

Information organization, arrangement, and value-added services are involved in everything from the organization of physical library collections to the digitization of such collections, and they are an important part of preserving resources and improving accessibility to these resources. With the development and application of new archiving technology and digital publishing, information organizations in the current era are challenged to find ways to integrate technology to enhance the utilization of knowledge.

The two keynote topics during the seminar were “University Libraries in the Network Age”; and “Metadata and its integration in the hybrid library”. Discussion topics included: (1) Copyright protection technology of digital library and the legal limitations on its circumvention; (2) Integration of information organization standards: Creation of a conversion table; (3) A study on FRANAR/FRAR, a conceptual model for authority data; (4) Influence of individual bibliographic management systems on academic dissemination and publishing; (5) Visualization of thesauri based self-organizing maps; (6) Metadata and its trends in library and information science; (7) Planning a knowledge management system for government organizations base on the need assessment: a case study; (8) Value-added digital information for archive documents; (9) Research of knowledge tree in distributed knowledge management system; (10) Establishment of business knowledge topic words; (11) Chinese name authority control; (12) Taxonomy generation from text and speech documents; (13) Study on digital archives standard for library automation system; (14) A preliminary

research for analysis of the current state of the art of topic map application; and (15) The study of information architecture for websites from information access aid-using the agricultural department websites in the domestic and foreign countries for an example.

■ *Hope, Reading, Growth: Helping Disadvantaged Kids to Read*

In order to raise public awareness of problems concerning the reading opportunities of disadvantaged children (including children in remote areas, low-income families, and families with foreign spouses, as well as the seeing impaired), and combine social resources to address these problems, the Children’s Bureau under the Ministry of the Interior, the NCL Taiwan Branch, and the Higher Education Foundation organized a seminar and lecture series with support from the Nantou County Government Cultural Bureau, Kaohsiung City Library, and Taitung County Government Cultural Bureau. These events provided a channel to share practical experience and theories on issues related to children’s reading. The dates and locations of each event are as follows:

Event	Date	Place
Seminar	May 26~27	National Central Library Taiwan Branch
Lecture: Nantou	June 1	Nantou County Government Cultural Bureau
Lecture: Kaohsiung	June 8	Kaohsiung City Library
Lecture: Taitung	June 9	Taitung County Government Cultural Bureau

The May 26 to 27 seminar consisted of keynote speeches, topic-related forums, and a general forum. Issues addressed included, encouraging reading interest in children, children's libraries and reading-friendly communities, children's reading in education, children's reading resources, and community reading resources for disadvantaged children and future prospects.

At the local lectures on June 1, June 8, and June 9, topics covered included the promotion of children's reading activities, selection and application of reading material, storytelling, reading illustrated books, and reading-related games for families.

The ability to read is a basic requirement and skill for one to become full engaged in society. As such, developing literacy is a critical part of a child's development. The challenge is to find ways to use limited reading facilities and resources to help children overcome the innate and imposed barriers they face in literacy development. Scholars and experts taking part in the seminar and lecture series aimed to approach this task through discussions on recent trends and studies on children's reading issues, and by sharing their theoretical knowledge and practical experience to help disadvantaged children develop their reading ability and bloom in life.

■ *Seminar on In-service Librarian Training*

A seminar on in-service librarian training was held on May 17 to 18 at the Gushan Branch of the Kaohsiung City Library, which sponsored the event with assistance from the NCL and

Kaohsiung County Government Cultural Bureau. Local experts and scholars presented lectures and shared their experience on library topics during discussion sessions, workshops, and field trips. These event provided librarians with new concepts on library management and techniques for communicating with readers in the information age. They also enabled librarians to enhance their professional knowledge, promote healthy interactions between library staff and readers, promote the function of libraries as community information centers, and promote lifelong learning. The seminar attracted about 60 participants, including librarians of the Tainan City Library; the Tainan, Kaohsiung, Pingtung, and Penghu county government cultural bureaus (including the township and city libraries under their jurisdiction); the Chiang Kai-shek Cultural Center in Kaohsiung City; and the Kaohsiung City Library. Courses offered included: (1) Reading Activities Around the World; (2) Photography Techniques for Artistic and Cultural Events; (3) Internet PR and Marketing; and (4) Planning and Design of Book Exhibitions.

■ *Virtual Archives Inauguration and E-Document Management Seminar*

On June 14, the Cabinet-level Research, Development and Evaluation Commission and its National Archives Administration (NAA) inaugurated the Virtual Archives and held a seminar on e-document management, attracting over 200 participants from government agencies, universities, information companies, foundations,