

The Royal Library
P.O. 2149
DK - 1016 Copenhagen K.
Denmark
www.kb.dk

CENL annual report 1998

1. Special topic 1998-1999. Management of the library

As part of the long-term planning of the tasks of The Royal Library, the economic framework for 1998 and the following years has been stipulated in a so-called *result contract* for the years 1998-2001, entered into between The Royal Library and the Ministry of Culture. The result contract is entitled *For uddannelse, videnskab og kultur (For education, scholarship and culture)*. It is not a contract in the usual sense of the word, but an agreement with the Ministry of Culture on the economic framework for the library and its tasks during a four-year period - i.e. a strategic plan. The result contract will ensure the opening of the library in its new physical framework and ensure that the library can offer a considerably expanded service under the new conditions, so that The Royal Library both as National Library and University Library can serve users under modern conditions. The result contract has removed uncertainty about the economic situation of the library and means that plans with a long perspective can be made.

As part of the systematic follow-up of the connection between tasks and goals, a new accounting system has been introduced, where, in addition to traditional accounts, there are also accounts for the accomplishment of the main tasks of the library, so-called *activity accounts*. The Royal Library presented its first activity accounts in 1998. The accounts pertained to the 1997 financial year. The accounts have subsequently proved to be useful also in relation to co-operation partners, nationally and internationally. Internally, too, the accounts have brought new insight about the activities and finances of the library out to the organisation. It is expected that the accounts will have a greater effect internally in the coming years, when comparisons can be made between several years.

The Royal Library organisation was subject to only minor changes in 1998. The organisation has been fixed for the past two years in order to be able to accomplish the many new tasks, when the new library building, The Black Diamond, opens in the autumn of 1999.

2. Major innovations during the year

In 1998, The Royal Library concentrated among other things on preparation for and moving into the new library building, The Black Diamond, which will have its address on a new square, Søren Kierkegaards Plads 1, on Slotsholmen in Copenhagen. The library will open on 15 September 1999. In addition to a concert hall and several large exhibition halls, there will be reading rooms, newspaper and periodicals reading rooms, a reference hall with several hundred computers and five new centres, namely:

Center for Manuscripts & Rare Books, Center for Prints & Photography, Center for Music & Theatre, Center for Orientalia & Judaica. Center for International Studies (will open later than

15 September 1999)

3. Finance and funding

The result contract for the years 1997-2002, meant that important adjustments were made in The Royal Library budget for 1998.

Because of the new buildings, the appropriation for library buildings operation and maintenance was increased. With the new buildings, it is planned that the cultural activities of the library will be very greatly expanded in the coming years. It is a precondition for the expanded cultural activities - including coming concert arrangements in the new multi-functional concert hall - that these are based on the principles for income-generating activities.

The result contract is to adapt the total appropriation for the library to the tasks resulting from the on-going improvement of the physical framework in the three addresses of the library and from the growth in information technology, which are expected to bring about a considerable increase in the use of the library.

In addition, the ordinary operational appropriation has been increased as the result of new legislation on legal deposit of issued works.

4. Legal status

The basis for the tasks of The Royal Library is laid down in the annual Finance Act.

For The Royal Library, the new Act on Legal Deposit, which came into effect 1 January 1998, has been of the greatest importance for the workload and for the possibility to continue the efforts of the library to safeguard the cultural heritage within all media. There are further comments on the Act in the section on Legal deposit of materials (6.)

5. Role of the national library in the national library network

In 1994, The Royal Library and the other three large libraries under the Ministry of Culture: The State and University Library, The Danish National Library of Science and Medicine (DNLB) and Odense University Library, sent a joint report to the Ministry of Culture in which they described their current IT status and visions for future IT development. The status for the libraries was that, they needed very considerable investment if they were to continue to keep pace with IT-developments. In particular, the aging OPACs were a serious barrier to further development and to the fulfilment of the users' need for an up-to-date library service.

The Ministry of Culture followed up the appeal from the libraries positively and the result was the report on *Danmarks Elektroniske Forskningsbibliotek (The Danish Electronic Research Library)*, which the government subsequently backed up in 1998 with a five-year appropriation of ca DKK 200 million to realise the vision of the Danish Electronic Research Library. One of the fundamental ideas is the establishment of one virtual library in Denmark composed of a network of library systems, which seems like one library system for the user.

The precondition for this is utilisation of the potential of the Internet, and common standards for communication and interaction between library systems.

