

English Abstract :

“Outstanding Theses Presentation to Publicize , To Disseminate Knowledge.”--- The Ten Years’ Events to Promote Theses and Dissertations Full-Text Authorization in Taiwan.

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The National Central Library in Taiwan (NCL) has an very important mission of collecting the national publications in Taiwan. Among them, the collection of theses is also representative as collecting the important academic knowledge and research from Taiwan's colleges and universities. In order to achieve global academic higher exposure for Taiwan's PhD and master theses , NCL built a platform called “National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan” (NDLTD in Taiwan). NCL also co-sponsored by Southern Taiwan University of Science and Technology (STUST) offer an activity each year for the Inter-University Distinguished Thesis Authorization and Presentation. By this activity, we hope to encourage distinguished thesis, gradulate students promote the full-text authorization of the papers, so as to reduce the repetitive research and reduce the plagiarism.

In recent years, the digital collection of dissertations have become a hot topic in the world with the rapid development of the Internet. In Taiwan, the current information services for digital dissertations can be divided into three main categories:

1. Each College and University buy vary thesis collection system from vendors.
2. Vendors use commercial licensing models to pay for full text.
3. The National level digital dissertations system or platform offers FREE thesis submission and collection system for public and also provide free of charge knowledge support services.

Among these three main categories, The National level digital dissertations system (NDLTD in Taiwan) supported by the Ministry of Education in Taiwan is the most scale and success. In this digital era, NCL bears the responsibility of supporting academic research. It must has integrated services and provide new immediately message to library users and even users from abroad.

NCL’s “National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan” (NDLTD in Taiwan) follow the spirit of Open Access, provides a free online thesis

information service to people. The purpose is also for the getting information freedom, equality and openness. Using government resources promote the free dissemination of academic resources to the people, promote and sharing those dissertation information, shorten the rural gap and the digital gap from the different of urban and city, and achieve social justice for academic resources equal to everyone.

National Central Library in Taiwan was doing of relevant materials for country PhD and Master's thesis catalogue "Republic of China doctoral/ master thesis catalogue " in a very early age from 1970. Since 1994, NCL has been entrusted by the Ministry of Education to implement the "National Thesis Abstract Project". In 1998, NCL completed the first national online thesis abstract search system in Taiwan called "National Thesis abstract retrieval system" and was announced to public In December 1998. The great open In December 1998 , NCL declare Taiwan's electronic dissertation (ETD) service to a new milestone.

In the following two years, all colleges and universities in Taiwan shared this system, providing graduate students across the country to submit their thesis online to this system. In February 2000, the NCL officially launched many functions such as electronic full-text uploading, online printing electronic full-text authorization and so on. Integrating the academic dissertations bibliography and electronic texts of the past years became as the "National Thesis Information Network".

In addition to improve the service efficiency, the second generation of the thesis system came out in 2004. Furthermore, in view of the decline in the ETD authorization rate for free to Open Access, NCL developed a new age thesis system in 2009 called "National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan (NDLTD in Taiwan) ". It became the most important National Academic and Theses Support Platform to show Taiwan high educational effects.

In Taiwan, National Central Library is the main theses collection, information provider and system service establishment. Since 2010, we have strengthened the promotion services of localization and internationalization.

In the same year 2010, NCL formally joined the international NDLTD organization to become a member of the National Institutional Member. In order to promote the concept of ETD Open Access, NCL released "Taiwan dissertation research trend report " every year since 2013. Hosting "Cultural Heritage. Academic Pilot: Nice to have you in Taiwan ~~ Thanksgiving Tea Party".

In 2015, there were 142 universities nationwide were invited to set up the "Taiwan Thesis Cloud Library Union". In 2016, "Taiwan's most influential academic resources release press conference" was held.

Futhermore, "Outstanding Theses Presentation to Publicize , To Disseminate Knowledge."-- This event is co-sponsored by Southern Taiwan University of Science and Technology (STUST) and the National Central Library(NCL) in Taiwan. The goal is to encourage graduate students from many different universities and colleges to authorize their theses and dissertations open to public by full- text format. It is a nationwide activity which held each year. By 2018, this activity has been implemented for 10 years.

Through public presentations, the influence of academic communication was enhanced, and the Open Access concept of ETD authorization and open use was successfully cultivated in Taiwan. The excellent student papers of each school were encouraged by "competition" and "awards".

The purpose of this activity is to reach a higher exposure, increased citation rate, and academic influence in the Taiwan. By using the NCL "National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan" (NDLTD in Taiwan) this academic research platform , we hope we can reach the purpose.

This activity not only promotes the idea of authorizing the publication of the theses, but also eliminates the abuse of the theses 's plagiarism. After running this activity for ten years, we found more good impacts. We remind the delegates has to follow the copyright law. During the outstanding theses presentation to publicize and competition, it is also a good opportunity to let teachers and students of each school observe each other's research in the same field. Teachers can share their tips and experience for instructing students' theses and dissertations.

After the hard work we have implemented over the past ten years, we have seen many significant improvements from the statistics. We sincerely hope that all of our efforts will helping increase Taiwan academic research and development can be seeing in global .

In the past 10 years, the NCL "National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan" (NDLTD in Taiwan) has grown rapidly and has now developed as one of Taiwan's most influential academic resource websites.

The number of bibliographies and abstracts collected by the system has been grown from 570,000 records to more than 1.08 million bibliographies and abstracts records. The electronic version full text thesis was granted for free access by graduate students which allow to reference and download by global users has also grown from number of times 150,000 in 2009 to nearly 450,000 in 2018. The single-year electronic full-text authorization rate has also grown significantly from 19.47% in 2008 to 63.9% in 2017.

NCL is a few national member units in the international NDLTD organization. According to the Taiwan graduate degree awarding method, NDLTD in Taiwan bears the responsibility of collecting national documents, collect complete dissertations and build a high-quality value-added system for free download and use by users around the world. Whether in Asia or the whole world, Taiwan's NDLTD dissertation deposit and collection system is very unique. However, in these years many private vendors saw the commercial value of the degree thesis, and actively signed contracts with the schools to obtain commercial paid authorization.

The impact of this case will cause all researchers and scholars have difficult access academic research resources, the universities are forced to increase budget annually to buy high-price commercial databases for their teachers and students use. In the long run, it is feared that the academic resources of all universities will be unevenly distributed. We think this current situation and future development need to be pay more attention of all the time.