

■ *NCL Group Visits Libraries in Shanghai and Beijing*

Five staff members of the NCL visited libraries and information organizations in Shanghai and Beijing from November 20 to 26, 2006. The group, joined by Huang Ching-hua, Lin An-chi, Hsu Ling-hua, Chung Shou-mu and Tseng Kun-hsien, toured the Beijing University Library on November 25 to share experience on Unicorn system conversion with the systems department there. The group also held exchanges on cooperative cataloging and authority control files with the library's department in charge of higher education record safeguard systems. That same day the group toured and held exchanges with various departments of the National Library in Beijing. On November 26, the group toured the Beijing branch of the National Library. Other stops on the itinerary included Shanghai Library, East China Normal University Library, Beijing Capital Library (Beijing Local Document Center), Information Center of GAPP, and other organizations. (Chinese text by Lin An-chi)



NCL visitors with staff of the National Library of Beijing

■ *Cardinal Tauran Visits NCL*

Vatican Archivist and Librarian Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran visited the NCL on the afternoon of November 25, 2005, accompanied by the Vatican's Charge D'affaires in Taiwan Father Monsignor Ambrose Madhta and Huang Yun-chung of the European Affairs Office at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He met with NCL Director Juang Fang-rung and exchanged views.

In his welcoming speech, Director Juang said it was a great honor to receive the cardinal at the NCL. He noted that Taiwan is a country with religious freedom and an acceptance of people of all faiths. Taiwan is home to many Catholics, and Taiwan welcomes the vigorous development of Catholicism among its people. Director Juang also noted that the expansion of foreign relations and promotion of international exchange are important policies of the NCL. The library hopes to develop close cooperation ties with the Vatican Library. Director Juang also presented a memorial glass work to Cardinal Tauran.

Cardinal Tauran expressed thanks to Director Juang and the NCL. He noted that the Vatican Library always has been essentially a private library of the pontiff. Its collection naturally falls far short of the NCL's in terms of scale, but it contains many rare works, such as the world's oldest manuscript and coins, as well as a decent collection of Chinese works. The library is also actively involved in converting such resources into digital form. Cardinal Tauran presented the NCL with a catalog of the Vatican Library's Chinese book collection.