

Mongolia's First Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies

On September 10, 2019, National Central Library Director-general Tseng Shu-hsien and National University of Mongolia's Vice President Ch. Lodoiravsal signed a cooperative agreement for a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS). An opening ceremony was held the same day. This is the first TRCCS NCL has established in Mongolia and marks the 32nd one overseas. Both parties also signed a cooperative agreement regarding the Union Catalog of Rare Book Database. This is a new page in collaboration on ancient Chinese books between the two institutions. It is also a significant achievement for NCL in its efforts to promote international cultural exchange.

National University of Mongolia has played a critical role in the development of Chinese studies in modern Mongolia. The two famous scholars of Chinese from modern Mongolia—Chimedtseren and Jugder—both taught at National University of Mongolia. Under their tutelage, a new generation of outstanding Chinese studies scholars and Chinese language teachers have been trained. National University of Mongolia was established in 1942 and has had a leading role in Mongolian higher education. Approximately 1/3 of the scholars in Mongolia are graduates from this institution and are active in the humanities, education, and science fields in Mongolia, as well as assuming important positions in society. National University of Mongolia's library has a collection of over 360,000 volumes, along with many digital databases.

In 2012 National Central Library began establishing Taiwan Resource Centers for Chinese Studies overseas by selecting important universities or research institutions. This proved to strengthen collaboration with research institutions in Chinese studies in countries throughout the world. It also promoted scholarly exchange between scholars in Taiwan and abroad, thus disseminating the scholarly achievements of Chinese studies in Taiwan. This project was one of four to be awarded the American Library Association's 2015 International Innovative Service Award. Not only does this increase

NCL's interaction with research institutions across the globe and provide new opportunities for collaboration, it also enables even more people to come in contact with and use e-resources from Taiwan on Chinese studies. This increases Taiwan's visibility and influence internationally.

In establishing this Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies at National University of Mongolia, NCL provided 394 titles (541 volumes) of books on Chinese studies and Taiwan studies. Each year moving forward, this collection will be supplemented with new books. NCL also provided the university's professors and students access to the abundant digital resources in Taiwan's digital collections and databases.

During the opening ceremony, Director-general Tseng presented a replica of a national treasure Annotations of Mr. Dong Po's Poems, a work with over 800 hundred years of history, as well as a dual colored Diamond Sutra, the only surviving copy of its kind. The 22 volumes will not only add to the university's collections, but also stand as a witness of this historic moment of collaboration. They also will provide opportunities for further collaboration in the future.

The establishment of the TRCCS aids in broadening scholarly exchanges at the university; it also promotes Chinese studies from Taiwan. In addition, it functions as an important international window whereby more people can read the excellent books published in Taiwan and use the abundant Chinese studies e-resources, thus showing the results of Taiwan's promotion of Chinese studies.



NCL and National University of Mongolia collaborated to establish the first Taiwan Resource Center



NCL Director-general Tseng Shu-hsien and National University of Mongolia's Vice President CH. LODOIR