Europäisch bleiben
Die Rolle und Verantwortlichkeit der Bibliotheken für die Erhaltung, Bereitstellung und Vermittlung des kulturellen Erbes Europas

Budapest, 27.-30. Mai 2019

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Staying European
The role and responsibility of libraries for the preservation, accessibility and propagation of European cultural heritage

Budapest, 27th to 30th May 2019
We try to establish what a digital collection is, and introduce the digital collections of the Library and Information Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. We discuss the various aspects of our main activities regarding our repositories and the digital journal publication platform we operate: collection development, services to the public and digital preservation. We introduce some ideas for increasing the visibility of institutional repositories. Finally we contemplate the necessity and the impossibility of aggregation.

The Harvard Library has large collections of print and digitized socio-political ephemera that have been collected over past decades. While the library continues to grow its collections in traditional formats, today’s ephemeral output is increasingly born-digital requiring new acquisition workflows and processes. The Americas, Europe, and Oceania Division is proactively building born-digital collections of ephemeral content in European languages relating to recent events in Europe such as social protests and political unrest. These new collections supplement and enhance already existing strong print and digitized collections in this area.

Through digital projects, the library endeavors to build international and global collections of knowledge and to preserve the historical and cultural record so that present and future generations can access and use ephemera that document the larger arena of socio-political discourse taking place in Europe alongside mainstream media and scholarly publications. Emphasis is placed on materials of contemporary interest which provide a unique testimony on political unrest and on the culture of protest in Europe, in the context of rising nationalism, anti-immigration Movements and the dialectic relationship existing between globalism and International migration.

The présentation focuses on the opportunities and challenges presented by these vast undertakings and describes the methodology of building a collection of born-digital ephemera, including key roles of various stakeholders. It redefines the curation in the Digital Age and outlines strategies for curating born-digital collections.
Nick Hearn, Taylor Institution Library, Oxford

Slavonic special collections (in particular those of William Morfill) at the Taylor Institution Library in relation to the Google mass digitization project

This short presentation is about so-called ‘named collections’, what if any interest they can be to researchers and how libraries and librarians can help researchers to access them. By a ‘named collection’ is meant a collection of books formerly belonging to a scholar or an author which usually have to be kept together more or less as they were donated: it is not possible to weed or deduplicate. With increased pressures on library space, it is becoming less common for ‘named collections’ to be held on-site. Can they maintain their visibility and browsability when they are held in remote storage through a digitization project of this kind? Could this be a possible spin-off of a mass digitization project? The Morfill collection at the Taylor Institution Library will be used as a case-study. First of all we will say something about William Morfill and his collection. Then, we will consider the kind of interest that it might hold for readers and finally the extent to which the Google Digitization Project has (or has not) been able to assist in helping the library to maximise the potential of this collection.
As of 2002, the MOB has embarked on digitisation projects. Since then mainly scanners of the type Bookeye are used which again are operated with the software bcs2 by the company Imageware in Bonn. The MOB as a central library regarding German culture and history in Eastern Europe is financially supported by the federal commissioner for cultural and media affairs (BKM). The MOB is at the disposal of numerous smaller institutes in this field of activity in terms of services and consulting relating to the digitisation and also organizes the “union catalogue Eastern Europe” since around 20 years. For the first few years, there was no separate presentation platform available for the digital copies thus the steadily growing number of digital media units could only in part be placed with cooperation partners (primarily DifMOE). In 2012 the MOB gained the financial means from the federal commissioner for cultural and media affairs that allowed the library to establish an electronic reading room (eL- also a product by the company Imageware; distinguishes itself by a sophisticated rights management) that since has been successively expanded. From the very outset of the planning phase, it was a central demand that the (open access) documents were made available in the “German digital library” as well as in “Europeana”. The metadata set and also the formats are aligned to this. The project phase was completed on-schedule in 2013, the intended volumes were achieved but ultimately the project is running right to the present especially since new provisions on copyright in the system need to be considered. The objective is to make the offer available to the widest possible group of interested people and to make it more easily accessible in the future.
"Of Noon Witches and Phoenixes" – how Hackathons may bring cultural data to life

In spring 2018, Leipzig University Library (winner of the German Library of the Year 2017 award) hosted a cultural hackathon. Renowned institutions, mainly from Central Germany, provided all kinds of cultural data, including digitized photographs, paintings, drawings, books, statistics, and recordings of bird voices. Coders and anyone interested were invited to get together in groups and develop ideas using these data. The results of their efforts were to be presented a few weeks later and judged by a jury.

In my talk, I will describe this process in more detail while focussing on two of these projects. The first of them aimed at developing a virtual story-telling machine and the second focussed on the creation of random individual writing paper from book illustrations and graphics.

