

NEW LIBRARY

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Sharing Saves Money. The Results of the Past Year at the Threshold of Europe

Four years have passed since the creation of the first library union in Bulgaria, whose main objective is an economical approach toward the utilization of the electronic resources for scientific and educational purposes. The founders of the consortium continue to work with enthusiasm and inspiration in favor of the libraries on the three main programs. The results for 2006 are impressive.

The shared subscriptions for electronic resources are more than one.

EBSCO leads with 41 participants during this year, while 4 years ago they were 19. The benefit of the consolidated subscription for EBSCO Publishing database is 98% spared expenses from the libraries' budgets! In December the number of the used full-text documents by all users of the databases amounts to 88,605 items whose individual price is only \$0,53. The Bulgarian Information Consortium (BIC), supported by his members, made a new three-year deal with EBSCO Publishing till the end of 2009. BIC members have also used as shared databases Oxford Reference Online, Emerald Fulltext, Gale Virtual Reference Library and Info Trac Custom Journals.

Seminars, issues, news, promotional proposals, presentations, reports, conference participation, discussions and contests established the name of the Bulgarian Information Consortium. This year once again BIC has won the price of the photo contest of the international foundation eIFL. The communication – both electronic and traditional - has continued to provide the libraries with technologies, resources and good practices. The seven libraries participating in the initiative Cooperative subscription 2007 have expressed their willingness for cooperation as they subscribed together, by means of a common auction according to the Law for Public Orders to 442 foreign magazines.

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eIFL through BIC provided opportunities for development and sharing to publishers and libraries in Bulgaria.

As a result of the signed contract with eIFL – Google Scholar suggested in 2007 to unite the catalogs of the Bulgarian libraries and to make public to the world scholarly articles in Bulgarian.

eIFL will offer to Bulgaria new resources at competitive financial conditions in 2007. Among them are JSTOR, Web of Science, ProQuest, Oxford Scholarship Online, Britannica Online, etc.

The results show – the cooperation continues and the sharing unites us.

Together we can achieve more, and the "opportunities exist so that we can use them" (Paulu Koelu).

Let's use them together!

We wish you happy holidays, health and more good things during the New Year 2007!

Nadia Terzieva
Bulgarian Information Consortium

Information Literacy for the 21 Century

From 24 to 27 October 2006 in Hissarya took place the first national seminar “Information Literacy for the 21 Century”, organized by World Learning, based on a project developed by the Library of the American University in Bulgaria and financed by USAID. Beth Woodard and Lisa Hinchliffe, lecturers and leading specialists in USA in the field of program development on information literacy and the preparation of the librarians for this new professional role, acquainted 39 representatives of the academic and big public libraries, IT business and the National Agency for Accreditation of Higher Education with the leading tendencies for instructing students in intelligent use of the information resources in the educational process as an integral part of their preparation for life and work in the Information society.



The intensive three-day training helps the participants to understand the concept “information literacy”, the skills and knowledge that it includes, the new role of the librarians in the educational process, the strategies for developing of successful educational programs, successful communicative tactics for the implementation of these programs as mandatory for the higher education, and the necessity of good and productive institutional communications. The participants developed a common action plan that will be presented to the Union of Librarians and Information Services Officers (ULISO) and in their own educational institutions, and came out with a common declaration for the development of a National Program for information literacy that will be supported by the Council of Rectors, the Ministry of Education and the National commission for accreditation of higher education.

Billiana Alexandrova, AUBG

The Ninth Edition of the Technology Days



On Nov. 10, 2006 in Sofia was held the ninth edition of the Technology Days organized by the Library of the American University in Bulgaria. The thematic frame of the program was “Technologies, modern scholarly communications and the role of the librarians in this process”. D-r Gary Pitkin, Director of Libraries in the University of North Colorado, Jim Agee and Jacqueline Solis were the main lecturers on the topic. Rumjana Sokolova from firm “BIKAM” presented “Web of Knowledge”, Sybille Geisenheyner from Thompson Group presented their new series of electronic books, and Shelly Stuard from Alibris, who specialize in searching and delivering of rare and antique books and library materials, acquainted the participants with the web-based interface of the firm for online book ordering and with their whole product list.

The full text of all presentations will be published in the new annual edition of BIC.

B. Alexandrova, AUBG



Program “Cooperative subscription” – Confirmed Successful Development

The program “Cooperative subscription” that has started in 2004 continues its successful development. In “Cooperative subscription ‘2007” again participate 5 university libraries from: Agricultural University – Plovdiv, University of Economics – Varna, New Bulgarian University, Economic Academy – Svishtov, Technical University – Sofia. For the first time in the program are included The National library “St. St. Cyril and Methodius” and the Central scientific-technical library at the National center of Information and documentation.

Following the successfully conducted procedures according to the Law for Public Orders In December 2006 were subscribed 290 western newspapers and magazines and 152 Russian newspapers or totally 442 titles. The whole list of all subscribed titles will be published till the middle of January 2007 on the site of BIC – <http://www.bic.bg/BG/>.

