Title: ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL and CDNL 2012-2013
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1. General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library.

National library is responsible for the development of the Public interface of the National Digital Library, NDL. National Digital Library is a project which aims to ensure that electronic materials of Finnish culture and science are managed with high standard, are easily accessed and will be securely preserved for a long period of time.

Participating archives, libraries and museums work together in saving our national heritage in a digital format and in making it available for all.

The project has proceeded rapidly. Public interface was launched in December 2012. It gives access to the digital information and services of libraries, archives and museums. The public interface will serve everyone searching for information or experiences. Web service makes it easy to gain access to materials such as pictures, documents, newspapers, research documentations, video and audio recordings.
The National Library’s main focus is to develop the information infrastructure for Finnish libraries and other memory institutions. National Library is strongly responding to the rapidly changing digital information surrounding. Finnish translation of the RDA Toolkit will be published in 2013 and the implementation of the RDA standard to the Finnish library description framework will start 2014 continuing next decade. The whole national library infrastructure – collection management system, discover layer, union catalogue – will be renewed to be compatible with the open linked network. One by one, new identifier standards are going to be taking into use in Finland.

Pilot and developing phase of the Finnish Ontology –project started in the beginning of 2013. Project is financed by Ministry of Education and Culture and Ministry of Finance. Finnish Ontology is based on the FinnONTO-research project by Aalto University. National Library’s aim is to establish stable production tool for solutions developers and for other ontology users. In this pilot phase the technical solutions and construction of the ontology will be renewed for further development. Pilot and developing phase will continue until 2017.

Together with all library sectors the National Library has started planning the new joint library system and the definition requirements for the system.

The first professorship in Finland for the research of digital materials has been established at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Helsinki. The background for the professorship is the initiative of the National Library and a long-term co-operation of the National Library, the Faculty of Arts of the University of Helsinki, the Department of Computer Science, the University of Applied Sciences in Mikkeli, the Mikkeli University Consortium and the City of Mikkeli. The professor will
be appointed in autumn 2013. He will also work in Mikkeli, where there will be a research group promoting the results of the professorship.

Library’s oldest part – the Engel-building – is going to be renovated during the next two years. Wide planning work both for the preparations of the renovation and for the new service concept has been done and will be continuing in coming years. Library’s open collection (5 kilometers of shelving) has been moved to temporary stacks for renovation time. Part of library’s historical collection was evaluated for further conservation measures. Renovation work will start in June 2013 and continue until September 2015.

The IFLA 2012 meeting was held in Finland. The National Library participated actively in the preparations and also organised one of the preconferences.

The National Library is a member of the graduate school network Memornet, which aims to strengthen research of memory functions in the society. Researchers, universities and memory institutions collaborate in the network.

2. Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc).

The Library was founded in 1640. The National Library of Finland is also the oldest and largest research library in Finland, serving scholars and readers nationwide. Among its internationally important collections are: The Slavonic and East European collections, The Monrepos Manor Library and The A.E.Nordenskiöld Collection.

The National Library of Finland is a service centre for libraries since 2006. The library is an active player in all the national projects mentioned above. The Key Project has been the National Digital Library Project and Library’s responsibility of its interface.

The world’s economical situation has also impacted the University as well as the Library. University of Helsinki has been cutting down the funding and for the Library it caused especially great cuttings on its budget surplus. The national funding for the National Library tasks was remained the same and the Library got new funding for some new tasks.

University has also a recruitment freeze. Fortunately this has not brought serious difficulties to Library’s projects but delayed the recruitments.

Facts of 2012:

Size of major collections (in millions of units): 9,5 + Size of Web archive (million units) 890

Collections: about 113 kilometres of shelving

Number of staff (man-year): 209

Premises: 25 000 m2
Total operating budget: 28,4 million €

Local and interlibrary loans: 490 000

Visits: 161 000
Customers’ satisfaction: 8.9 (4-10)

Article downloads: 24.6 million (other libraries use of National Library’s centralized services)
Digitised pages in a year: 0.9 million

Total amount of digitised pages: 6.8 million

Use of the Library’s digitized pages in a year: 8.2 million

3. New developments in creating and building collections.

One of the main focuses in the National Library’s new strategy is cooperation with the research community. This means quite new initiatives for the library and new kind of competences for library staff. In the cooperation of the linguistic researchers National Library has started a Fenno-Ugrica collection -project to digitize Fenno-Ugrica publications from the collections of the National Library of Russia and to publish them as open research infrastructure. This project will continue with new digitization and with the development of more sophisticated user interface containing pdf-editor and crowd sourcing facilities for researchers. In the near future the National Library will continue with the similar projects to serve Finnish (and other) researchers in humanities.

In order to confirm the connections to the research community the Library established the Humanistic Advisory Board for library services.