At the start of 1999, the foundation was thus in place, so the three libraries can take new OPACs into use during the year, and there are grounds to expect that the other large research libraries including The Royal Library in Denmark will get the possibility to replace or upgrade their systems.

6. Legal deposit of material

On 1 January 1998, a new Act on legal deposit of material came into force in the form of a web site "www.pligtafleivering.dk", which signalled that a new chapter in the 300-year history of legal deposit had begun: *Lov nr. 423 af 10. juni 1997 om pligtafleivering af udgivne værker* (Act no. 423 of 10 June 1997 on legal deposit of issued works) had come into force.

The new Act, which imposes legal deposit on an expanded circle of suppliers and applies to new materials, had to be incorporated simultaneously with the winding up of the last legal deposit in accordance with the old Act from 1927. A main theme in the year's work has consequently been information - to new as well as current suppliers - that in future, all publications issued, irrespective of issuing medium, including electronic publications, had to be deposited. Formerly this applied only to printed material from printers alone.

According to the new Act, The Royal Library has to collect two copies of all publications in print (except for newspapers) in microform, in photographic form and in digital form (except for sound recordings and video) and combined works. In addition, electronic publications on the Internet must now be legally deposited too. The State and University Library in Århus is to receive newspapers, sound recordings and video. The two legal deposit institutions send one of the copies to the partner, and the Danish Department can look forward to handling 400,000 pieces of printed matter a year, of which half are to be sent to Århus after unpacking and inspection.

7. Buildings and plant

The Royal Library is accessible to the public from three addresses Amager, Fiolstræde and Slotsholmen. The building on Slotsholmen is closed during the building period for the new library on the harbour front, the Diamond, until the opening on 15 September 1999.

In May 1998, a completely new stack building was inaugurated for The Royal Library Amager. The building is the first of 4 phases in a large flexible stack and university building project, based on the vision of creating a university library according to the Anglo-American pattern with long opening hours, many study places, large amounts of literature on open shelves and easy access to back-up from closed stacks. The fact that the stack part is the phase realised first is not strange, since the need for stacks was the most acute problem for the institution at the time the plans were made and decisions taken.

With its classic rectangular forms, the new stack building stands as a glittering, high-tech, metal and glass cube, in contrast to the University of Copenhagen's grey and red concrete buildings from the 1970s. The building consists of two parts: a 7-storey temperature- and humidity-controlled stack part with double-height storeys in concrete and brick, surrounded by a weather screen in aluminium and glass, and a corresponding office part with glass

facades the height of the building. The two parts are connected with a glass-covered atrium, likewise the height of the building.

When all four phases of the project are completed, the total construction will have 40,000 m² gross, and will be able to hold 200 running kilometres of shelves and a new faculty library to serve the more than 10,000 students and staff on the Amager campus of the University of Copenhagen.

8. Acquisitions

During 1998, the library has acquired books and periodicals etc. By purchase and legal deposit and in addition received gifts from a large number of Danish artists or cultural organisations, and photographic works by Danish and foreign artists, as well as maps and globes, theatre archives and single musical autographs, and has continued the expansion of the collection of foreign bibliographies.

A special national treasure will be emphasised:

At a sale of art works in Copenhagen, the original manuscript of Hans Christian Andersen's famous play *Hyldebor* (*The Elder-Tree Mother*) turned up.

Hyldebor is the title of one of Hans Christian Andersen's important fairy tales and also the title of a play by Hans Christian Andersen with the subtitle, *Phantasiespil i een Act*. The play had its premiere in the Casino Theatre on December 1, 1851, and was published the following day. The play was a considerable popular success and was performed a total of 60 times until 1872. The play is characterised as Andersen's "finest dramatic work".

The manuscript, which looks like an ordinary copybook and as such was handed in to the Casino Theatre in Copenhagen, contains extensive corrections and additions, which must be deemed to give important information about the genesis of the text. The manuscript is a note book, originally blue-black, consisting of 28 leaves (folio 1-28 recto and verso), and 1 added leaf (folio 29 recto). It is 17 x 21 cm in size. The manuscript is not in a very good state.

Because of the great public interest in the case, including the wish to see the manuscript, The Royal Library had it immediately digitised in its full length, and it can now be seen on the Document Department home page at the address
<<http://www.kb.dk/kb/dept/nbo/ha/hyldebor/index.htm>>

In 1998, The Royal Library carried out a project with a view to outsourcing the periodicals administration in the University Department.

The aim of the project was specified as:

- Freeing manpower from internal processes, to be used in the public-oriented functions
- Making work tasks more efficient
- