scholarly works. She began surveying library staffs' views on the potentiality of



The power of reading: students of Taipei First Girls High School happily took photos together, after receiving their library cards from NCL.

reducing the minimum age requirement, while at the same time holding many activities promoting reading. One such activity was held on April 23 in conjunction with other libraries. Entitled "Literature Never Ages, Ohio: Modern Chinese Novel Month," this reading-promotion activity was attended by many high schools from around the country. A website is being established that will assist in working together with and serving high schools. The new policy officially went into effect on July 1, meaning those 16 years or older or high school students not yet 16 years of age can apply for a library card to access all holdings and services in the Library.

NCL organized a series of activities and services to welcome this new patron group. On the first day of the new policy, the first 100 applicants received a keepsake in addition to their library card. During the summer break, NCL held a series of movie showings called "Hot Summer, Cool Movies" and another entitled "Between Generations: Linking Grandchildren with Their Grandparents." Also, the 2nd Annual Golden Comic Awards were held at the Library's Arts and Audiovisual Center, where viewers were treated to the charisma of original Taiwanese comics. Guided group tours are also available that introduce the facilities, holdings, and use of each reading room in the Library. Secondary schools and above can arrange for these tours.

The Library has also selected and designed learning resources, internet courses, designated computers, and introductions to reference works especially for high school students, as a way to assist them in quickly making the most of NCL's services. Moreover, NCL has professionals that can guide and assist high school students search for specific information. The Library has also set up an E-reading Booth that allows patrons to access the Library's rich selection of digital resources on any number of devices. Also available is the

extremely popular Jin Yong e-book reader and the Greenbook e-book reader. These encourage patrons to experience the joy of mobile reading and give educational experiences an entertaining twist.

The announcement of the new policy was made on NCL's website and on the national news. The day before it went into effect, many inquiries were made as to whether or not it would be carried out as planned. Other patrons expressed concerns that high school students would adversely affect the scholarly and professional nature of the Library. Yet, in surveying the high school students that applied for library cards, it became clear they were familiar with the nature of the Library. Their reasoning for coming to NCL was based on the fact that its abundant collections and databases available could aid them with their studies and research. These resources are unavailable at school and public libraries. Starting on July 1, approximately 2,000 high school students have accessed the Library each month. In terms of overall patronage, this figure will not affect other patrons.

NCL is Taiwan's national library and is dedicated to scholarly research and assisting researchers. Future plans include a branch library or a National Youth and Children's Library to promote library development and stay abreast of international developments.

■ *The 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Library Association and Poster Session*

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Library Association was held from June 23-28 in New York. Taiwan's National Central Library's E-Publication Platform System (EPS) was selected for the 30th Annual ALA Poster Sessions. In addition, EPS also received an ALA Presidential Citations for Innovative International Library Projects for 2011 from the International Relations Round Table (IRRT). It was one of four systems to be cited.



ALA President presents the Award

ALA was established in 1876 in Philadelphia and is the oldest, largest, and most influential library association. Currently, it has over 61,000 members from 115 countries. Their annual meeting every June is one of the most important meetings internationally with over 25,000 librarians, educators, authors, and publishers attending.

NCL's EPS was nominated for inclusion in the Poster Session exhibition (120 systems were nominated). The exhibit showed visitors how to use the system to borrow and read books offline on an iPad. Visitors had many questions regarding e-books and expressed much interest in NCL's system.



NCL's booth at Poster Session

The seven main reasons NCL's EPS won an award are 1) it is a trail-blazing innovative system; 2) NCL created a system that can handle e-book deposit, ISBN, copyright management, encryption, and full text upload and circulation; 3) NCL has a visionary desire to become the axis of international e-services for Chinese culture; 4) the system provides users with quicker, better e-book services anywhere anytime; 5) it assists publishers with online deposits; 6) NCL created a system to preserve Taiwan's digital culture and expand e-reading; 7) NCL designed the e-publication platform that addresses both Taiwan's regulations and international standards.