Library has started a second phase of the Turku Academy Dissertation –project where the rest of the collection (some 2 000 titles) will be digitized and published in research interface. Together with the Helsinki University Modern Languages Department library has a project called Literature Bank. This is a research project to produce a critical edition of Finnish literature starting with out of copyright authors from 19th century.

Cornellus-project is a pilot and developing project for automatic receiving of newspaper pdf-files – digital surrogates for the paper copies. During this project an automatic receiving system has been developed and it works on daily bases with two Finnish newspapers. Library’s intention is to implement the project into the normal library work and also enlarge the number of the involving newspapers.

Library received legal deposit copies of 403 meters of shelving. 172 million files (12 TB) were harvested and preserved to the Finnish web archive. First large e-book archivings were made in the beginning of 2013 and web music archiving continued on the same basis as before.

Digitisation

The library has had an active role in the development of the NDL administrative metadata requirements. Our contribution was largely based on the practical experiences gained from METS usage since 2008. Our METS work has been also internationally acknowledged: the library is now represented in the METS Editorial Board and ALTO Editorial Board.
In order to enhance quality and productivity, docWORKS is used in all digitization processes. The way the application is used varies; for instance, approximately 30% of digitized journals are structured to the article level. Both enhanced production processes for existing materials, and brand new processes for novel material types are being developed in close co-operation with CCS.

The library continued is large digitization project of Finnish Journals in years 1810 – 1944. About 80% of those journals are digitally available, in titles this means about 2 000 journal titles. Most of the journals are only in local use in six Finnish legal deposit libraries for copyright reasons, though. Negotiations are going on with the national copyright organization to find solutions for licensing copyright material, for instance newspapers and journals, both groups in high demand. Digitized newspapers and ephemera are available at http://digi.kansalliskirjasto.fi/index.html.

Other digitized collections, such as dissertations from the Royal Academy of Turku, are available at https://www.doria.fi/handle/10024/4194. As of this writing about half of the collection (1778 volumes) has been digitized; the rest will follow this and next year on behalf of the second part of the project. The newly published ephemera are also available in Doria. The ephemera regarding travel and tourism will be reused in the form of an iPad application, to be published in autumn 2013.

4. New developments in providing access to collections

The library has a major responsibility for the National Digital Library – project, a project owned and financed by the Ministry of Education and Culture. The aim of the project is to develop a common interface for all Finnish libraries, archives and museums. Library is building a new discovery layer – Finna. The Finna discovery layer will harvest metadata from all Library’s databases and digital collections and show them as one search result. The beta version of the Finna service will be published in autumn 2013.

The National Library of Finland is launching one of the first article crowdsourcing sites worldwide, of which the alfaversion in July, 2013.

5. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions

The Finnish Digital Library initiative is part of the Finnish Information Society strategy for 2007-2015. The aim of the initiative is to develop an efficient service for access to digital resources in libraries, archives and museums as well as to the web services of these organisations, and to develop specifications and recommendations for a national digital long-term preservation system. The Ministry of Education and Culture coordinate the activities of the national digital long-term preservation system until 2015.

The standard portfolio appended to the document contains key information from the EA perspective; here the standards used in the project are defined and the grounds given for incorporating them as part of the enterprise architecture.


A new software solution has been adopted in the National Digital Library (NDL) project: the public interface will be based on the VuFind open-source software. Although the National Library has overall responsibility for interface development, the use of open-source code will support national and international collaboration in developing the service. The web service was launched in 2012.
During last year library has been quite active in its international cooperation. Library made an agreement with the Russian copyright organization to clear Fennو-Ugrica—material for a research project. The digitization of the material was made at the National Library of Russia in St. Petersburg and the publishing and research cooperation in Finland.

Metadata developing work has been made in large cooperation with the Finnish libraries and memory organizations. The RDA and ONKI projects have participants from other organizations. The large Melinda-project has an aim to collect all the Finnish bibliographic metadata producers to the same production environment. Besides the academic libraries also the polytechnic and public libraries are approaching the project.

**Electronic legal deposit and web archiving**

Act on the legal deposit and preservation of cultural materials (1433/2007) obligates the National Library of Finland to archive online material available to the public in information networks. Since 2006, when the Copyright Act (404/1961) gave to Library permission to make digital copies of publication available in data networks, the main focus has been in web archiving. At the moment, there are about 900 million files in Finnish Web Archive.

Digital materials obtained by legal deposit may be used in the premises of eight institutions. All these have dedicated workstations available to the customers. The National Audiovisual Archive has opened its radio and television archive and it may also be used at these workstations. At these workstations, digitized materials still under copyright may also be accessed.

The National Library has launched a project that examines the possibility to receive the digital surrogates of printed newspapers from the publishers. The aim is to use these surrogates in the microfilming process instead of printed newspapers and improve the accessibility of the archived newspapers. The project is in a pilot phase at the moment, with two regional newspapers depositing their newspapers to the National Library.

Library has also started discussions about renewing the Act of deposit and preservation of national cultural material.