

learn from him to enhance the quintessence of his research and inherit his academic stature.



Director General Tseng receives the manuscripts collection donated by Professor Hong-i Wu.

■ NCL Organizes the 2015 International Workshop for Professional Librarians

Since the year 2007, every two years, the NCL organizes the “International Workshop for Professional Librarians” to promote exchanges with global East Asian Libraries and Chinese Studies research institutions. Librarians from different countries were invited to come to Taiwan. This year, in a particular manner, the workshop unites “Cross-Strait Conference on Classification and Preservation of ancient Chinese books” as well. Hence the theme of the workshop is set as “From Ancient Times to the Present: Preservation of Ancient Chinese Books and Development of Contemporary Chinese Digital Resources.” The workshop was held at the NCL from August 4-9.



Director General Tseng with the participants of 2015 International Workshop for Professional Librarians at the Cross-Strait Conference on Classification and Preservation of Ancient Chinese Books.

This year sees an enthusiastic response from various sectors. Even before registration was open, there were many inquiries from librarians. Originally, the yearly quota was set to 30 but 52 registered, a

substantial increase of 1.7 times. Although some of them strongly regretted not being able to come due to some reason, eventually, 40 participants from 10 countries/ regions came making a record high of participation.

This year some participants who already joined the previous workshops registered again. For the first time, there are librarians from the European region such as Leiden University Library, the Netherlands and the Bavarian State Library, Munich, Germany. These two libraries also have cooperation agreement with the NCL in setting up the TRCCS. Both are considered the main hub in Chinese Studies in Europe.

Moreover, Deputy Director Thomas Tabery of the Oriental and Asia Department, Bavarian State Library is one of the lecturers. He spoke on the situation of Chinese Collections in German Libraries.

It seems obvious that the efforts of the NCL to promote Chinese Studies overseas are positively confirmed thereby successfully expanding its influence and visibility in Europe as well as around the world.

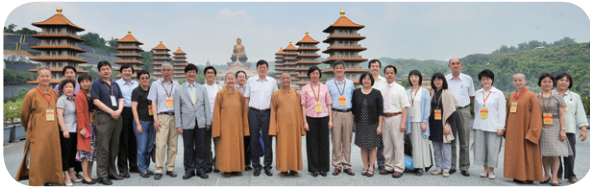


Director General Tseng with the participants of 2015 International Workshop for Professional Librarians.

■ NCL, NLC and Nanjing Library Jointly Organize the 2nd Xuanlan Forum

“Xuanlan tang” was the name of a repository for ancient books in the possession of private individuals during the War of Resistance. To increase the exchange and cooperation between NCL and Nanjing Library, beginning in 2014 a co-exhibition of rare books in both libraries and an accompanying forum have been held. This forum was named the Xuanlan Forum to reflect the common historical heritage shared by both libraries. This year the 2nd Xuanlan Forum was jointly organized by NCL, NLC, and Nanjing Library and held at the Fo Guang Shan Buddha Memorial Center, Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

The NCL invited 11 scholars from both Taiwan and mainland China to give lectures and engage in a discussion. In addition to guiding attendees through important classical works and exploring the life aesthetics of Confucian and Daoist thought, the scholars also discussed the exhibition, preservation, and reading promotion methods and achievements of ancient books on both sides of the Strait.



Attendees of the 2nd Xuanlan Forum take a group photo at the Fo Guang Shan Buddha Memorial Center.

■ 2015 Information Organizations Professional Technology Education Training

RDA (Resource Description and Access) is a new standard for describing library resources. Library staff may have heard of RDA but not know much about it. On August 28, the NCL organized the “RDA Experience Sharing Forum” to promote the professional knowledge of library cataloging service personnel and to strengthen the quality and internationalization of bibliographic recording. Local university libraries were invited to investigate the “Chinese translation of RDA”, the “compilation experience of RDA bibliographic records” and the “compilation experience of RDA authority records.” Furthermore, courses were organized on the “IT Organization Development Trends and Introduction to the Application of Bibliographic Resources” on September 3 and 11 at the NCL and Kaohsiung Public Library, respectively. NCL colleagues introduced bibliographic resources system and MARC21 bibliographic description. Also invited was National Taiwan Normal University Librarian, Professor Hao-ren Ke, to speak on “Linked Data and Its Application in the Library.” Associate Professor Chien-kang Huang, from National Taiwan University, Department of Engineering Science and Ocean Engineering, talked on “Big Data and Its Application in the Library.” The event was well attended, the venue fully packed. The participants were also very positive and expressed to have more similar courses in the future.