Events

■ *NCL Extends Privileges to High School Students as of July 1*

National Central Library was established in 1933. As it celebrates its 78th anniversary this year, it introduces a new service to the community. Starting on July 1st, 2011 anyone over the age of 16 (or high school students under the age of 16) can now apply for a library card. That morning at 6:30, students were already lined up outside the main doors of the library. Braving the hot summer temperatures, these youth were obviously anticipating their newly afforded privileges. When the doors opened at 9:00, the lobby of the library was filled with a sea of people. Within an hour over 120 new library cards had been issued and the gifts to the first 100 new applicants were gone. Many students came in groups, others with air of a pilgrimage. When their new library card was placed in their hands, it was hard to miss the elation that showed on their faces. They were clearly anticipating making full use of the services NCL offers. To help orient these new patrons, NCL offered five tours of the library that day. A student from Taipei Municipal Zhongshan

Girls High School exclaimed, “Being here at the National Central Library has made me realize that there really is a lot more to know. I need to work harder at my studies.” This is precisely the reason that NCL decided to allow high school students to enter—so that the seeds of research and scholarship could be sown in younger and younger hearts.

In the past, due to NCL’s focus on research and scholarship, target patrons were naturally those with the ability and interest in such pursuits. The minimum age requirement was set at 19 (or younger if enrolled in a university or college). When it was announced that this requirement would be lowered to 16, some reacted with suspicion, worrying that high school students would change the strong research atmosphere in the library. In speaking with high school students who applied for library cards, many expressed their clear understanding of NCL’s purpose and stated that they came to apply for a card because, unlike school or community libraries, NCL has resources and databases that will assist them in their studies and research. NCL has plans to continue adding to its already extensive collections and databases, as well as addressing specific needs of different user age groups. In keeping abreast of developments in other national libraries throughout the world, NCL expects to establish a National Youth Library and a National Children’s Library.

■ *NCL’s Reading Theater Ignites Passion in over 100 Viewers*

In conjunction with the lowering of the minimum age requirement on July 1st, and as a way to encourage more reading by the public, NCL held a special series of events over the summer. From July 9 to August 27, five movies that encourage reading were shown to the public as part of “Books in Movies: Beat the Heat.” Activities began on July 9th by showing the documentary *The Hobart Shakespeareans*, with Chu Wen-hui

leading the discussion. Chu first recounted the main points of the documentary, including Mr. Rafe Esquith’s adherence to his educational principles, the variety of ways that can pique kids’ interest in reading, and the benefits of an in-depth reading of world classics. The audience then viewed the documentary and saw how one teacher can create a passion in students. Many were obviously touched by the message. Chu’s offered a few insightful comments after the documentary was over that highlighted the readability of Shakespeare’s works and the importance of reading a variety of genres, which proved to increase everyone’s desire to read more.

The efforts of Mr. Esquith in promoting reading mirror, in part, those outlined the NCL’s Director-general Tseng, who believes that parents and teachers should more proactively encourage children to read, to get in the habit of reading, and to read a variety of books. Also, the length of books read should increase with age, instead of getting stuck on comics. Reading essays, stories, and novels are all excellent ways to improve reading skills. The Director-general also went a step further to encourage people to have a set time for reading—complete and buy at least one book a month. Reading must become an important, indispensable element in our lives.



Chu Wen-hui leads the discussion of “Rafe Esquith and The Hobart Shakespeareans”

■ *The President Reads—President Ma and Other Notables Give a Recommended Reading List*

As a way to encourage young people to make use of libraries, on July 1st NCL lowered the minimum age requirement to enter the library to 16, much to the elation of many high school students. According to data, the number of patrons under the age of 19 that applied for library cards from July 1-17 was 623. This is 30% of the total number of cards processed during that time. NCL invited President Ma Ying-jeou and other influential people in society to generate a must-read booklist for teenagers, in hopes that this list will encourage youth to get in the habit of reading at this critical time when their personalities and values are taking shape. NCL Director-general Tseng suggested that high school students, especially freshmen, take advantage of summer break to read as broadly and as much as possible.

