

Conference on Local Documents

The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) in cooperation with the Cabinet-level Council for Cultural Affairs (CCA) held a Conference on Local Documents at the NCL from October 16 to 18.

The conference provided a forum for scholars to present academic theories, practical experience, and exchange views on the collection, collocation, study and use of local documents and thereby encourage closer attention to this traditionally overlooked field.

NCL director Juang Fang-rung (莊芳榮) presided at the conference, which featured keynote speeches by Academia Historica president Mr. Chang Yen-hsien (張炎憲) and CCA vice chairman Mr. Wu Mi-cha (吳密察). Twenty foreign scholars from Japan, Canada, mainland China and Hong Kong, as well as 14 scholars from Taiwan presented 33 papers during the eight conference sessions.

A special exhibition of local documents was arranged for the conference, including a display of 400 newly published county, city and town gazettes, more than 4,000 postcards depicting Taiwanese customs, people and architecture during the Japanese occupation period, and over 900 local document publications by county and city cultural centers. Local gazettes from mainland China were highlighted at a second display.

In conjunction with the conference, the NCL also specially published “A Record of Taiwanese Culture: A Catalog of Local Gazettes and Publications.”