Director General Tseng gives a speech at the “RDA Experience Sharing Forum.”

NCL Publications

■ Proceedings of the 2nd Xuanlan Forum



Published in July 2015
ISBN:978-957-678-599-3

In 2015 NCL invited 11 scholars from both Taiwan and mainland China to give lectures and engage in a discussion. In addition to guiding attendees through important classical works and exploring the life aesthetics of Confucian and Daoist thought, the scholars also discussed the exhibition, preservation, and reading promotion methods and achievements of ancient books on both sides of the Strait. This book collects the papers presented at the Xuanlan Forum and related information.

■ Service Manual for the Regional Resource Centers for Public Libraries



Published in September 2015
ISBN:978-957-678-607-5

In 2013, Taiwan began establishing a network of 12 resource centers for the northern, central, southern and eastern regions of Taiwan (one regional center and two area centers for each region) to promote the integration of collection resources at public libraries and improve library service quality and performance. This manual introduces the collection content, characteristics, collection inquiry/use, and service information for each center

■ **Erudite Far and Wide: Chinese Culture Cloud Lecture Series: Appreciation of Tang and Song Poems (Audio CD)**



Published in September 2015
ISBN: 978-957-678-602-0

In an attempt to promote classical Chinese literature, the NCL invited Professor Chia-ying Yeh, an expert in classical Chinese poetry, to lecture on the poems of 16 famous poets. The 12 lectures were recorded and converted to digital CD format to allow more people the opportunity to experience the beauty of ancient poetry.

LIS Seminars

■ **Library Watch Commons: User Centered Library Services**

Organizer: NCL, International Federation for Information Integration
Date: July 24, 2015
Venue: NCL

■ **2nd Xuanlan Forum**

Organizer: NCL, Nanjing Library, and Fo Guang Shan Foundation for Buddhist Culture & Education

Date: August 6-7, 2015

Venue: Fo Guang Shan Buddha Memorial Center, Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

■ **Library Watch Commons: Exploring the New Value of Library Service**

Organizer: NCL, International Federation for Information Integration

Date: August 21, 2015

Venue: NCL

■ **37th Annual Meeting of Medical Librarians and 2015 Conference on the Cross-Strait Medical Library**

Organizer: Medical Library Committee of the Library Association of Republic of China (Taiwan)

Co-organizer: China Medical University Library, Taiwan

Date: September 3-4, 2015

Venue: China Medical University Library, Taiwan

■ **Library Watch Commons: Seeing the New Future of Libraries from Medical Cloud**

Organizer: NCL, International Federation for Information Integration

Date: September 18, 2015

Venue: NCL

NCL International Exchange Events

2015.07.06

Mingde Zhou, Shanghai Library Deputy Director General and Ms. Yafen Ku from the Historical Documentation Centre of Shanghai Library, visited the NCL. Both of them had a lot of discussions and sharing on the NCL digital archives program and the results of nationwide reading promotion programs. They also visited various NCL services, leaving in them a memorable and profound impression.



Director General Tseng(center) with Shanghai Library Deputy Director General Mingde Zhou (1st left) and Ms. Yafen Ku.

2015.07.09

Representative Elbeg Samdan and deputy representative Yadmaa Ganbaatar from the Ulaanbaatar Trade and Economic Representative Office in Taipei came to the NCL to discuss the potential to conduct bilateral cooperation with Director General Tseng.



Representative Elbeg Samdan (left) discusses the cooperation project with Director General Tseng.