Those who received invitations to recommend books included the President, Vice President, the five Ministers, and many renowned persons in society. They were asked to submit their recommendations by July 20th. In all, 20 persons responded to our invitation, including President Ma, recommending a list 116 books long. President Ma recommended *Confucius in Modern Times: A Testimony for the Analects*, *Newspapers from the Republic of China*, *Chinese Culture: From Peiking University to National Taiwan University*, *Natural Sciences Made Easy*, *Seediq Bale: The First Historical Comic on the Wushe Incident*. All five of his recommendations share a common trait, that being they are written in an easy, light, and interesting manner to encourage interest in reading, and from there to see the beauty of Chinese culture, important developments in the establishment of the Republic of China, and important historical events in Taiwan's history. His list brings together historical and modern, scientific and literary,

evinced his expectations that students be familiar with history so as to help modern society and have deep cultural roots so as to ensure future progress.



Five books recommended by President Ma for teenagers.

A total of 20 people recommended 116 books in a variety of fields: literature (53), social sciences (16), history and geography (16), philosophy (11), applied sciences (6), natural sciences (5), general (4), art (4), religion (1), and tourism (1). The recommendations revealed the expectations leaders have for the youth of Taiwan and the diversity that exists in Taiwan's society.

■ *Looks Good, Sounds Good: NCL's Exhibition on Air*

NCL and the Police Radio Station produced the show "National Central Library's Exhibition on Air" every Monday from 11:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on 104.9 FM from June 13 to September 5. This marks the second time that NCL has co-produced a show with the Police Radio Station. The first time was from June to August 1992 when their program "Rosy Clouds Fill the Sky" aired a show called "National Central Library and You." The motivation behind this second program was to highlight the difference between NCL and other libraries, in addition to making the public aware of

NCL's services and facilities. It was also done with the hope that more people would become aware of NCL's various reading promotion activities to get the public interested and engaged in reading.

The program was done by host Liu Xiuru conducting live interviews with certain NCL staff on various aspects of library services, digital data, special collections and resources, as well as reading promotion activities. In all, thirteen shows were produced, which are listed below according to date: 1st show: NCL's Comic Section (aired June 13, 2011)

2nd show: A Different NCL (aired June 20, 2011)

3rd show: My Memories of NCL (aired June 27, 2011)

4th show: Let's All Start Reading (aired July 4, 2011)

5th show: NCL to the Rescue (aired July 11, 2011)

6th show: All You Ever Wanted to Know at NCL (aired 18, 2011)

7th show: A Champion Collection (aired July 25, 2011)

8th show: The War to Rescue Ancient Texts (aired August 1, 2011)

9th show: The Story of Book Collectors and NCL (aired August 8, 2011)

10th show: On Postcards and Patriotic Tickets (aired August 15, 2011)

11th show: Government Records Made Public (aired August 22, 2011)

12th show: Classics in the 100th Year of the Republic (aired September 5, 2011)

13th show: Excellent Audio-Visual Material from the Past (aired September 19, 2011)

These shows were also simultaneously broadcast over the internet. The Police Radio Station provided NCL a copy of each broadcast to archive. To increase the outreach of the program, NCL converted the audio files to MP3 and uploaded them to the Digital Audio Visual Archive System under "Broadcasts." Here is a direct link for those who missed the

program: (<http://dava.ncl.edu.tw/SecondCategory.aspx?SubjectID=Subject03&id=91>)



Director general Tseng (right) and Liu Xiuru (left).

■ *NLC and Taiwan Digital Publishing Forum Work on "1000 Must-Reads from the Last 100 Years" Project*

Taiwan Digital Publishing Forum (TDPF) has begun an e-book project called "1000 Must-Reads from the Last 100 Years." They have invited scholars and online users to select 1000 influential classics published between 1840-1990. In addition to publishing the final book list, TDPF will produce an e-book for each one. The project's ultimate goal is to allow readers to download and read these books in any device they desire.

In May of this year, TDPF invited NCL to participate in the project by providing some of the books listed that are in the public domain. These were then turned into e-books. This digitization of classical works from the last 100 years is a big push forward into the new digital age. On May 25, NCL



Vice President Vincent Siew(front row right 3), Director general Tseng(back row left 2), and TDPF President Fei-Peng Ho(front row left 3), together with 8 other people, enable the website of "1000 Must-Reads from the Last 100 Years".

and TDPF signed a cooperative agreement wherein NCL would provide all the public-domain books needed and TDPF would then send a team to the library to scan and digitize the books. According to the cooperative agreement, TDPF agrees to give a copy of the e-books produced to NCL for archival and use. NCL can then make these available to library users to borrow online. The project ran from May 24 to August 22, during which NCL provided 194 titles (407 volumes) of books in the public domain for TDPF to digitize. NCL has plans to continue working with TDPF. On September 29 a combined press conference and reading day was held. The activity will showcase scholars and experts who will introduce the various books recommended, as well as important books on the guided-reading list. It is hope that this activity will encourage the public to read more and to promote a new renaissance of e-reading.

