

# **International Exchange Activities of Taiwan's Libraries from 2000-2009**

**Tzu-heng Chiu**

Associate professor, General Education Center  
Associate director, the University Library  
Taipei Medical University

2011/12/02

# Overview

- Introduction
- Literature review
- Research methods
- Research results
- Conclusions and Suggestions

# Introduction

# Background

- Along with the integration of the history, politics, economy, culture and technology of the society, we are gradually migrating into a interdependent era; the information needs regarding different formats, languages and regions have also been increased.
- Many countries and organizations sign up bilateral or regional agreements, through exchanging personnel, technology, and funding, both parties mutually support each other to achieve certain goals.

# Background

- By expanding international exchange and cooperation, libraries can utilize resources, share scarce resources, reduce financial pressure, and fulfill readers information needs regarding international resources.
  - To learn how to provide better services via observing other countries or regional libraries' successful cases.
  - To enhance international visibility and competitiveness via accessing resources from advanced countries.

# The importance of international exchange and cooperation

1. To understand the development trend of the world, expand horizons, and to promote the development of local libraries.
2. To extend the influence, to let the world to see our specialized resources.
3. To consolidate international exchange, to advocate cooperation, to mutually complement collections.
4. To compensate the lack of foreign literatures.
5. To reference advanced management models and service experience from other countries.
6. To accelerate globalization and internationalization.

# The importance of international exchange and cooperation

- In the 21st century, libraries face a much more open environment. Go global, broaden horizons, so that libraries can keep up with the pace of world development.
- A complete and comprehensive international exchange and cooperation plan is an important indicator to measure the development of the library. It stimulates the library development.
- By learning experience from other countries, libraries can be more creative and innovative in the aspects of service, management, system, and techniques.

# Research questions

1. Which international professional library organizations are important to Taiwan's libraries? Which of them are worth paying attention and participating in?
2. Which LIS international conferences are important to Taiwan's libraries? Which of them are worth actively participating in and learning from?
3. What is the status of participating international exchange in libraries of our country?

# Literature Review

# Items of libraries' international exchange and cooperation

- Participating important international organizations and their core business affairs
- Participating or holding international conferences
- Participating in international book fairs.
- Exchanging international bibliographic data.
- Providing international document delivery and reference services.
- Editing and publishing library newsletters.

# Methods of libraries' international exchange and cooperation

## **1. International bibliographic control:**

Through international cooperation, require every country to follow international standards bibliographic description on all published items, and planning on making an international standard bibliography to provide to all countries, brings convenience to library exchange.

## **2. International publication collection and utilization:**

Through international exchange and cooperation, every individual or organization can collect and utilize every bibliography information around the world.

# Methods of libraries' international exchange and cooperation

- 3. Inter-library loan and DDS:** over international cooperation, to access documents that is not available within the country.
- 4. Personnel cooperation:** mutually dispatch librarians for practical and academic exchange.
- 5. Cultural exchange:** The library itself is the embodiment of culture. It can centralize cultural essence, and perform the diversity of cultural exchange, such as: joint book fairs, cultural presentations, etc.

# Methods of seeking cooperation partners

1. **Through international organizations:** Pay attention to international activities and actively contact and participate.
2. **Through international conferences:** Participate in international conferences and get in touch with professionals from other countries.
3. **Through visiting libraries overseas:** Organize visiting delegation and discuss cooperation matters is the most direct and effective way.
4. **Invite scholars and experts for visiting:** Learn from their experience and establish contact channels.

# The role of the National Library on international exchange and cooperation matter

1. Actively participate international library matters while attending conferences.
2. Join in committee boards of library associations
3. Join in sub division or affiliate organization of library associations
4. Arrange meetings with librarians from other countries. While international librarians is visiting our countries, don't forget to arrange them to visit your library
5. Go abroad to visit librarians in other countries.
6. Apply for sponsorship for attending international conference or visiting libraries in other countries.
7. Ally with libraries from other country as sister libraries.
8. Read articles and news regarding international librarianship developments.
9. Actively provide assistance when fellow library holds international exchange events.

# International exchange and cooperation activities in libraries of mainland China

## Cantonese Libraries community-

- 1. Actively participate in international organizations and conferences:** Each year dispatch representatives to attend IFLA conference and various international meetings and strive for organizing conferences. Meanwhile, present academic articles on the conference to get international attentions.
- 2. Extensively enhance academic exchange:** Receive foreign scholars and experts, form library visiting delegation to visit and lecture, and increase contacts and exchanges with the outside world.
- 3. Strengthen cooperation with world libraries:** Participate world library alliances, organize international library conferences, and dispatch personnel for visiting and study.

# International exchange and cooperation activities in libraries of mainland China

## Huazhong University of Science -

1. Librarians have to be equipped with the following background knowledge: Order foreign books, and invite foreign experts to lecture.
2. Actively publicize the library to the world : shoot introduction videos, and sign cooperation agreement on book exchanges.
3. International interlibrary cooperation: Establish exchange relationships with more than 30 countries and more than 160 units, also copy original resources that the domestic libraries do not have through the international exchange.
4. Implement union catalog.

# International exchange and cooperation activities in libraries of mainland China

## Liaoning University Library-

1. Exchange books, journals, and information.
2. Personnel exchange and cooperation.
3. Strive to organize international conferences, and the establishment of regional library consortia.
4. Invite foreign scholars and experts to lecture.
5. Establish resource sharing platform.

# Ways for international exchange and cooperation

- Widely strengthen relationship with the international library community
- Publicize special resources and realize global resource sharing
- Consolidate relationships with professions in the library community around the globe.
- Increase international impact of professional journals.
- Build multilingual library websites.
- Pay attentions to international cooperation scheduling progression.

# The role of international exchange and cooperation of the NCL, Taiwan

2009-2012 mid term development strategic plan

1. Follow information policy, to increase social value of the library.
2. Leverage trend of the world, to develop high-quality library staff.
3. Popularize the concept of cost of the knowledge, to provide grading services
4. Promote knowledge management, to carry out a knowledge-based supporting engineering.
5. To build a meta library, to become the world knowledge base.

# The role of international exchange and cooperation of the NCL, Taiwan

Five plans on strengthening international exchange and academic participation, to extend the influences of Taiwan

1. Plan of developing professional exchange activities spaces.
2. Plan of enhancing librarians' international perspectives.
3. Plan of increasing international influence of the library.
4. Plan of cooperating on ancient and sinology literature.
5. Plan of actively participating world digital library (WDL).

# IFLA annual conference : Taiwanese participants

Year	Participants
2000	黃世雄、顧敏、彭慰、李柏如、邱炯友、林志鳳、劉淑德、溫達茂、溫劉莉莉
2001	黃世雄、顧敏、汪雁秋、黃鴻珠、劉春銀、胡歐蘭、宋兆霖、徐小鳳、徐啟昌、侯雲卿、羅思嘉、俞小明、劉淑德、邱方孝
2002	黃鴻珠、劉美玲、吳美美、曾淑賢
2003	中央研究院、國家圖書館、故宮博物院、立法院國會圖書館、中國圖書館學會、資策會之代表，共約十位
2004	莊芳榮、黃鴻珠、吳美美、俞小明、林志鳳、陳昭珍、陳亞寧、陳淑君
2005	楊美華、吳美美、林志鳳、杜立中、王受榮、陳忠誠、馮明珠、黃麗虹、葉乃靜
2006	黃鴻珠、劉春銀、周均育、劉採琮、宋雪芳、洪惠慈
2007	陳雪華、林志鳳、鄭寶梅、黃麗虹、紀瑪玲、紀麗惠、林美玲、林洵年、葉淑慧
2008	陳雪華、林志鳳、劉春銀、鄭寶梅、廖秀滿、黃麗虹、鄭慕寧、賴忠勤、蔡炯民、劉美玲、陳忠誠、俞小明
2009	王芄、吳佳玲、吳美美、楊靜宜、李柏如、林志鳳、林瑞雯、林穎涵、彭慰、孫以琳、蔡炯民、陳雪華、張春芳、張迺貞、張育瑄、蔣欣怡、陳淑君、鄭寶梅、范蔚敏、何亞真、胡忠和、黃麗虹、黃薇慈、賴麗香
2010	朱曉俐、宋慧筠、林志鳳、林瑞雯、俞小明、徐景岳、翁怡錚、翁翠霞、陳怡蓁、陳淑君、黃麗虹、葉淑慧
2011	陳雪華、王君逸、田倩惠、任莉、何亞真、岳麗蘭、林志鳳、吳佳玲、邱子恒、柯皓仁、洪世昌、張迺貞、許靜芬、陳昭珍、陳淑君、黃文玉、劉美玲、鄭欣宜、賴麗香、孫志鴻、林誠謙、吳孟穎、許芸涵、陳岳智、董子敬、魯珊