The importance of events such as this lies in their ability to bring culture to life and reach out to the public, which is, after all, tax-funding many or most of the participating institutions. Institutions all over the world should be encouraged to contribute and take an active part in such initiatives, which are based on open systems, such as open data and open source software. It is a challenge, an adventure and it makes lots of fun! Get to know more about it!
Collecting literature on Finno-Ugric Studies in Germany is closely linked with the University of Göttingen and its library – since their foundation in 1734. Today Göttingen State and University Library (SUB Göttingen) has the largest collection in the field of Finno-Ugric literature in Germany. The holdings amount to approximately 150,000 bibliographic items. Since 2017 the SUB Göttingen has been establishing the project „Specialised Information Service for Finno-Ugric / Uralic Languages, Literatures and Cultures“ [Fachinformationsdienst Finnisch-ugrische / uralische Sprachen, Literaturen und Kulturen – FID FINNUG] https://fid.finnug.de/. It is part of the nationwide funding program, The Specialised Information Services of the German Research Foundation (DFG) http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/programmes/infrastructure/lis/funding_opportunities/informationservice_science/index.html. Due to its exceptional position in the language continuum the subject community for the research of Finno-Ugric / Uralic languages, literatures and cultures has been developed which has formed very specific demands to information and literature supply. The geographical spread of this language family from Finland to Hungary and Siberia does not allow an attribution to other regional Specialised Information Services. Therefore a concept was prepared in close cooperation with the subject community which will focus on acquisition and licensing of highly specialized literature in original languages and provide it beyond local facilities. The first project duration of the FID FINNUG runs from 2017-2019. The SUB Göttingen is working on the application for a second funding phase from 2020-2022.

In diesem Referat geht es um die Rolle der öffentlichen Bibliotheken in Serbien bei der Verbreitung der Informationen über EU, über die bisherigen Resultate des Projekts und über die Planungen für die Zukunft.
Erika Bilicsi, Bibliothek der Ungarischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Budapest

Towards open access: supporting open access publishing in Central European countries

Advantages of open access publishing are unquestionable: these publications are easily findable and accessible, therefore more readable and more cited, it is easy to reuse them so their effectiveness and efficiency are greater. Every research institution and funding organisation tries to maximize the utilization of the supported researches so they require open access publishing in mandates. But we live in a changing world: according to old school the best publications were published in journals with high impact factor. So researchers still prefer to publish in these journals because it is facilitate their career. The greatest challenge to facilitate open access publishing is to change the current system of research evaluation processes and current habits of researchers. If open access becomes an evaluation aspect, researchers’ practice will also change. Although the development of appropriate regulation and the involvement of researchers is indispensable, an efficient, economically support system with the help of appropriate librarians is needed which assists the researchers’ everyday work. The paper shows the current research and scholarly communication system and the open access landscape and support system in Hungary, Croatia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Poland, Ukraine, Serbia and Romania.
The “Swiss Library of Eastern Europe” (Schweizerische Osteuropabibliothek), Switzerland’s largest library focusing on Central and East European history, was founded in the aftermath and very much under the impression of the Hungarian uprising of 1956. Over the next thirty years, political emigrés from Central Europe and especially from Hungary were to be present in the library as librarians, researchers and patrons. Their interests and their work is reflected in the diversity of holdings: materials documenting the immediate impact of 1956 in Switzerland, a broad collection of émigré newspapers from all over the world and archival holdings pertaining to Central European and especially Hungarian contemporary history document these entangled histories today.
After 1945, former Serbian prisoners of war joined forces in Zurich to cultivate and pass on the spiritual heritage of their homeland. Serbian literature was hardly to be found in Swiss libraries at that time. Thus a library was founded - the first statute of 1952 also marked the official founding year of the Serbian library, which was initially named after the national hero "Miloš Obilić".

The basis was the private library of Katarina A. Jovanović (1869-1954). The folklorist and translator, who had already done much for the Serbian community in Zurich during her lifetime, left her collection to the library. Thanks to this donation, the collection grew to over 1000 titles. In her honour the library was henceforth called The Serbian Library "Katarina Jovanović" and listed under number 165 in the directory "Bibliotheken in Zürich" (1977, edited by the Central Library of Zurich). After 1988, the Serbian Orthodox parish of the Holy Trinity (Serbisch-orthodoxe Kirchgemeinde Hl. Dreifaltigkeit) maintained and expanded the library until it was donated to the Central Library of Zurich in 2007 and has been kept as a separate collection ever since.

The Serbian Library "Katarina Jovanović" is listed as a separate collection under the signature SBC. Currently, more than half of the titles are catalogued and can be consulted and borrowed via the research portal (Recherchefortal).
The history of books as a phenomenon is necessarily observed and carefully studied in the context of the political, cultural, educational and social circumstances. First print house in Bosnia was established at the beginning of the sixteenth century. It was the printing press of Bozidar Ljubavíc Gorazdanin, known as the Gorazde printing press. It was founded in 1519, and it was in function for a short period of time, until 1523.