2015.07.31

Director Sophie Danis of Versailles Municipal Library (French: Directrice du réseau des bibliothèques municipales de Versailles) and her husband accompanied by Counselor Jean-Francois Danis from Ministry of Culture, visited the NCL and discussed the experience of libraries development.

2015.08.18

Director Jung-chen Chen of Center for International Education, Office of International Affairs, NTU, led 30 participants of “Summer Plus programs,” 2 teaching assistants to visit the NCL and the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS). The students were impressed by the facilities and services of the NCL and the abundant resources of CCS.

2015.09.03

CEO of State Library of Sarawak, Madam Hajah Rashidah Haji Bolhassan, as well as Chairman of the board of management, Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr.) Haji Hamid Bugo, together with 11 other colleagues, came to visit the NCL. They listened to the introduction of NCL’s important digital resources, followed by discussing with Director General Tseng about how to promote reading culture and library services, as well as copyrights. They also visited NCL’s Rare Books Room, Digitization Center, and other service facilities.



Group photo: Director General Tseng (front row 4th left), Madam Hajah Rashidah Haji Bolhassan(front row 3rd left), Chairman of the Board of Management, Tan Sri Datuk Amar Haji Hamid Bugo(front row 4th right), other guests, and NCL’s staff.

2015.09.15

Deputy Director Weiguo Peng of the Shanghai Municipal Press and Publication Bureau led a delegation of 10 persons accompanied by Mr. Tsai-chueh Lin, publisher of Linking Publishing Company, to visit the NCL. They were interested in the digitization and value-added application of rare books.

2015.09.24

Prof. Xihua Zhang, Provost of Beijing International Studies University together with 3 other colleagues, came to visit the NCL.

2015.09.24

Professor Tomas A. Lipinski of the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee came to visit the NCL. He watched the video on the introduction of NCL’s digital archives, followed by visits to Rare Books Room, Government Information & Law Collections, and other service facilities.

Chinese Studies Symposium

2015.08.11

The CCS hosted a Global Chinese Studies Series lecture, inviting CCS visiting scholar Dr. James Bonk from the College of Wooste to speak on “The Building of Prefectural Shrines for the War Dead in the Early Nineteenth Century Qing Empire.” The Prefectural Shrines for the War Dead was established as a memorial to remember the people who died in the war. Dr. Bonk’s research primarily focuses on the factors affecting the establishment of shrines and the changes in remembrance.



Remarks by Director General Tseng.

2015.08.20

The CCS and the Monumenta Serica Sinological Research Center at Fu Jen Catholic University co-hosted a Global Chinese Studies Series lecture, inviting CCS visiting scholars Dr. Piotr Adamek, from Germany’s Monumenta Serica Institute, and Prof. Deung Yearn Lee, from Chonnam National University in Korea, to share their research findings.

Dr. Adamek spoke on “Reflections on the Missionary Sinology: Selected Examples (Michael Boym, Hyacinth Bichurin, and Franz Biallas).” Dr. Adamek spoke on the life and contributions of three missionaries from different periods: Polish Jesuit Michael Boym (1612-1659), Russian Orthodox missionary Iakinf Bichurin (1777-1853), and German priest Franz Biallas (1878-1936). This highlighted the fact that during the 16th to 18th centuries Jesuits made an indelible contribution in the collation of documents, oral histories, and research on Chinese classics. They could be rightly called the ‘early Sinologists.’



Presenter: Prof. Piotr Adamek from Germany’s Monumenta Serica Institut.

Prof. Lee compared recently popular books on the history of Chinese literature, namely, Kuo-ying Wang’s *A New Take on the History of Chinese Literature* and Peng-chen Kung’s *History of Chinese Literature*. He explored similarities, differences, and unique aspects of the layout of the two books, their historical views, and narrative content. He saw both authors as emphasizing a need to overcome the many limitations inherent in current literature on the subject. He then outlined the “new” layout and historical views these authors have.



Presenter: Prof. Deung Yearn Lee from Chonnam National University in Korea.

2015.08.24

The CCS held the Second Term Presentations of Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) Taiwan Fellowship Scholars in 2015, showcasing research from four visiting scholars.



