

Title: Window on Taiwan //
Category: Local Records //
ISBN: 957-678-407-1 // US\$9.5
Abstract: This brief encyclopedia
provides an overview of cultural affairs

in Taiwan's 87 townships, with sections on the history, historical figures, historical sites, scenic sites, special products, plant and animal ecology, geology, and community education agencies in each township.



Title: 2004 Excellent Public Libraries of Taiwan, R.O.C. // Category: Library Science // ISBN: 957-678-415-8 // US\$6

Abstract: As part of a three-year library development plan launched in 2002, the NCL formed a committee comprised of experts, scholars and experienced

librarians to evaluate the performance of public libraries throughout Taiwan. The 89 libraries receiving outstanding scores in the 2004 evaluation are introduced in this publication, including the basic information, operation methods, services, and collection characteristics of each library.



Title: 2003 Publishers' Directory in Taiwan // Category: Reference // ISBN: 957-678-385-2 // US\$3.5

Abstract: This directory provides a list of 8,240 publishers, government agencies, and

academic organizations in Taiwan that have submitted ISBN applications between July 1989 to September 2003. Additional up-to-date information on publishing organizations in Taiwan can also be accessed online at: http://www.ncl.edu.tw/isbn.



Title: Proceeding of Library and Reading Activities Seminar // Category: Library Science //

ISBN: 957-678-395-X // US\$5

Abstract: This work brings together 20 papers delivered at the Library and Reading Activities Seminar held in conjunction with

the 70th anniversary of the NCL. Topics include the sharing of experience in reading activities, selection of reading materials, reading club administration, integrating reading in topical studies, publishing and reading, and the planning and holding of national reading activities.

Events

■ CCA Chairman Chen Chi-nan Inspects Township Libraries

Council for Cultural Affairs (CCA) Chairman Chen Chi-nan made inspection visits to township libraries in Changjhih, Jhutian, Jiadong, and Linbian on August 7 to understand the status of their operations. He was joined by Pingtung County Cultural Bureau Director Hsu Fen-chun and National Taichung Library Director Hsueh Mao-sung. The group also met with township and city mayors in Pingtung County to jointly map out a new course for library development in the county.

Chen emphasized the importance of developing township libraries as centers for continuing education and cultural and art exchanges. In these capacities, he said, libraries can play an important role in fostering a literary and cultural climate in local communities. He also said that in future library facilities would be designed as artworks and landmarks in their own right. He urged local communities to submit plans for achieving these objectives, promising strong support from the CCA for competitive proposals.

■ Public Libraries Promote Internet and Information Services

Over 200 public libraries across Taiwan organized more than 800 events between August 9 and October 9 this year to promote public library Internet and information services. The "E Go Go!" event highlighted the convenience of public libraries as places for people to access online

information. The activity was part of the "Bridging the Urban-Rural Digital Divide Plan" directed by the Cabinet-level Council for Cultural Affairs, organized by the National Taichung Library and jointly carried out by county/city cultural bureaus and township libraries.

The activities brought together the public library functions of information searching, education and leisure. The event was directed not only at the general public, but also emphasized enhanced services for people living in remote areas and disadvantaged groups, such as foreign spouses, the elderly, and aboriginals, seeking to expand information access to all. National Taichung Library also launched a website (http://egogo.ntl.gov.tw) with information on related activities organized by participating libraries as well as interactive games that provide a fun and informative means to learning about related activities.

■ NCL Attends 71st IFLA Conference

The 71st General Conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) was held from August 14 to 18 in Oslo Norway. About 3,000 representatives from 133 countries and regions attended the event, whose theme was "Libraries: A Voyage of Discovery." The conference comprised 216 meetings and featured 404 speakers and presenters. Norway's culture minister Valgerd Svarstad Haugland hosted the opening ceremony. The King of Norway Harald V attended the ceremony, during which IFLA president Kay Raseroka and Oslo mayor Per Ditlev-Simonsen also gave

welcome speeches. Francis Li-Chung Tu, of the NCL Reference Department, represented the library at the conference. In addition to attending the opening ceremony and various group lectures, Mr. Tu visited with former ILFA presidents Kay Raseroka and Claudia Lux, current association president Alex Byrne, and association general secretary Peter Lor. He also toured and met with officials at the National Library of Norway, Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs, University of Oslo Library, Oslo Public Library, Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum. (Chinese text by Francis Li-chung Tu)



Mr. Francis Li-chung Tu of the NCL visits with IFLA President Alex Byrne (left) (Provided by Francis Li-chung Tu)

■ Meeting Held to Assess Taiwan Reference Works

The "Advisory Meeting for Evaluation of Reference Works Published in Taiwan in 2004"