

Multimedia Database on Dr. Sun Yat-sen

Since the 1990s, libraries on both shores of the Taiwan Strait have steadily formed closer cooperation and exchanges relations. A cross-strait conference on library and information services, held in 1998 by Hong Kong's Lingnan University, led to the formation of a "Regional Cooperation and Information Sharing Group." A resolution was also passed at that time mandating cross-strait cooperation in the compilation of a catalog of rare books, Chinese names of authority, and a database on Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

The NCL followed up these initiatives by organizing a conference in 1999 on the cooperative development of a Chinese-language bibliographic database and establishing a work group to carry out this project. That same year in Hong Kong, the group convened its first meeting, which was attended by 20-some library representatives from Taiwan, mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao, and Singapore. The group resolved to form a coordination committee for the cooperative compilation and sharing of Chinese-language publications. It also determined the division of tasks, putting the NCL in charge of coordinating the union catalog of rare books; Lingnan University in charge of the database of Chinese names of authority, and Zhongshan University Library in Guangzhou in charge of the database on Dr. Sun. In addition, a conference on the Dr. Sun Yat-sen database was held in Beijing in June 2000.

In preparation for the June conference, Zhongshan University held a workshop. Delegates from Taiwan were Mr. Karl Min Ku (顧敏), director of the Legislative Yuan Library, Ms. Chiang Hsiu-ying (江 瑛) and Mr. Chuang Chien-kuo (莊健國), editors of the NCL. The meeting was chaired by Professor Tan Xiang-chin (譚祥金). Participants determined the scope, standards, division of tasks, and funding of the database.

The meeting sponsor arranged a daylong tour of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's library, memorial hall, and other sites in Guangzhou.

(Chinese text by Ms. Chiang Hsiu-ying. 江 瑛; Mr. Chuang Chien-kuo. 莊健國)