

The cooperation agreement covers exchanges of general and specialized books, periodicals, documents and other publications; digitization of documents and rare books; joint creation of catalogs for documents and rare books; joint promotion of monographs of mutual interest to both sides; exchange of experience on library services and activities; exchange visits by library personnel, and joint arrangement of international seminars.



*NLM Director Hatagin Go Akim (left) and B. Chadraa (center), President of Mongolian Academy of Sciences, with NCL Director General Juang Fang-rung at the signing and book donation ceremony (Photo provided by Yu Hsiao-ming)*

In addition to signing the agreement, the NCL visitors toured libraries and major document repositories in Mongolia accompanied by Director Akim, NLM Exchange Department Director Ganjavyn Gansukh, and Mongolia Association for Cooperation with Pacific Countries Secretary Ulambaatar. The itinerary included stops at the National Library of Mongolia, National Archives of Mongolia, Book Palace for Children, Ulaanbaatar Public Library, Nomgon Sum Library, Dalanzadgad Library, Sangiin Dalai Khiid, Gangdan Tekchen Ling Library, and the Kharkhorin Cultural Center Library,

Sangiin Dalai Khiid, Bogd Khan Palace Museum), Monastery-Museum of Choijin Lama, and the Jebtsundamba Fine Arts Museum. The tours left the visitors with a deep impression of the operations and religious documents and relics in the various collections viewed.

Established in 1921, the National Library of Mongolia currently has a collection of over three million volumes, including more than one million classical texts and manuscripts in Mongolian. It is the largest such collection anywhere in the world. (Chinese text by Yu Hsiao-ming)

#### ■ *NCL Opens "EU i": European Union Information Center*

NCL Director Juang Fang-rung and European Economic and Trade Office's (EETO) Director Brian McDonald signed an agreement on September 26, 2006, to establish a European Union (EU) Information Center (EU *i*) at the NCL, reflecting the ever closer relationship between Taiwan and the EU.

This is the second such center to be established in Taiwan for the dissemination of information on Europe. The first was the European Documentation Centre, Taiwan, which opened at Tamkang University in 1979 to provide material for research use. Since that time, local interest in the study of European culture and affairs has grown dramatically in Taiwan, while the EU has placed growing importance on developing relations with Asia. Addressing both of these interests, the NCL met with EU representatives and proposed that an "EU *i*" be established at the library. The project won the approval of the European Commission, which aims to expand the storage and dissemination of EU documents and build new channel for communication between the EU and

Taiwan. The center will also provide an invaluable resource for Taiwan's research community.



*EETO Director Brian McDonald (right) signed an agreement with the NCL Director General Juang Fang-rung (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)*



*EETO Director Brian McDonald (sixth from left), EETO Deputy Director Frederic Laplanche (seventh from right), EETO Personal Assistant Dorothea Leonhardi (second from right), EETO Press Officer Béatrice Lappart (second from left), NCL Director General Juang Fang-rung (seventh from left) and NCL staff pose for a group picture after signing ceremony (Photo by Pinery S. Wu)*

The NCL currently maintains a comprehensive collection of government publications from the U.S. Library of Congress and Japan's National Diet Library, as well as numerous publications of United Nations' agencies, the World Trade Organization, Asian Development Bank and other international organizations. Moreover, through exchange relations, the library has developed an extensive collection of government and non-government publications from around the world. With the designation of the NCL as a library of deposit for EU documents, the library will now be even better poised to serve the needs of readers and researchers in Taiwan. Among the EU documents to be deposited at the NCL are legislative documents, reports, government declarations, statistical materials, records of debate, and promotional publications numbering between 30 and 40-plus volumes each month. After signing the cooperation agreement, the European Commission will first ship backdated publications to the NCL, with newer publications to follow. The library will set a date for inaugurating the "EU *i*" once the publications have arrived at the NCL and are cataloged. (Chinese text by Katie K.C. Su)

## Special Report

### ■ "Homeless Readers" Poster Wins International Award

Prof. Sheue-Fang Song, head of the Department of Information and Library Science at Tamkang University, and Ms. Hui-Tzu Hung, a graduate student at the department, won the top prize in the Best Poster Session Award 2006 of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). Adopting the theme of "Homeless Readers,"