

National Central Library

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Spotlights

■ Attending the “2011 World Digital Library Partner Meeting”

The World Digital Library (WDL) convenes a Partner Meeting each year as a way for partners to communicate and share with each other, as well as a way to promote, develop, and exchange ideas. The Partner Meeting for 2011 was held on November 14 to 15 at the Hilton in Munich, Germany. In addition to attending this meeting, the National Central Library (NCL) personnel also visited libraries in Germany that may have potential for a cooperative endeavor or that have innovative services.



Director-general Tseng spoke on “The web initiatives, mobile applications, and digital/print reproductions of rare Chinese books at National Central Library” (2011.11.14-15).

The Annual Meeting was put on by the executive committee of the World Digital Library—the U.S. Library of Congress and by the Bavarian State Library. A total of 53 representatives from national libraries, archives, academic libraries, museums, and private organizations spanning

some 40-50 countries, as well as from United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) were in attendance. Important topics of discussion included progress reports of projects underway, operating procedures and issues, increasing the number of library users, priorities in selecting digital content, website improvements, innovative measures and services of partners, enhancement of partner websites, creating a worldwide audience for WDL.

The chairman of the meeting, John Van Oudenaren, extended several complements to National Central Library, including the following: “[NCL exhibits an] exceptionally high level of effort in creating metadata and item level descriptions.”

During the meeting, Director-general Tseng spoke on “The web initiatives, mobile applications, and digital/print reproductions of rare Chinese books at National Central Library.” The speech outlined challenges NCL faces with ancient books, criteria used for selecting representative works, efforts in creative services for ancient books, and content suggestions for ancient books to be uploaded in the future. In addition to NCL, another ten organizations also discussed innovative measures, rare materials that were uploaded to WDL, the progress of uploading digital content, future prospects, etc.

Taiwan’s National Central Library was invited to attend and reported at a side meeting with UNESCO, the Library of Congress, Bibliothèque nationale de France, the National Library of Russia, and the National Library of China. The report was well received and the whole event was a breakthrough in cultural diplomacy.

■ *A New Era of Chinese Studies in Taiwan: The 30th Anniversary of CCS*

After a 30 year pioneering effort, the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) has become an important information exchange platform for the humanities in Taiwan, as well as a renowned sinology institute internationally. The CCS team planned many activities as a way to remember the past and to reach forward to the future, as well as to celebrate 30 years of working with Sinologists worldwide.



Center for Chinese Studies’ 30th anniversary celebration.

Center for Chinese Studies’ 30th anniversary celebration was directed by Director-general Tseng Shu hsien. After speeches by dignitaries and cutting the cake, the main event was announced—the establishment of the CCS Scholars Worldwide. Membership is comprised of scholars who received a CCS grant to come to Taiwan for research. Those who received grants in the future will be added to the organization. To facilitate communication between recipients, CCS set up a Facebook group. In addition, an announcement was made in the print and digital versions of the Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies.

The following day, CCS held a forum on A New Century for Chinese Studies in Taiwan, which discussed the formation and development