‘Window on Korea’ – Deepening Links with Korea

‘Window on Korea’ Opening Ceremony was held on Friday 21st June.

The Window on Korea 2013 project was offered by the National Library of Korea (NLK) to the Bodleian Libraries in March 2012. The project involved the creation of a new Korean Studies Library in the basement of OIL together with an A/V seminar room as well as a gift of some 3000 books from the NLK. When the gift is added to the 33,000 Korean-language titles, the 12,000 non-Korean-language titles, and the 700 Japanese-language titles already available, the collection will become the largest collection in the UK.

The ceremony was very well attended, and included members of the Korean teaching staff, members of the Oriental Faculty, other Orientalists, librarians (both external and internal), as well as members of staff from other departments of the University.

Deputy Director Kim Nam Sook represented the National Library of Korea and Director Kim Kab Soo represented the Korean Embassy.

Representing the University were the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Prof. Ian Walmsley (for Research), Dr. Richard Ovenden (Bodleian Libraries), and Dr. James Lewis (Korean Studies).
This project was one of many, recent collaborations between the University and Korea:

On 10 May 2012, Dr Changgyu Hwang, National Chief Technology Officer (CTO) and Head of the Office of Strategic R&D Planning in the Ministry of Knowledge Economy in the government of the Republic of Korea, led a delegation that visited the University and the Bodleian (photograph below). For more details please visit:


On 22 November 2012, four groups of high-level Korean visitors from the Ministry of Knowledge Economy visited the University and the Bodleian Library (see photograph below).

On 27 November 2012, his Excellency Park Suk-hwan, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the United Kingdom, visited the University and also the Bodleian Library.

From 26 to 29 March 2013, Professor Hermione Lee, President of Wolfson College, visited the Republic of Korea.

From 5 to 6 April 2013, Professor Andrew Hamilton, Vice-Chancellor of the University, visited the Republic of Korea.

For more information about collaboration between Korea and the University,
please visit:

http://www.ox.ac.uk/international/oxford_around_the_globe/asia_east/korea_.html