# ALA annual meeting: Taiwanese participants

Year	Participants
2000	辜瑞蘭、廖秀滿、黃世雄、汪雁秋、黃鴻珠、楊美華、吳美美、姜又梅、楊敕貝、陳佳君、賴忠勤、王惠玲、周邦喜
2002	許靜芬、黃世雄、林文睿、邵經明、梁康馨、王慧娟、林秀眉、杜金燕、陳淑敏
2005	陳昭珍、秦素蓉、周孟香、繁運豐、柯皓仁、吳美美、林雅慧、蕭宜明、吳思慧、林志鳳
2007	王文陸、彭慰、徐景岳、楊宣勤、劉水抱、曾淑賢、林珊如、許禎芸、邱婉容、蔡炯民、陳昭珍、吳美美、涂進萬、林志鳳
2008	陳昭珍、楊宣勤、王元仲、李美惠、林志鳳、陳敏珍、張迺貞、張淇龍、莊曼君、詹雅蘭、劉建成、鍾雪珍
2009	王貞雲、李美珠、林志鳳、俞維濤、高鵬、梁靜如、陳昭珍、陳莉如、陳雪華、蘇忠
2010	王國羽、王怡璇、吳叔華、宋慧玉、李美惠、邱信一、俞小明、張珈、程藍萱、趙瑞湘、謝易耿、關雅茹、龐宇琄
2011	呂春嬌、蔡佩玲、李玉瑾、孟文莉、胡忠和、曾愛文、于玟、李德歆、林志鳳、梁鴻翔、石秋霞、詹麗萍、陳蓉蓉、張淇龍

# MLA annual meeting: Taiwanese participants

Year	Participants
2007	高鵬、楊雅勛
2008	卓玉聰、杜宜凌、仇梅林、劉淑德、陳惠玲
2011	邱子恒、張慧瑾、劉淑德、陳惠玲

# Research methods

# Research design

- Objectives:

To explore the importance and content of the international exchange activities among libraries, hope this study can be a reference for the National Central library, the LIS professionals, and the authorities of the libraries.

- Subjects : LIS teachers and university librarians in Taiwan

- Time period:

- May to October, 2009

- Collected data was tracing back from 2000.

# Research methods

1. Literature review: Journal articles, Internet resources, civil reports, library year book, etc.
2. Content analysis: analyze the web contents from international organizations, conferences, and LIS departments, and related documents (ex. Report on attending international conference)
1. Questionnaire : Targeting at teachers from LIS schools and heads from large-sized libraries. Using disclosed ballot, emailed questionnaires. From July 2009 to September 2009, returned 28 questionnaires.
2. Expert panels: Invite 6 experts from the LIS academic and library community.

# Distribution of samples (LIS teachers)

School	Number of Respondents	Code
NTU (台灣大學)	5	A1, A2, A3, A4, A5
NTNU (師範大學)	2	B1, B2
NCCU (政治大學)	6	C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
NCHU (中興大學)	4	D1, D2, D3, D4
FJU (輔仁大學)	3	E1, E2, E3
TKU (淡江大學)	5	F1, F2, F3, F4, F5
SHU (世新大學)	3	G1, G2, G3
Total	28	

- Return ratio:  $28/64 = 43.75\%$

# Distribution of samples (Librarians)

Type of Library	Numbers of Respondents	List
National library	1	National Central Library
Academic Library	5	NTUL, NTNUL, NCCUL, NCHUL, TKUL
Medical Library	2	NTUL Medical library branch, Taipei general veterans hospital library
Public Library	3	National Taichung Library, Taipei Public Library, Kaohsiung Public Library
Total	11	