■ ***A New Mission: NCL's E-reading Booth***

Providing knowledge services is at the core of modern libraries, and quick and convenient knowledge access has long been one of NCL's goals. In the wake of the information revolution,

the digitization of traditional paper-based books has been a common trend in e-reading, which in itself has already become an important aspect of knowledge services. As such, NCL has designed a Reading Booth in its main hall to allow patrons experience the newest trends in reading. It provides the most diverse array of readers and content and is oriented around three themes: promote e-reading, e-book content display, and mobile e-reading experience. Patrons can read e-newspapers, e-books, e-magazines, including 21 e-books made by NCL and the Taipei Cultural Center. In addition, there are also other interactive activities, such as memory puzzle and DIY postcards. The e-reading experience even extends to over 10,000 e-books (Chinese and foreign language) online.

NCL's E-reading Booth officially opened on June 3. The Government Information Office was invited to attend, along with the Research Development and Evaluation Committee, the Institute for Information Industry, and many representatives from the digital publishing industry. The same day, borrowing services began where patrons could checkout an e-reading device for use anywhere in the library.



Patrons experience digital reading in E-reading Booth.

NCL International Exchange Events

2011.05.03 Li Xin, assistant director of the Cornell University library, visited Director-general Tseng at NCL. She also gave a speech on “The Direction of Cornell University library for 2015.”



Director-general Tseng introducing Li Xin before her speech.

2011.05.04 Michael Meng, Chinese Studies Librarian at University of Washington, met with Director-general Tseng during his visit to NCL; the two exchanged ideas regarding the digitalization



Director-general Tseng(right) presents a souvenir to Michael Meng(left) on behalf of NCL.

of Chinese rare books. He also toured the Special Collections room.

2011.05.24 Members of the Mongolian State Great Hural Baldan-Ochir Dogsomjav and Odbayar Dorj came to NCL and visited with Deputy Director General Wu Ying-mei. They also toured NCL's Special Collections and were especially interested in rare books from the Yuan dynasty.



Deputy Director General Wu Ying-mei (second from left) presents souvenirs to Odbayar Dorj (left) and Baldan-Ochir Dogsomjav (second from right).

2011.05.26 Dr. Marek Rostkowski (left), director of the Pontifical Urbanian University library, visited NCL and met with Deputy Director General Wu Ying-mei (right). Dr. Rostkowski was impressed with NCL's rare book collection and toured the Matteo Ricci & Pacific Studies Reading Room. He discussed the possibility of creating a Chinese bibliography with directors of related divisions at NCL.



2011.06.13 Ma Tai-loi (left), director of Princeton University's East Asian Library, visited with Director-general Tseng (right) at NCL, during which the two exchanged ideas regarding the digitalization of Chinese rare books.



2011.07.27 Three management-level personnel from the Coordination & Operation Management division and International Cooperation division at National Library of China—Gao Hong, Wang Yanxing, and Lei Liang—visited Taiwan from

July 26-31 to understand contemporary history collections here. On the 27th, they visited National Central Library, touring the facilities and accessing NCL collection. Director-general Tseng and staff accompanied them during their visit.



2011.07.28 A group of 29 librarians and assistant librarians from colleges and universities in Zhejiang and Jiangxi Provinces visited National Central Library on July 28. They were hosted by Deputy Director Wu Ying-mei and staff. They were impressed with the facilities and services NCL provides, especially the digital reading booth.

Chinese Studies Symposium

2011.06.03

The Center for Chinese Studies hosted an academic conference for its visiting scholar Zhang Jia-jie, a doctoral candidate in geography from Durham University in Britain, who lectured on “Cultural-political geography in tourism across the two straits: A look at field studies by select scholars.” Jiang Bowei, chair of National Quemoy University's Graduate Institute of Culture and History of Hokkien, hosted the lecture.

