Meanwhile, Director General Tseng and Deputy Librarian Cannon also signed a “Memorandum of Cooperation on the Database of the Union Catalogue of Chinese Rare Books.”

The NCL will assist Oxford in converting and uploading the bibliographic records of their valuable holdings onto the Union Catalog of Chinese Rare Book database. The database contains more than 640,000 bibliographic records and is the important source for researchers to work on Chinese Studies. This cooperation project will certainly strengthen our scholarly exchanges.

Oxford also arranged a guided tour of the Queen’s College Library, the Old Bodleian Quadrangle, Divinity School and Duke Humfrey’s Library, as well as a display of a selection of Chinese Special Collections in the Conservation Studio of the Weston Library. Participants were impressed with Oxford’s historical architecture and rich collection.

■ NCL and Lyon Public Library Sign a MOU

Director General Tseng and Lyon Public Library (Bibliotheque municipale de Lyon, BmL) Director, Dr. Gilles Eboli, signed a “Memorandum of Cooperation on the Database of the Union Catalogue of Chinese Rare Books” on April 2. The Lyon Public Library is the largest public library in France. This event opened a new page on Chinese rare books cooperation between NCL and BmL, indicating NCL’s concrete achievement in promoting international cultural exchanges. Chinese section (Le Fonds Chinois) Director, Marc Gilbert, and Chinese books expert, M. Olivier Bialais both witnessed the signing ceremony.

After the signing of the MOU, the BmL will continue to convert and upload the bibliographic records of their valuable Chinese holdings onto the Union Catalog of Chinese Rare Book database. In the future, richer bibliographic information can be provided to many French researchers.

■ Director General Tseng Visits the Oxford Central Library

Prior to Director General Tseng’s appointment at the University of Oxford to attend the TRCCS opening ceremony, she made special arrangements to visit the Oxford Central Library and spoke with
Head of Library Service, Ms. Jillian Southwell.

In her visit to the library, Director General Tseng saw how space was utilized, how the shelves were arranged, the children’s room, the music room, and the book reservation service. The library has high ceilings and bright reading rooms in addition to the special rooms for music aficionados. The music room even has pianos that patrons can use with the aid of headphones. These facilities can accommodate different needs of patrons. Library services are focused on the facileness of patron reading and usage. Not only are shelves laid out based on topics and information patrons are most interested in, making this easier for patrons to find related books, the library also provides book reservation services.

The OSZK also set up a special librarian workshop to promote digital archives and services. As part of the workshop, Director General Tseng was invited to speak and share on NCL’s vast experience in similar endeavors. 30-40 staff members, as well as librarians from other Hungarian libraries attended and were impressed with the achievements and modernized methods of Taiwan’s digitization efforts. Many questions regarding digitization were raised, and a rich exchange of ideas ensued.

NCL and National Széchényi Library Sign a Cooperation Agreement

Director General Tseng and Director General László Tüske from the National Széchényi Library (Hungarian: Országos Széchényi Könyvtár, OSZK) signed a Cooperation Agreement on April 10, 2015.

Digitalization Workshop and the Presentation of Director General Tseng on “NCL’s Efforts to Archive, Manage, and Provide Service for Digital Resources in Taiwan.”

Director General Tseng Visits the Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library and the Hungarian National Assembly

Prior to the cooperation agreement signing ceremony with the National Széchényi Library, Director General Tseng visited the Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Central Library, which is located in Budapest and which has a hundred and eleven years history. There she met with Dr. Péter Dippold, director of the library, and exchanged experience in the development of librarianship. After the meeting, she toured the Hungarian National Assembly that is located on the east shore of the Danube.