

## NCL Celebrates 70th Anniversary

The National Central Library celebrated its 70th anniversary this year with a weeklong series of activities from April 18 to 23.

The first event was a "Seminar on NCL Development Strategies and Prospects", at which library experts and scholars were invited to provide their suggestions and comments on the sub-topics of "Library Collection Development and National Bibliography" and "Inter-library Cooperation and Knowledge Services." NCL Director Dr. Juang Fang-rung (莊芳榮) presided over the seminar. Prof. Wang Chen-ku (王振鵠) was the keynote speaker at the first session, during which feedback on the National Archives and National Catalog was provided by Prof. Wang Mei-ling (王梅玲), Prof. Wu Ming-te (吳明德), Director Chiu Chiung-you (邱炯友), Prof. Nancy Ou-lan Chou (胡歐蘭), Director Cheng Heng-hsiung (鄭恆雄), Director Hsueh Li-kuei (薛理桂), and Prof. Lai Ting-ming (賴鼎銘). The second session addressed the topics of "Inter-library Cooperation", "Document Delivery", and "Knowledge Web Portals". It was joined by Director Ellen Hao-ying Fan (范豪英), Prof. Chen Li-hsiang (陳立祥), Prof. Chen Chao-chen (陳昭珍), Prof. Chen Hsueh-hua (陳雪華), Director Hsiang Chieh (項潔), Director Huang Hong-chu (黃鴻珠), Prof. Huang Mu-hsuan (黃慕萱), Prof. Yang Mei-hua (楊美華), and Director Karl Min Ku (顧敏).

On April 21, the day of the 70th anniversary, the Taiwan Memory and Taiwan Info systems were launched. There was also an anniversary reception attended by local and foreign dignitaries, including President Chen Shui-bian.

About 200 people attended a two-day "Conference on Libraries and Reading Activities" on April 22 and 23. Yin Yun-peng (殷允芃) of Commonwealth magazine delivered the keynote speech at the conference, which addressed the following six topics (speakers are indicated in parentheses):

Reading Activities: Reading Activities in the U.S. (Yang Mei-hua, 楊美華); Building a Nation of Readers: Reading Activities in the U.K. (Chi

Jou-lan, 齊若蘭); Family Literary Activities in Japan (Lin Chen-mei, 林真美)  
Selecting Reading Materials: Reading Material for Children (Lin Wen-pao, 林文  
寶); Teaching Children to Choose Books (Hsiao Ching-chung, 趙鏡中);  
Utilization of Online Children's Reading Materials on Library and Information  
Science Education (Lai Yuan-ling, 賴苑玲) Reading Clubs: Organization and  
Operation of Reading Clubs at Public Libraries: Case Study of the Taipei  
Municipal Library (Tseng Shu-hsien, 曾淑賢); Operation and Development of  
Community Reading Clubs: Case Study of Small and Large Reading Clubs in  
Hualien (Chen Li-yun, 陳麗雲); Buddhism and Living a Literary Life (Master  
Chueh Pei, 覺培); Operation of General Reading Clubs: Case Study of the Su  
Chih Reading Club (Chang Ping, 張萍); Reading in Thematic Education:  
Introducing Students to the World of Reading—Design and Leadership of  
Reading Education Activities (Ke Chi-hsia, 葛琦霞); Library Usage in  
Compulsory Education: Cases Study of Minghu Middle School in Taipei (Chen  
Shu-hui, 陳淑慧); From Primary School Library Utilization to the Integration of  
Thematic Reading and Education (Hsu Yueh-mei, 徐月梅); Unresolved Issues on  
Publishing and Reading (Chiu Chiung-you, 邱炯友); Introducing Good  
Extracurricular Reading Material and the Literary Climate in Taiwan (Chiu Ke-  
jung, 邱各容); Publishing and Trend of Thought (Lin Tai-chueh, 林載爵)  
;Planning and Holding National Reading Activities: Promotion and Operation of  
the Shih Hsin University Reading Club (Lai Ting-ming, 賴鼎銘); Public Libraries  
and Reading Activities (Chen Chao-chen, 陳昭珍); Planning and Managing  
Reading Activities at Primary and Middle Schools (Shen Hui-fang, 沈惠芳); and  
Planning and Managing Community Reading Activities: Case Study of the Oven  
Reading Club (Liu Ching-yan, 劉清彥)

Exhibitions held during the anniversary celebration covered the themes of  
"Libraries and Reading Activities", "Musical Works and Philosophical Writings  
of Professor Robert Scholz", "Historical Evolution of Books", "Books on

Formosa", and "Selected Publications of the NCL".

## NCL Launches New Information Systems

During the celebration of its 70th anniversary on April 21 this year, the National Central Library launched two timely information systems—"Taiwan Memory" and "Taiwan Info".

Taiwan Memory was established to serve as a digital archive of documents and other materials on Taiwan history with the objective of preserving Taiwan's historical memory. The system includes text, image and audio materials in digital form and presented in the topical areas of people, events, eras, places, and objects. This material is supplemented by various "Special Digital Collections" and linked with the extensive research documents stored at the NCL to comprehensively present the perspectives, attitudes, and faiths of Taiwan at different stages of its history.

The distinguishing traits of the Taiwan Memory and Taiwan Info systems are as follows:

1. The systems comprise extensive text, audio, and still and animated image content, including nearly 40 years of local television news material and programs tracing back to the beginning of TV broadcasting in Taiwan.
2. Both systems were developed in accordance with a well-designed digital preservation plan covering information organization, value adding, searching, knowledge collection and other applications, technical standards and criteria for digital conversion of materials, copyright management, and dissemination of digital information. Accessible through the NCL website, this rich collection of resources presents a living portrait of Taiwan's past in the hope of awakening