Zhang averred that the relationship between China and Taiwan is not limited to political discourse; from the view of micro-politics, the

political atmosphere influences everyday life, and continues to transform as cultural practices change. His lecture took on a comparative geopolitics approach as he analyzed tourist spot changes during times of relative cross-strait peace. Specifically, he discussed: 1. the political views of individual tourists, 2. changes in relatively politically-sensitive tourist spots as relations became friendlier, and 3. additional tourist spots that were developed to promote friendly relations. Zhang attempted to increase understanding of cross-strait relations by looking at micro-political attitudes of ordinary tourists and their understanding of and interaction with tourist spots and memorabilia. In addition to this, Zhang also shared thoughts about his field studies in China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, as well as methodologies in field studies by other scholars.



First row from the left: Professor Kuo Wen-fu, Professor Chang Show-foong, Mr. Zhang Jia-jie, Professor Jiang Bo-wei, and Mr. Huang Chia-chien.

2011.6.30

The Center for Chinese Studies hosted an academic conference for its visiting scholar Martino Dibeltulo, a doctoral candidate from the University of Michigan, who spoke on “Transmission of Tibetan Buddhism and Contemporary China: Religion, Knowledge, and Power.” Professor Hsu Ming-yin, from the Department of Religious Studies at Fu-jen Catholic University, was asked to host the lecture.

Dibeltulo first discussed historical changes in the terms “Buddhism in Tibet” and “Tibetan Buddhism.” He then discussed the transmission of

Buddhism in Tibet from a different angle than is commonly found in contemporary scholarly studies. Dibeltulo attempted to show that the change from “Buddhism in Tibet” to “Tibetan Buddhism” helps clarify why transmission has most often been discussed as an operation of power on knowledge change, and Taiwan and China’s political standing before the Cultural Revolution. He hopes this will bring about a greater understanding of scholars’ views of modern Tibetan Buddhism.



First row from the left: Mr. Martino Dibeltulo, and Professor Hsu Ming-yin.

2011.7.26

The Center for Chinese Studies held a “Sinology across the World” Lecture, at which Chow Kai-wing, a CCS grant scholar and professor of history and Asian languages and culture at University of Illinois, spoke on “Modern Chinese Religion and Local Public Space: A Look at Temples of the Town Deity.” Professor Lin Li-yue from the Department of History at National Taiwan Normal University hosted the lecture.

Since the Tang and Song dynasties, the relationship between religion and local communities in China underwent a monumental change as monasteries declined in wealth. The solid monetary foundation of monasteries during the Tang and Song strongly influenced the development of local communities. During the Song dynasty, for example, monasteries produced an abundance of crops and enjoyed tax cuts. As such, they worked closely with local government organizations to build buildings and repair bridges, to promote

agriculture and fix waterways. Government welfare agencies during Northern Song, were even located in large monasteries where monks were commissioned to oversee its operations. The many economic and religious services that monasteries provided paved the way for the development of public space centered on them. However, during the Ming and Qing dynasties, these monasteries were replaced by smaller temples built by commoners. At the same time, such persons as government officials, teachers, lawyers, and professional writers began to control cultural developments. Also, merchants exerted strong influence on the exchange of goods, handicrafts, and manufacturing. The influence of these two groups increased. They began pooling funds to build public buildings, provide relief, assist the poor, and offer medical services. The increase of these non-religious public organizations altered the relationship religion had with the economy. Professor Chow's lecture cited temples of the town deity as an example, showing how faith and belief in these deities gradually increased after the Song dynasty. As such, these temples became more and more common. Now they are an integral part of public space.



First row from the left: Professor Kuo Wen-fu, Professor Chow Kai-wing, and Professor Lin Li-yue.

CCS News and Activities

■ 2011 Dragon Boat Festival Luncheon for Visiting Scholar

The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) held

a luncheon for visiting scholars on June 3 to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival. Both scholars on CCS grants and those on Ministry of Foreign Affairs grants were invited. Held the day before the Dragon Boat Festival, the luncheon was a way to provide the scholars with experiences in traditional cultural activities. In all, 25 scholars attended from 18 countries, including America, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines, Czech, Germany, Italy, Spain, Singapore, Israel, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Yin Yu-qi and Liang Yu-shan from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were also in attendance.