- Return ratio:  $11/19 = 57.89\%$

# Research results

# The importance of the international conference: LIS teachers' perspectives

Name	1 <sup>st</sup> place	2 <sup>nd</sup> place	3 <sup>rd</sup> place	4 <sup>th</sup> place	5 <sup>th</sup> place	Total
IFLA	22	3	1	1	0	27
ALA	1	18	1	3	1	24
ASIST	4	3	8	0	3	18
ICADL	0	1	2	4	3	10
ALISE	1	0	6	1	1	9
IASL	0	0	1	3	5	9
CALA	0	1	1	1	1	4
MLA	1	0	2	2	1	6
APLAP	0	0	0	0	0	0
ECDL	0	0	0	1	2	3
ICADL	0	1	2	4	3	10
ISSI	1	0	1	1	0	3
JCDL	1	1	1	2	0	5
LIDA	0	0	0	1	4	5
ICML	0	1	0	1	0	2

- IFLA/ ALA are considered the 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> important international conferences.<sup>30</sup>

## The international conference participations: the LIS community of Taiwan – by location

Year	America	Asia	Europe	Africa	Total
2009	3	1	5	0	9
2008	7	5	1	0	13
2007	2	4	2	2	10
2006	2	13	0	0	15
2005	6	2	2	0	10
2004	1	2	0	0	3
2003	1	1	2	0	4
2002	1	2	2	0	5
2001	5	2	0	0	7
2000	2	3	1	0	6
Total	30	35	15	2	82

Most respondents attend conferences held in Asia or America.

# The international conference participations: the LIS community of Taiwan – by library

Year	National Central Lib.	National Taichung Lib.	Taipei Public Lib.	Others	Total
2009	5	2	0	2	9
2008	8	2	2	1	13
2007	6	2	0	2	10
2006	8	1	0	5	14
2005	6	1	2	2	11
2004	3	0	0	0	3
2003	2	0	0	2	4
2002	3	0	0	2	5
2001	4	0	0	3	7
2000	3	0	0	3	6
Total	48	8	4	22	82

- The personnel from the NCL attend the conferences the most.

# Statistics of Taiwanese LIS scholars and experts attending international conferences

Year	IFLA	ALA	SLA	IASL	MLA	ASIST	Total
2009	25	9	0	1	0	12	47
2008	12	12	0	6	5	0	35
2007	9	14	0	200*	2	1	226
2006	14	0	0	15	0	0	29
2005	9	10	1	0	0	1	21
2004	8	0	0	0	0	1	9
2003	10	0	0	0	0	2	12
2002	4	9	0	0	0	1	14
2001	14	0	1	0	0	1	16
2000	9	13	0	0	0	0	22
Total	114	67	2	222	7	19	431

- \* 2007 IASL was held in Taiwan
- From 2000, 431 people attended international conferences, however, only a few got sponsorships.

# Status and plan on participating in international associations and conferences

NAME	Always join or attend	Used to joined or attended	Plan to join or attend
IFLA	4	2	2
ALA	3	4	1
SLA	0	0	0
ASIST	0	0	2
CDNLAO	0	1	0
CONSAL from ASEAN	0	1	0
ALISE	0	0	1
CEAL	1	0	1
IASL	0	5	0
CALA	1	1	0
MLA	1	1	1
APLAP	0	0	1
ECDL	0	1	1
ICADL	0	1	1
ISSI	0	0	1
JCDL	0	1	1
LIDA	0	0	3
ICML	0	0	0

- IFLA and ALA are also two most important ones to library staff.

# The budget status on libraries plan on participating international associations or conferences

Type of Library	Name	Fixed Budget	Source of budget
National Library	National Central Library	Yes	2007: NTD 240,000 2008: NTD 100,000 2009: 0
Academic Library	NTU Library	No	Funded by project
	NTNU Library	No	Apply for special funding approval
	TKU Library	No	Apply by case
	NCCU Library	No	Can apply for transportation funding
	NCHU Library	No	

