

# National Central Library

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## Spotlights

### ■ Two Taiwan Resource Centers for Chinese Studies are Set up in Malaysia and Canada

National Central Library (NCL) Director General, Shu-hsien Tseng and Vice-Chancellor Dato' Dr. Mohd Amin Bin Jalaludin of the University of Malaya (UM) and Mr. Larry P. Alford, Chief Librarian of the University of Toronto (U of T) Libraries, signed a memorandum of cooperation on "Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) on July 13 and September 23, respectively, followed by opening ceremonies.

The UM is the first university that set up a Chinese department, and has had very close academic relationships with many universities in Taiwan. The U of T also has established the Chinese Literature Department that offers courses on Taiwan films, history and other research programs. It is also the first university to open a course on Holopedia. There are a good number of scholars and experts in Chinese studies and many graduate students in the UM and U of T. Setting up the TRCCS at the universities will not only provide the faculty, students, and researchers critical resources in Taiwan studies, and assistance in expanding scholarly exchange, but also have far-reaching implications in the promotion of Taiwan-styled Chinese studies, as well as in extending the influence of Taiwan's research achievements and publications around the world.



*Director General Shu-hsien Tseng and Mr. Larry P. Alford, Chief Librarian of the University of Toronto sign a MOU.*



The TRCCS is unveiled at the University of Toronto Libraries. (3rd left to right: Dr. Stephen Qiao of East Asian Library, Director General Rong-chuan Wu of Toronto TECO, Director General Tseng, Director Vinitha Gengatharan of International Strategy and Partnerships of U of T).



Director General Tseng is interviewed by local media in Malaysia and Canada.

## ■ NCL, UM and UTAR Jointly Organize the Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies

On the day of the TRCCS opening ceremony in Malaysia the NCL, the UM and Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) jointly organized for the first time a Taiwan Lecture on Chinese Studies with the subject on “*Dream of the Red Chamber* and *Doraemon*: Historical research in the digital age.” Prof. Yi-long Huang, Academician at Academia Sinica, was invited to share his research results on the “*Dream of the Red Chamber*” using electronic resources.

The NCL also invited Prof. Huang on July 15 to give a talk on “The line between historical fact and legend: is Fuk’anggan Qianlong’s illegitimate son?” at UTAR, Perak Campus.

In both speeches, Prof. Huang has full use of the e-research tools of the modern era, highlighting the tremendous impact and challenges of the information explosion era on Sinology research. It may produce not only leads to great potential for Chinese Studies in its future direction of development, but also a deep enlightening and thought-provoking.

In her remarks, Director General Tseng expressed that the Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies invites first-rate international scholars to campuses to speak, allowing more people to see the type of research being done in Taiwan. In addition, the series also increases the depth of research on Chinese studies.

Professor Huang holds that through big data gathering, traditional research in literature and history can be turned on its head. It can also lead to new insights and findings. In his lecture, he talked specifically on the author Xueqin Cao’s network of associates and tied it in with textual criticism to



Establishing a TRCCS at the University of Malaya receives large coverage in Malaysian newspaper.

After the ceremony, the U of T organized the “Forum on Special Collections in the Digital Age.” Invited speakers were Director General Tseng; Director Hsiao-ming Yu of NCL Special Collections Division; University Librarian of National Taiwan University Professor Sherry Chen; Ms. Anne Dondertman, Associate Librarian for Special Collection and Director of the Fisher Library, University of Toronto Libraries; Dr. Stephen Qiao and Ms. Lucy Gan of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, University of Toronto Libraries. Altogether, there were five speeches focusing on the experience and achievements on special collections digitization between Taiwan and Canada. It brought about new ideas and opened more cooperation possibilities in the future.