NCL's Director-general Tseng welcomed the guests before the luncheon and briefly explained the historical background of the Dragon Boat Festival for the visiting scholars. During the meal, scholars introduced themselves, share research insights, and viewed videos on the cultural activity held in May and on the Dragon Boat Festival. CCS prepared many different styles of the pyramid-shaped rice dumplings traditionally eaten during the festival. Following the meal, the Director-general presented a memento to all the scholars—a small incense bag in the shape of a rice dumpling.

NCL Publications

■ 4th Annual National Meeting of Libraries

The 4th Annual National Meeting of Libraries was held on December 28-29, 2010. This marks the first of such meetings in the last 10 years. During the two days of meetings, attendees and scholars from a variety of fields discussed the following five topics: Rule of Law and Organization, Reading Environment and Technical Savvy, Digitization and Library Development, Academic Dissemination and National Competitiveness, and International Projects and Cross-strait Exchanges. A total of 49 conclusions were decided upon.

National Central Library made a complete record of the meeting highlights, which was published in April of this year. Reasons for so doing are twofold: to leave a record for history and to be able to follow up on the implementation of the solutions agreed upon. The minutes first



Cover image of *The 4th General Convention of Librarianship Development in Taiwan Scientific Program*.

list the purpose of the meeting, main points to be covered, its organization, and the remarks made by officials. Then discussion during each session was recorded, including introductory remarks by the session host, other introductory remarks, and comments and decisions made by those present. Transcripts of each session were produced by NCL staff from audio recordings of the discussions. The transcriptions have attempted to reflect as much as possible the actual discussion. The publication of the meetings will be shared with those who were unable to attend and will be distributed to all libraries in Taiwan.

■ *NCL's Chinese Studies E-Classic Series and Taiwan Memory E-books*

These e-books can be downloaded at: <http://ebook.ncl.edu.tw/>

In 2002, NCL began acquiring digital holdings as a way to preserve publications nationwide and extend the important role of digital media. On August 31, 2009 the Executive Yuan approved the Digital Learning and Promotion Project to promote the development of the digital content

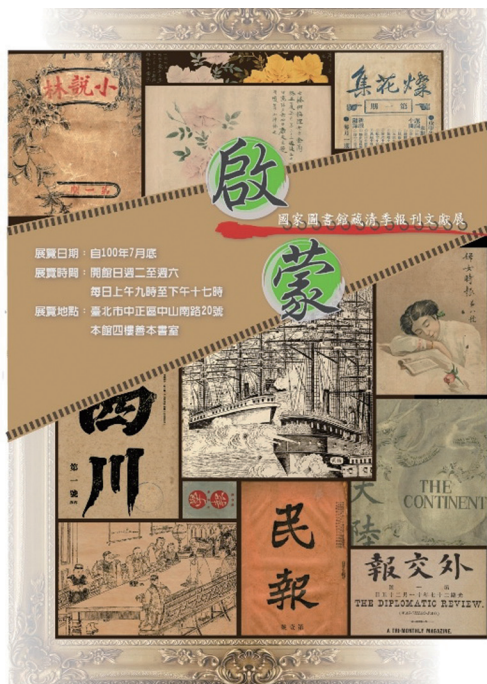
industry. As reading trends are changing, NCL assumes the role of promoting policies to preserve national digital publications, as well as e-reading. Therefore, the abundance of ancient Chinese texts and digital images in NCL's holdings can have a powerful effect on increasing the education level of Taiwan citizens and displaying Chinese civilization to the world, in addition to aiding scholars. With the support of the government, NCL has led the way in putting forth the idea for preserving digital publications and in creating an E-publications Platform System as a way to address the new trend in e-reading.

In promoting e-reading, NCL made plans to create different series of e-books, such as *Chinese Studies E-Classic Series* and *Taiwan Memory*, to provide readers with more and diverse reading material. The *Chinese Studies E-Classic Series* contains nine ancient books, including *Tianwen lue* on ancient Chinese astronomy, *Jiangning buzhi sishuting zhouxian yudi quantu* on Jiangsu geography, *Qiqi tushuo* on modern Western machines and knowledge of physics, *Xinkan chongding chuxiang fushi biao* on exquisite plays, *Shanghai jing tu* the bizarre and imaginative work from ancient China, *Taigu yiyin* on illustrations of music and the zither, and other works revised or published by the NCL (such as a book containing old photographs of Taiwan and photos of agriculture life in Taiwan taken by famous photographer Jia He-hui).



