A Feast for the Young: NCL Promoting “NDLTD in Taiwan” at College Fair

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Background Information

Role of the NCL & NDLTD in Taiwan system

According to the Library Law of Taiwan, all domestic publications should be given to the National Central Library (NCL) for legal deposit, including theses and dissertations. Based on these resources, NCL has built “National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan” (NDLTD in Taiwan) system, which contains all theses and dissertation from 142 universities and colleges in Taiwan, including more than 950,000 abstracts and over 360,000 full-texts. Users can enjoy free access to the authorized full-text via the internet. Currently, 100,000 users on average access the system each day, making it the most influential academic research database in Taiwan. In addition to academic research support, the database also helps students to analyze research interests of each school. Not only graduate students but also high school and undergraduate students can be benefited by using it as well.

College Fair in Taiwan

College Fair is an annual exhibition held by a non-governmental organization in Taiwan, providing a platform for domestic and international universities to introduce their features and share information of enrollments in Taiwan, providing a platform for domestic and international universities to introduce their features and share information of enrollments in Taiwan, including more than 950,000 abstracts and over 360,000 full-texts. Participants can enjoy free access to the authorized full-text via the internet. Currently, 100,000 users on average access the system each day, making it the most influential academic research database in Taiwan.

Preparation

NCL participated in the college fair by setting up a display area for the first time to promote the “NDLTD in Taiwan” system to colleges and universities with the topic of “Fair on the Research Characteristics of Taiwan’s Universities.” In March 2015, we started to invite universities that cooperates with “NDLTD in Taiwan” to join in this project. Participating in the fair were 16 universities and colleges, including National Chung-Cheng University, National Dong-Hwa University, National Chi Nan University, National Taipei University of Education, National Defense Medical Center, National Penghu University of Science and Technology, Chinese Culture University, Providence University, Shih-Chien University, TungHai University, Southern Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Nanhua University, TransWorld University, Mackay Medical College, Ming Chie University of Technology, and the Oriental Institute of Technology.

At the Fair

At the fair, the 16 universities were running a session to introduce their universities to prospective students in the NCL display area. Their introductions made use of statistics from the “NDLTD in Taiwan” system, such as the uploading rate of full-text, the authorization rate, the authorized full-text, search functions, and free value-added service to members, so as to inform more young students about the system. At the end of each session, participants who won the lucky draw could receive a souvenir provided by NCL and the university.

Conclusion

Over 1,000 people participated in the 16 introductory/instructional sessions during the two-day period. This Fair also featured activities from different universities and increased their exposure to the public. Participated universities responded positively to the Fair. As for NCL, it was a useful promotion for the “NDLTD in Taiwan” system. NCL is the leading library for knowledge and information resources and services in Taiwan. As the development of technology has changed the information-seeking behavior of the young, libraries plays a role of education and providing selected resources. Through the College Fair, NCL librarians had the chance to reach out for the potential users. On the other hand, the participants learned about that “NDLTD in Taiwan” can be a useful tool in their future studies, and further increased the sense of recognition toward the library.