

National Central Library

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Spotlights

■ The Establishment of the Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies in France and Britain

National Central Library (NCL) Director General, Shu-hsien Tseng and President Jacques Comby of Jean Moulin Lyon III University, France and Deputy Librarian Catriona Cannon of University of Oxford respectively, signed a cooperative memorandum to establish a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) on April 3 and April 7, followed by opening ceremonies.

Lyon III University is the first TRCCS in France. It has established the Chinese Literature Department that offers courses on Taiwan films, history and other research programs. Also it is the first university opening a course on Holopedia.

The Bodleian Library, the main research library of the University of Oxford, is second in size only to the British Library in the U.K. with over 11 million items. The first Chinese book arrived at the Bodleian Library in 1604 and the China Centre Library has approximately 60,000 volumes on Chinese studies collection. Oxford therefore has a long tradition of scholarship on Chinese studies.

Setting up the TRCCS at world-renowned Universities has far-reaching implications in the promotion of Taiwan-style Chinese studies, as well as in extending the influence of Taiwan's research achievements and publications in Europe.



Director General Tseng and President Jacques Comby of Jean Moulin Lyon III University show the signed MOU.



Director General Tseng with Deputy Librarian Catriona Cannon and ceremony attendees.

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.



Director General Tseng and ceremony attendees see the spectacular scenery around the Oxford city from the roof of the Weston Library.

■ NCL and Lyon Public Library Sign a MOU

Director General Tseng and Lyon Public Library (Bibliothèque 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 with Director Gilles Eboli, Director Marc Gilbert, and Mr. M. Olivier Bialais

■ 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