The main objective of the program “Cooperative subscription” in 2007 will be to increase the number of participants in the shared usage of the periodicals.

The libraries that participated in the first stage only with their western subscription can also share their Russian subscription. The libraries that had not participated in the procedures of the Law for Public Orders but are interested in the titles from the common list can also be included in the shared usage. It is necessary only to provide information of their subscribed titles (Russian and/or western) and to pay a fee of 50 leva.

For more information please write to e-mail: tonyd@tu-sofia.bg.

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“Microsoft” Search Engine

Welcome to live search books
Find a book, or search within a book.
Enter keywords to begin.

Everyone who wants to search for books in the collections of the British Library, the California University, and the University of Toronto can do that with the new “Microsoft” search engine [Live Search Books](#). This search engine is competing with Google Book Search and starts with a Beta version in U.S.A. Its upgrade will continue during the New Year and new collections will be added to it.

Toshka Borisova, AUBG

A New Service “For Authors” in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

The Directory offers reference information for the authors who want to publish their scholarly work at open access. There they can find information of open access magazines from DOAJ and of magazines “hybrids” that allow the authors to publish at open access for certain fee in their subscription-based magazine.

For more information about this service visit <http://www.doaj.org> and choose from the menu “For Authors”.

The Directory aims at increasing the clarity and availability of the open access scholarly magazines and thus to popularize their usage and influence. It also aims at uniting all open access magazines with a suitable system of quality text control. Magazines in all languages and in all subjects will be included in DOAJ.

The selection criteria are updated, based on users’ feedback, so that they should be more comprehensible.

<http://www.doaj.org/articles/about#criteria>

The database records can freely be integrated in the library ones by using OAI-PMH

<http://www.openarchives.org> and in this way to increase the clarity of the open access magazines. At site:

<http://www.doaj.org/doaj?func=loadTempl&templ=faq#metadata>

You will find information on how to make records for a library catalog.

If you have information of a magazine that can be included in the Directory, use this form to announce it to the Directory:

<http://www.doaj.org/doaj?func=suggest>

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The Library of the Future: Impressions from the 35th Annual Conference of LIBER, Upsala, Sweden

Some important projects:

i2010: Digital Libraries

Briefly the objective is for the EU citizens to obtain easy and fast online access to the scholarly and cultural heritage of Europe. In the road map of the initiative is written that till the end of 2008 access should be provided to no less than 2 million objects, and till the end of 2010 – to 6 million.

More information can be found at the site:

http://europa.eu.int/information_society/activities/digital_libraries/index_en.htm

Open WorldCat from OCLC

Provides the possibility for the libraries, their names, collections, and basic services to be seen in the web. For people looking for information Open WorldCat provides access to library materials and services at a routine job with a search engine.

More information can be found at the site:

<http://www.worldcat.org/>

Google Library Project

The mission of the project is to facilitate the access for patrons to the world book treasure. In this project participate some of the biggest libraries in the world as well as leading publishers.

Try the new Google service at the site:

<http://books.google.com/>

e-Depot

This is a project of Koninklijke Bibliotheek – the national library of Holland. The system is an archive for depositing of electronic documents. Since the beginning of 2002 e-Depot is an official digital archive for international magazines in the field of science, technology, and medicine.

More information can be found at site:

<http://www.kb.nl/dnp/e-depot/dm/dm-en.html>

DiVA

The project DiVA has started in 2000 in the University of Upsala, Sweden. The objective is to be developed a technical solution for publishing, storing and distributing of university research (thesis papers and dissertations). In 2006 there is cooperation between 17 universities, 16 of which in Sweden and 1 in Norway. The electronic archive is at the site: <http://www.diva-portal.org>

Radostina Todorova, NBU

European Resources

Eurostat

The main source of social-economical data about EU is Eurostat. The website is <http://www.ec.europa.eu/eurostat> or <http://www.epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/>.

The vast amount of statistical information is supported by the Statistics Department in Luxemburg and is available in English, French, and German languages. Up to 1st of October 2004 the database was paid, and after that date the information has been available for free. It is updated on an annual basis. It provides access to data about the European Union, the member states, data of the Eurozone and of other countries. The data is organized by topics and by collections of documents. The topics are broad statistical categories such as: key indicators; general and regional statistics; economics and finances; population and social conditions; foreign policy; transport; environment and energy production; science and technologies. Data can also be browsed according to subtopics.

The statistical information is available in two formats: online and offline – in print and CD-ROM. The online access is to statistical data and documents in PDF format in the form of tables and data. There is a difference between tables and data. The tables are unchangeable, while the data can be selected, reviewed, organized and extracted in different configurations. They have a tree-like structure. Short-term, long-term indicators and indexes for sustainable economic development are also available to users. The updates information is spread out in the form of a monthly bulletin, annual edition, issues in pocket format, etc. All that establishes Eurostat as a basic source of EU statistics for any library.

Toshka Borisova, AUBG

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