Following the event, more than three centuries of Turkish rule passed without printing activities in BiH. Reforms in the Ottoman Empire adopted in 1865 introduced a system of vilayets throughout the Ottoman Empire, including Bosnia, and they foresaw the establishment of printing press in each vilayet. In 1865, Bosnian vali Topal Osman Pasha invited a printer, writer and translator from Zemun, Ignjat K. Sopron (1821—1894) to establish printing press in Sarajevo. The Sopron’s pecatnja opened in March, 1866. The book sheds light on the work of the Sopron’s pecatnja which gave a strong impetus for cultural, educational and literary work in Bosnia. The first reading rooms started opening. After the Turkish administration, Bosnia was occupied by Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1878. The circumstances were somewhat more favorable for the development of education. There was a censorship of the Austro-Hungarian administration. Reading rooms were often closed. In the 20th century, the libraries were destroyed in both world wars. Serbian handwritten and printed heritage suffered greatly due to difficult historical circumstances. Part of that heritage is kept in many libraries around the world.

Since 1977, the National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo) published current bibliographies of monographic and serial publications until the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 1987, a shared cataloguing system was adopted by the Association of the Yugoslav National Libraries as a common ground for the library information system and the system of scientific and technological information of Yugoslavia. The role of the organizational solutions and software developer was taken over by Institute of Information Science (IZUM) from Maribor (Slovenia).

In 1991, IZUM promoted the COBISS as an upgrade of the shared cataloguing system. Because of Yugoslavia’s disintegration, the libraries outside Slovenia resigned from the membership in the shared cataloguing system, although almost all of them later on gradually renewed the collaboration with IZUM.
Today, the competences in the area of culture in Bosnia and Herzegovina are divided between the state level and the level of entities, the Republic of Srpska and the Federation of BiH. The problem that libraries face is a poor order of books and poor exchange of publications. These problems stem from the lack of finances that is combined with mentioned historical difficulties, current political problems and the language of publication.

Natalja Milaković, National and University Library of Republika of Srpska, Bosnia and Hercegovina

About digital collections

The National and University library of Republic of Srpska as an institution of national importance has recognised need to adopt itself to new global trends that provide availability of national heritage in digital form. Due to that, the National and University library has undertaken steps towards digitalisation of material that represent unique piece of priceless national achievements in various areas. Being fully aware of importance of digitalisation, the National and University library of Republic of Srpska in 2007 initiated and entered project of establishing digital libraries based on organised collections of digital content that today includes more than 160.000 of units such as newspapers, magazines, choral scores etc.

The National and University library has established connections with regional institutions of culture that provided great support as well as enriched cooperation in the region.

The core of digital collection of the National and University library are digitalized magazines which were being published in Bosnia and Herzegovina in period from 1880s till 1940s such as “Bosanska vila”, “Zora”, “Školski vjesnik” and “Razvitak”. Another significant part of our digital collections is homeland collection of famous Serbian composer Vlado Milosevic that consists of complete material in relation to work and significance of famous Serbian academic, composer, choir conductor and pedagogue.

Our goal is to expand digital collection to include all the important figures of national being, so the National and university library is striving toward with all its capacities.
We are a special, but publicly accessible library with a collection focus on international and domestic taxation. Question of taxation are crucial for everyone’s daily life (e.g. filing the tax declaration every year, paying taxes on every purchase we do), so it can only be beneficial to know about libraries focusing their collections on this subject area and on servicing tax professionals, researchers and the average citizen. Taxes and taxation are universal in their existence and application, and resources describing them and their effects on humanity have been published for millennia. It is our responsibility to preserve the value of all these publications as cultural heritage.

At the Library and Information Centre IBFD we propagate the value of tax law resources by a multitude of activities and initiatives (e.g. digitization as answer to space problems, creating a network of tax libraries, cooperative exhibitions). Increasing visibility, awareness and knowledge is vital to assuring that the invaluable resources as well as the underlying stories of mankind behind taxation are well-kept for future generations.
Dr. Jürgen Warmbrunn, Herder Institut Marburg

Provenienzforschung in der Forschungsbibliothek des Herder-Instituts

Das 1950 in Marburg gegründete Herder-Institut ist in vielerlei Hinsicht ein Produkt der Nachkriegszeit. Unter anderem in Arbeiten zur sogenannten Ostforschung und ihren Nachwirkungen nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg ist dies bereits Gegenstand wissenschaftlicher Untersuchung gewesen, insbesondere auch in Studien zu denjenigen Protagonisten der Ostforschung, die nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg selber im Institut arbeiteten oder aber mit ihm kooperierten.


Das Referat wird zunächst kurz auf die Entstehungs- und Überlieferungsgeschichte dieses im Herder-Institut bewahrten Teilbestands berichten und dann schildern, wie im Projekt konkret vorgegangen wird, um diesen Bestand im Hinblick auf seine Provenienz kritisch zu prüfen und auf diese Weise zugleich die Voraussetzungen dafür zu schaffen, dass als solches identifiziertes NS-Raubgut an seine rechtmäßigen Eigentümer zurückgegeben werden kann. Besonders eingegangen wird auch auf die Frage der Verzeichnung der Provenienzen (einschließlich der Zugänglichmachung von Provenienzmerkmalen) unter Verwendung von Normdaten im Rahmen des HeBIS-Verbundkataloges.