

activities. At the same time, educational-oriented Foundations, large number of publishers and Government research publications department also donated more than three thousand books to fifty public libraries and twenty high school libraries.

A good number of news media reported the variety of activities. This event is the first ever reading promotion activity in the history of Taiwan that gathered the most number of organizations to cooperate, that took place during the longest timespan and that had the most number of participants. It is also the most successful of this year's reading promotion activities. We are very grateful and full of esteem for the full support of each participating organization. Everyone is most welcome to go to the website. We also appreciate comments and suggestions.

### ■ *A Sketch of NCL's 2011 Workshop on Evaluating Ancient Books*

National Central Library hosted the 2011 Workshop on Evaluating Ancient Books on November 7-11 and invited internationally-renowned expert Professor Jin Shen to speak.



*From left: Lei Wang (Sun Yat-sen University Library's Special Collection Division), Professor Pao-san Chang Professor Jin Shen, Director-general Tseng Shu hsien, Li Ni (Sun Yat-sen University Library's Special Collection Division), and Director Hsiao-ming Yu (NCL Special Collection Division).*

To address the knowledge gap among attendees, workshop classes were first arranged by the Special Collections Division at NCL, Professor Jin-tang Lin and Kuo-liang Wang from National Taipei University, and Professor Pao-san Chang from National Taiwan University, and then revised by Jin Shen. Four main themes were decided on, as well as a general discussion forum: 1) Writing bibliographies, cultivating research talent, auctioning and cataloging ancient books; 2) Evaluating Ming and Qing wood block versions; 3) Ming and Qing manuscripts and hand copies; 4) Evaluating editions and books in private collections; and 5) General Forum: Cultivating professions to evaluate editions of ancient books and their future.

On the last day, Director-general Tseng Shu hsien stated, National Central Library has realized that in recent years, library training has tended toward cultivating information skills. Ancient books and editions have thus been gradually neglected. As such, NCL wants to provide ways for the development of new talent in dealing with ancient works and for the development resources and cooperative institutions for these books. Through this workshop with Jin Shen, NCL is able to further exchange between ancient book researchers in libraries and increase the dissemination of knowledge and evaluation ability of ancient books.

To benefit those who were unable to attend the workshop, NCL will post video of all courses on its E-learning Campus site (<http://cu.ncl.edu.tw>). These are freely available to all.

### ■ *The American Footprints in Taiwan*

NCL, the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), and the Library Association of the Republic of China cohosted the International Conference of