E-book: *Shanghai jing tu*.

■ *Enlightenment: Qing Newspapers in NCL's Collection*



Cover image of exhibition catalogue

In celebration of the 100th year of the Republic of China, NCL has organized an exhibition on “Enlightenment: Qing Newspapers in NCL’s Collection” as a way to help viewers experience historical changes over time and to better understand how the ROC was founded. During the time when revolutions and national movements were happening all about, these newspapers utilized principles from the period of enlightenment in political, cultural, educational, and industrial areas. As such, the exhibition displayed representative examples of early newspapers in NCL’s collection. Content was separated into five categories: 1) the rise of daily newspapers and public newspapers, 2) Western studies and the dissemination in the new educational system, 3) debates on the Constitutional Reform and modernization, 4) an exploration of women’s and societal issues, and 5) the budding of novels and literature periodicals for

readers and ancient classic enthusiasts. In addition, Professor Yi Zhengyi from the Oriental Institute of Technology was invited to compose a guide to “Enlightenment and Transition: Developmental Changes and Characteristics of Qing Newspapers.” Pictures from the exhibition were added to this, allowing viewers gain a greater understanding of the historical background of this period. Of special interest is the fact that many of these newspapers are being exhibited for the first time in Taiwan, such as *The People’s Daily* started by Sun Yixian in his early years in Japan. E-books are also available for public download.



QR code for online viewing

To download exhibition booklet, go to:

NCL homepage > public services > other downloading services

Website: <http://www.ncl.edu.tw/ct.asp?xItem=14297&ctNode=1251&mp=2>

LIS Seminars

■ *EBSCO 2011Conference on E-resources and Information Sharing*

Dates:

Kaohsiung: August 15, 2011 National Sun Yat-sen University Library Conference Room (2nd Floor)

Taichung: August 16, 2011 World Trade Center Taichung, Rm. 204

Taipei: August 18, 2011 EBSCO Taiwan Branch Office

■ ***Coping in Time with Declining Resources***

Date: June 8, 2011

Location: Institute of Applied Mechanics
Conference Room, National Taiwan University

■ ***Centennial Vision: Transforming Libraries***

Date: June 6, 2011

Location: National Chung Hsing University Library
Conference Room (7th floor)

Organizer: NCHU Library and NCHU Graduate
Institute of Library and Information Science
Co-sponsor: National Science Council, NCHU
College of Liberal Arts, NCHU Office of Research
and Development

■ ***Conference on Value and Educational
Application of Electronic Files***

Date: May 27, 2011

Location: General Building of Colleges
Conference Room, National Cheng-chi University
Organizer: NCCU Graduate Institute of Library,
Information, and Archival Studies; NCCU
E-learning Master Program of Library and
Information Studies

■ ***Seeing the E Future: Conference on
Trends and Application of Digital Library
Services***

Date: May 26, 2011

Location: Educational Technology Building
Conference Room, National Pingtung University of
Education

Organizer: KKP Regional Resource Center for
Teaching and Learning
Co-sponsor: NPDUE Library

■ ***Sustainability in a New Era of Scholarship***

Date: May 23, 2011

Location: Conference Room (B1), National

Taiwan Normal University Library

Organizer: NTNU, JSTOR, Ithaka

Co-sponsor: FlySheet Technologies

■ ***Conference on New Age Library
Information Systems and Services: More
than Discovery, We Deliver***

Date: May 19-20, 2011

Location: She Wo Building (Rm. R904), Shih Hsin
University

Organizer: SHU Department of Information and
Communications

■ ***E-Research: Facilitating a New Era of
Academic Exploration***

Date: May 17, 2011

Location: National Taiwan University Library's
Auditorium

Organizer: NTU Library & Second Northern
Taiwan Teaching Resource Center

Co-sponsor: NTU Department of Library and
Information Science, NTU Office of Research and
Development, Library Association of the Republic
of China

■ ***2010-2011 Academic Year Join Conference
of Taiwan University and College
Librarians***