## The budget status on libraries plan on participating international associations or conferences

Type of Library	Name	Fixed Budget	Source of budget
Medical Library	NTU Library Medical Library branch	Yes	2007: NTD 300,000 2008: NTD 300,000 2009: NTD 70,000
	Taipei General Veterans Hospital	No	
Public Library	National Taichung Library	Yes	2007–2009: NTD 352,000 2010: NTD 3,4000
	Taipei Public Library	Yes	2008: NTD 150,000
	Kaohsiung Public Library	No	

## Numbers of articles being presented by LIS teachers in international conferences

School	Full time teachers	No. of teachers who had presented articles	No. of times of presenting articles	No. of articles
NTU	11	7	46	52
NTNU	6	6	50	56
NCCU	6	5	33	55
NCSH	5	2	11	12
FJU	10	3	9	29
TKU	9	1	1	1
SHU	10	6	34	37
HCU	5	1	1	1
Total	62	31	185	243

Sources: LIS school websites 2009/12/30

Half of the LIS teachers have presented articles

# The status of the sponsorship from the National Science Council, Taiwan for LIS teachers

Numbers of cases being sponsored – by year

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
No.	4	3	4	3	4	4	1	1

Numbers of cases being sponsored – by location

Location	USA	Europe	Australia	Asia	Canada	S. America
No.	9	9	2	2	1	1

# The importance of the international conferences : LIS teachers' research perspectives

Name	1 <sup>st</sup> place	2 <sup>nd</sup> place	3 <sup>rd</sup> place	4 <sup>th</sup> place	5 <sup>th</sup> place
IFLA	9	5	6	0	0
ALA	0	11	1	8	0
SLA	0	0	0	1	3
ASIST	0	3	5	1	2
ADNLAO	0	0	0	0	0
CONSAL from ASEAN	0	0	0	0	0
ALISE	0	2	4	2	4
AAS	0	0	0	0	0
IASL	0	0	1	2	0
CALA	0	1	0	1	0
MLA	2	0	0	1	0
APLAP	0	0	0	0	0
ECDL	0	0	1	0	3
ICADL	3	1	1	2	2
ISSI	1	0	1	1	0
JCDL	1	1	2	0	3
LIDA	0	0	0	1	3
ICML	0				

9 teachers ranked IFLA與ASIST the first place.

11 teachers ranked ALA the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

# Opinions and suggestions

## Meanings of participating in international conferences

1. To exchange practical experiences with library specialists across the country, to obtain the latest development trends of library management, services and promotions. (Lib. B)
2. To learn, share, and expand horizons, increase publicity of Taiwan, and to realize the international development trends. (Lib. C)
3. To improve the ability of administration execution, enhance viewpoints in LIS field, and to stimulate the creativities. (Lib. G)

# Opinions and suggestions

Problem or difficulties of participating in international conferences:

1. It is not encouraged to go abroad in the colleges, budget and leave for statutory reasons application still has to strive for. (Lib. E)
2. No funding support (Lib, K)
3. Functions of sightseeing seems to be greater than international exchange. Therefore, it didn't really serve the purpose of international publicity and exchange. In addition, it is too centralized on certain organizations or meetings, so Taiwan's international exchange can not be generally promoted. (Lib. E)

# Opinions and suggestions

## Suggestions:

1. Systematically planning
2. Periodically form delegation
3. Funding support
4. Present articles and posters other than just attending.
5. Take positions on international organizations
6. Encourage students' participations
7. Exchanges should be reciprocal
8. Create sharing and exchanging platform

# Conclusion and Suggestions

# Conclusions

1. IFLA and ALA are two international organizations that Taiwan library community participate the most
2. ICADL is the international symposium that the Taiwan LIS community participate the most
3. Only a few libraries participate in international meetings, they only attend meeting in certain areas, and most of them do not have a stable budget source.
4. It is not generally popular of participating in international conferences and academic meetings among LIS teachers in Taiwan

# Suggestions

1. Library Association of the Republic of China should be more active.
2. The NCL should strive for budget and funding and also collaborate the library community to promote the international academic exchange.
3. The management level of all categories of libraries should set a stable budget for international exchange activities
4. All categories of libraries should encourage their staff to enhance language ability and presentation skill, to be more actively in international exchange activities.
5. LIS schools in Taiwan should actively participates in international exchange and cooperation

Thank you for your attention

[tzchiu@tmu.edu.tw](mailto:tzchiu@tmu.edu.tw)