Presenters: Prof. Barthélémy Courmont, Dr. Jakub Piasecki (1st to 2nd left), Dr. Yongwook Ryu (2nd right) and Dr. Claudia Zanardi (1st right).

The first presenter was Professor Barthélémy Courmont from the Université Catholique de Lille. He spoke on “Territorial Disputes and Taiwan’s Regional Diplomacy: The Case of the Senkaku/Diaoyu/Diaoyutai Islands.” Dr. Courmont pointed out that despite President Ying-jeou Ma’s constant claims of sovereignty over the Diaoyutai Islands, the government has not taken any direct action. Rather, it plans to engage in multilateral talks with China and Japan in an attempt to mitigate the tension that exists between these countries. Dr. Courmont outlined the pros and cons of this foreign policy and the probability of formal talks. He also spoke on how this even could potentially affect and limit diplomatic relations in the future.

The second presenter was Research Fellow Jakub Piasecki from the Poland-Asia Research Center. Mr. Piasecki pointed out that several members of the European Union formed “The Taiwan State Lobby in Brussels” in 1991. This lobby has often worked with Taiwan’s MOFA, and has traveled to Taiwan for presentations and research on Taiwan’s difficulties in foreign affairs. Mr. Piasecki not only analyzed the important role that “The Taiwan State Lobby in Brussels” plays in the relationship between the European Union and Taiwan, he also listed its important achievements over the last 25 years.

The third presenter was Dr. Yongwook Ryu, a research fellow at Australian National University. His presentation was titled “Chinese Economic Statecraft and Cross-strait Relations.” Dr. Ryu pointed out that China’s economic policy toward Taiwan was purposely creating a trade imbalance, forcing Taiwan to rely on China’s economy. This, he feels, exerts a large influence on cross-strait relations.

The last presenter was Ms. Claudia Zanardi, a doctoral candidate at King’s College in London. She spoke on “Taiwan as Maritime Frontier and Its Role in China’s Coastal Defense from a Historical Perspective from the Sixteenth Century.” Ms. Zanardi’s research is primarily concerned with Taiwan’s evolving role in Chinese maritime defense policies from the 16th century onward. She’s especially interested in how Taiwan transformed from an unimportant island with no economy or defense value into an important location whereby foreign powers can threaten China’s coast.



Group photo of presenters and participants at the Presentations of MOFA Taiwan Fellowship Scholars in 2015.

2015.08.24

The NCL and the Oriental Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (ASCR) co-hosted a session of “Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies” at the ASCR. They invited Prof. Siao-chen Hu, a research fellow at the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy in Academia Sinica, to speak on “Burning the Midnight Oil: The Making of Verse Narrative Texts by Qing Women.”

Prof. Hu’s a specialist in early modern Chinese literature, especially Ming-Qing narrative and women’s literature. Her lecture explored the development and change in female Plucking Rhymes novels during the Ming and Qing dynasties, as well as the creation, acceptance, presentation, and publication of this genre. Dr. Ondřej Klimeš from the Department of East Asia at the Oriental Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic served as the moderator.

Prof. Hu explained clearly why plucking rhymes (a talking-singing art form popular in southern China) were especially embraced by female readers, as well as how this genre inspired female writers to write novels and engage in female self-expression and literary imagination. The lecture was lively and replete with intriguing information, with active audience participation.



Group photo at the Oriental Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

2015.08.27

The CCS, the National Library of Latvia, and the University of Latvia co-hosted a session of “Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies,” as well as the exhibition of ancient Chinese books- “Exhibition: Imprints of Civilization.” About 100 special guests were in attendance, including Representative Kuang-yueh Ko from the Taipei Mission in the Republic of Latvia, Latvian parliament members, and cultural officials, and others.

Prof. Siao-chen Hu, a research fellow at the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy in Academia Sinica, was invited to speak on “Burning the Midnight Oil: The Making of Verse Narrative Texts by Qing Women.”

The exhibition runs from August 27 through October 30 at the National Library of Latvia. This is the first exhibition of its kind in Europe, following three large exhibitions by the CCS in the U.S. during 2012-2013. Each of these were an important milestone.

