

information service models in the digital age, and new relationships between libraries and publishers in the digital era

- **Assessment of Application Models for Book Procurement Laws and Inter-entity Supply Contracts**—By Senior Specialist Wang Li-feng and Director Peng Wei
Introduction to application methods for book acquisition under the *Government Procurement Act*, and strengths and weaknesses of the Inter-entity Supply Contract model
- **Public Library Book Selection and Acquisition Needs**—Director Tseng Shu-hsien
Introduction to principles of public library collection development, budget sources, acquisition methods, publisher selection, and publisher value-added services.

There was also a general discussion presided by Prof. Chiu Chiung-you.

Libraries benefit publishers by providing places for learning and vigorously promoting interest in reading. They play an important, if often unseen, role in fostering the literary interest and level of society, and thereby stimulate public willingness to buy books and periodicals, enhancing the virtuous cycle of publishing and marketing. Libraries, on the other hand, depend on the publishing industry to put out good books that can attract readers and assist learning and research pursuits. The GIO seminar helped promote this healthy relationship by enhancing understanding in the publishing world of library book selection and acquisition methods, as well as legal restrictions. It is hoped that publishers, book agents, and online bookstores can jointly work with libraries on book and periodical acquisition issues.

■ Seminar on Religious Libraries

The Seminar on Religious Library Management was held at the NCL on March 18, 2005. The event was jointly sponsored by the Special Library Committee of the Library

Association of China and Gaya Mountain Foundation and organized by the Luminary Buddhist Institute Library.

Religious libraries have gained greater attention in Taiwan with the recent rise in religious followers and academic programs. These libraries play an important role in the collection, organization, and dissemination of religious publications and information. The 2005 Religious Library Operation and Management Seminar was held to understand the current status and development of religious library management and operations in the Taiwan area. The seminar also discussed such issues as the sharing and exchange of religious publications and information among religious libraries and religious studies departments, and the establishment of standards for libraries of religious institutes. The seminar promoted exchanges on the development of religious libraries and ways to jointly create an environment supportive of religious institutes and religious exchange, so as to provide rich and diverse resources for religious studies.

At the seminar, a keynote speech was delivered by Taipei Public Library director Tseng Shu-hsien on "Library Volunteer Utilization, Management, Education and Training"

■ Seminar on Chinese Digital Media Database and News Markup Language

A seminar on "Chinese Digital Media Database and News Markup Language: Development and Opportunities" was jointly held by the National Digital Archives Program: Content Development Division and Journalism & Mass Media, the Department of Communication and Technology and Institute of Communication Studies at National Chiao Tung University, and the Department of Information and Communications at Shih Hsin University on May 11 and 12 at the NCL. Scholars, experts, and media representatives from Taiwan, mainland China, Hong Kong, and Singapore participated in the seminar discussions. Focal topics included development trends of news markup language standards around the world, Chinese news content development technology, value-added applications of Chinese