

Programs

■ *Ministry of Education Promotes Reading with Online Club*

In 2001, Tainan Girls' Senior High School, Tainan First Senior High School and 11 other schools in southern Taiwan jointly launched an online reading club and organized an essay writing contest, giving students a chance to share their thoughts on the books they read. The enthusiastic response led to the expansion of the club to the national level in 2002. In 2005, the Ministry of Education (MOE) took the initiative a step further by setting up the High School Student Web (www.shs.edu.tw) to promote reading among high school students. Nearly 30,000 students have since registered with the site, which holds regular essay writing contests. It also has a topic-organized reading list to encourage students to broaden their reading horizons.

In November 2005, the website teamed up with books.com.tw and 38 magazine publishers to donate past issue magazines to high schools. As of March 2006, about 230,000 magazines had been donated to 360 high schools around the country. The magazines, covering everything from society and arts to economy and science, have helped students diversify their knowledge. The MOE presented appreciation plaques to [book.com.tw](http://books.com.tw) and the 38 participating publishers for their contribution.

■ *Television Program on Women and Reading*

Under commission of the Ministry of Education, Taiwan's Public Television Service aired 12 three-segment videos on reading on May 7, 2006. Each of the 36 hosted segments shed light on various aspects of being a woman and the impact of reading on

women. The topics ranged from books about women to women talking about books, with an aim of presenting avid women readers as models for others. The first television program in Taiwan to focus on the topic of women and reading, the series encouraged cultivation of the habit of lifelong reading as a way to understand and cherish oneself.

■ *NCL and Yahoo! Kimo Team Up*

The NCL and Taiwan's Yahoo! Kimo have teamed up to offer more convenient access to two of the library's most popular search systems DATAS and PerioPath. Through Yahoo! Kimo's "Academic Search" service, people around the globe can enjoy the research achievements of Taiwan.

DATAS comprises about 350,000 graduate and doctoral dissertations and abstracts published in Taiwan, while PerioPath offers access to over 400,000 thesis papers published in academic journals in Taiwan. The NCL's popular NBINet will also be included with the Yahoo! Kimo "Academic Search" in September this year, providing easy access to some 5.6 million bibliographic records for 77 libraries in Taiwan.

The cooperation project benefits both partners by enriching the academic resources searchable through Yahoo! Kimo's search engine and by encouraging more people to use the NCL's search systems (<http://www.ncl.edu.tw/>). The partnership will also enable Taiwan's academic resources to reach a broader audience around the world.

Yahoo! Kimo has also linked with databases at National Taiwan University (NTU) Library and the National Digital Archive Plan (NDAP), putting the digital resources of these institutions into easier reach of users of the search engine. The NTU library will also provide access to NTU's academic network,