Date: May 12-13, 2011

Location: Taiwan Shoufu University's Garden
Villa

Organizer: Taiwan Shoufu University Library

■ ***2011 Conference on Library and
Information Society***

Date: May 5-6, 2011

Location: Fu Jen Catholic University Library
Conference Room (9th Floor)

Organizer: FJU Department of Library and
Information Science, FJU Library

News from Taiwan Libraries

■ *A Love for Reading and the Earth: Taipei International Book Exhibition Will Showcase Green Reading Next Year*

The Taipei International Book Exhibition (TIBE) will be held for the 20th time next year. The TIBE Foundation has announced that it will be themed Green Reading. While there will be no designated theme country, model countries that are leading the way in green reading and policies will be showcased. In terms of exhibitions, there will be nature and ecosystems, environmental protection research, spiritual exploration, trendy lifestyles, and literature and novels. Mediums related to green reading (such as the development and use of organic paper, e-paper, and cloud knowledge) will inspire viewers in alternative ideas for life. The exhibition will run from February 1-6, which falls during winter break. The TIBE Foundation has planned a series of celebratory activities for this milestone, including “20 Most Loved Authors” from both Taiwan and abroad, who will make appearances at the exhibition and join in the celebration.

■ *Library Lending Out Laptops to Reduce Distance between Urban and Rural Areas*

The Research, Development and Evaluation Commission of the Executive Yuan has instituted the second phase of its Creating Equal Digital Opportunities: Pilot Program for Wireless Internet Services for Outlying Towns. A total of 8 cities and 16 townships and elementary school libraries in Jiayi County now have free laptop rental services. An achievements meeting was held on May 3 in the Chu-chi Public Library to display the results. Jiayi County Commissioner Chang Huan-kuan commented that the public's response to this project has been very favorable, with many coming

to borrow laptops. It has succeeded in lessening the distance between urban and rural areas. Jiayi County is one of the poorer counties in the country. This effort is to ensure that children there don't lose before they've even started, and even senior citizens in rural areas are being taught to get online, to set up blogs or Facebook accounts. Chu-chi Public Library became a pilot library for this project due to the recommendation of the county government. It was given 40 laptops that have 3.5G wireless cards. Since August 19th of last year a total of 736 people have borrowed laptops, a rate of 90%. This exceeds original expectations.

■ *System Renovation at Taichung Allows Users to Visit Any County Library with Just One Card*

Cultural Affairs Bureau of Taichung City Government has recently completed a renovation of the Taichung Library system. As of June 1, patrons only need one account to access any of the 44 branch libraries or National Taichung Library. They can even borrow books from one branch and return them at another. The motivation behind this is to encourage the public to read more. Currently the 45 libraries share a total of 3.2 million books. Before the renovation, restrictions on the total number of books that can be borrowed varied between libraries. Under the new system, this has been standardized and raised to 15 books and 5 audio-visual media per card. In addition, users can reserve up to 4 books and 2 audio-visual media. Also, as a way to reduce users from having to visit various locations for books, starting on June 1 all 45 libraries offer borrowing and returning services, regardless of the books original location. Originally this service was only available at the 13 locations in Taichung City, but now it has been extended to such areas as Dachia, Shalu, Wufung, Wuji, Shigang, and the Huludun Cultural Center.

■ *First Solar Library Controls Its Own Temperature*

The first solar powered library in Taiwan was unveiled at Youth Park in Taipei in July. It provides users with a self-help smart system for borrowing and returning books. Now even libraries are heeding the call to reduce carbon footprints. This 2-story solar library is 660 square meters in size, houses 15,000 books, and has an annual budget of NT\$40 million. It has a solar power system installed, along with high insulation capabilities allowing it to stay cool but also have optimum ventilation. Moreover, it was painted with a plant-based paint, making it warm in the winter and cool in the

summer. The temperature control system revealed that without air-conditioning, when outside summer temperatures reach between 30-35°C the library is only 23-25 degrees inside. During winter cold spells, outside temperatures may dip to only 9 degrees, but inside the library is still 15-17 degrees. This green library houses all its normal library functions on the first floor, including its smart system, general books section, children's section, reading and magazine room, exhibition area, and catalog search section. On the second floor it showcases an energy conservation exhibit. In the future an education area will be added to help the public become more conservation aware.



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