

innovative services, Mr. Likhomanov suggested the two libraries sign a cooperative agreement in addition to the publication exchange that is already in place.

Following the meeting, the group from NCL was given a tour of the library's manuscript department, famous French philosopher Voltaire's special collections room, and the library's reading room. They were keenly interested in the Asian books found in the manuscript room, and expressed a desire to work together on publishing them in the future.

NCL's relationship with the Russian Academy of Sciences Library takes another step forward. On September 2, 2011, NCL Director-general Tseng and a group of library staff visited the Russian Academy of Sciences Library, located in St. Petersburg. The director of the library, Valerii Pavlovich Leonov and his assistant director Natalia Vladimirovna Kolpakova personally welcomed them and held a discussion. As this is the oldest library established by the Russian Academy of Sciences, it has over 21 million books in its collection. Of these, 9 million are in a foreign language. During the 18th century, the library began exchanging publications with East Asian countries, and in 1818 the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts was established to collect information and books on ancient Chinese studies. Currently it exchanges publications with over 2250 other institutions.

The library's director stated that on the foundation of the publication exchange already in place that NCL can provide more publications regarding contemporary society and life, scientific developments, politics, technology, history, and culture in Taiwan. Director-general



Director-general Tseng (second from left), Director-general Valerii Pavlovich Leonov (third from left), Russian Academy of Sciences Library

Tseng hopes that the library can provide more material regarding Russian publications on Taiwan studies, Chinese studies, art, and science. In addition to exchanging publications, the library suggested that a cooperative agreement be signed before the end of the year that outlines specific cooperative endeavors, such as co-hosting exhibitions, showing movies, or lectures. The desire is to increase mutual public understanding between the two countries.

The library made special arrangements for NCL's group to tour their manuscript department and Asian & African documents department. NCL promised to provide even more suitable publications and documents for their collections.

■ ***NCL Attends the 2011 Annual Meeting of WDL Partners***

The U.S. Library of Congress and the Bavarian State Library co-hosted the 2011 Annual Meeting of World Digital Library Partners from November 14-15 in Munich, Germany. National Central Library's Director-general Tseng Shu hsien attended the meeting

and gave a lecture during the Partner Initiatives section on the second day. Her topic was “Web initiatives, mobile applications, and digital or print reproductions of rare Chinese books at National Central Library.”

Important topics discussed at the meeting included the selection and addition of content, future enhancements of the WDL website, recruitment of new partners, digital library capacity building in the developing world, and user engagement and outreach.

National Central Library was formally invited to participate in the WDL project in 2008, providing information about its unique collections. It also shared precious resources with the world and attended the 2009 launching of WDL’s website in Paris, France. The first formal partner meeting was convened in 2010 in Washington DC.

In addition to attending this year’s meeting, Director-general Tseng also visited the Bavarian State Library, the University of Munich’s library, the Munich Public Library, and the Ulm Public Library as a way to understand Germany’s important libraries and their services.



Director-general Tseng’s presentation in the 2011 Annual Meeting of WDL Partners (left).

■ *Knowledge Sharing beyond Borders: Library Digitization, Cooperation, Networking, and Challenges*

The Pacific Neighborhood Consortium Annual Meeting was held from October 19-21, 2011 in Thailand. National Central Library planned a session on “Knowledge Sharing beyond Borders: Library Digitization, Cooperation, Networking, and Challenges” and invited Professor Pimrumpai Premsmi from Chulalongkorn University to host it. The following are the speakers during the session and their topics:

1. Dongfang Shao (Stanford University Library): “Recent Developments of Digital Projects at Stanford University”
2. Nor Edzan Che Nasir (University of Malaya): “UM Library’s Initiatives”
3. Tseng Shu hsien (National Central Library): “The Current Situation and the Prospection of Digital Resources Management and Services in Taiwan”

In addition, NCL also participated in the library poster session, where it was awarded first place. The poster theme was “National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan.” This system surpasses traditional databases in its search capabilities, by continually improving its software capabilities based on user needs and increasing searches. It already has bibliometrics and citation analysis capabilities and provides such services as enhanced scholarly research support, policy support, knowledge value, and knowledge management. It also provides varying levels of analysis based on research needs, as it progresses towards its ultimate goal of becoming a virtual thesis and dissertation