This exhibition was focused on the development history of Chinese printing and related technologies, including the writing, printing, and distribution of books and other book-related activities. On display were inventions related to printing techniques and the developments in the printing industry. These showed the influence printing had on traditional social values in China. The exhibition also provided attendees the opportunities to try their hand at block printing, movable-type printing, thread-bound books, and Chinese calligraphy, allowing them to better understand Chinese culture and the content of the exhibition.



Many people attend the “Exhibition: Imprints of Civilization.”

CCS News and Activities

■ 2015 Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration Tea Party for Visiting Foreign Scholars

On September 21, 37 visiting scholars and their families from 19 countries of the CCS Research Grants for Foreign Scholars in Chinese studies and MOFA Taiwan Fellowship were invited to a Mid-Autumn Festival celebration tea party. The occasion aims to offer scholars, besides doing research, the opportunities to experience the cultural significance of the traditional folk festivals in Taiwan.



A visiting scholar plays the pipa at the tea party.

News from Taiwan Libraries

■ Taoyuan City Public Library Promotes Newborn and Toddler Reading Activities

The Taoyuan City Public Library and its 33 branches held step-by-step reading activities for children 0-5 years of age. This year, not only can children receive a Reading Goodies Bag by going to any branch library with their household registration, those aged 0-5 can also enjoy a host of other activities.

■ New Taipei City Public Library Unveils Mobile Card Application and Free E-Resource Services

In an effort to promote reading and to diversify the ways one can apply for a library card, the New Taipei City Public Library has introduced a new service. In crowded places throughout the city, the library is setting up a mobile stall where the public can apply for

a library card. Such places include tourist attractions, supermarkets, department stores, and even government agencies (such as police departments, household registration offices, farmers' association, etc.). In addition, if any company, organization, or group has 20 or more persons desiring to apply for a library card, the library will send someone to the group's location. To promote their free e-resources, the Yonghe Branch Library have, for the first time, opened courses for teachers on how to make full use of the library. In these courses, the free e-resources provided by the library are covered, enabling teachers to become a bridge between the library and their students.

■ National Library of Public Information Holds Roving Exhibition "Seeing the World from the Library"

The National Library of Public Information, in conjunction with the American Institute in Taiwan, the British Council in Taiwan, the Bureau Français de Taipei, and libraries at the city and county level across Taiwan, held the "Seeing the World from the Library" roving exhibition. On display were 120 illustrated books that have received the Caldecott Medal from the U.S., the Kate Greenaway Medal from the U.K., or the Prix Sorcière from France, as well as 120 newly

published travel books. As the exhibit visited various libraries in Yunlin County, it provided new perspectives for the public and different reading material for parents and children to enjoy.

■ National Taiwan Library Holds a Special Exhibition of Mr. Hsien-tang Lin and the Wufeng Lin Family

The Wufeng Lin Family is one of Taiwan's five largest families. They are known for promoting Taiwan culture and education. Mr. Hsien-tang Lin not only pushed for the founding of Taichung's first high school, he also founded a newspaper, a free community school, as well as several cultural organizations. He also provided the public with new knowledge, showed movies, and held various types of lectures. All of this allowed the public in Taiwan to be trained in contemporary civilization. It could be argued that his life was a microcosm of contemporary Taiwan history. National Taiwan Library collaborated with Ming Tai High School to hold a special exhibition at the NTL from August 4-30 displaying artifacts and works from Mr. Lin's life. The public has an opportunity to witness the cultural enlightenment in Taiwan.



NATIONAL CENTRAL LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Publisher: Shu-hsien Tseng
National Central Library
Republic of China (Taiwan)

English Editor: Trever McKay, Florence Zhuang

Editor: Ya-ching Chang

First Issue: April 1969

This newsletter is published quarterly.

It is now available on the National Central Library website at:

http://www.ncl.edu.tw/sp.asp?xdurl=lib_pub/lib_pub.asp&jtype=B02&mp=2



GPN 2005800011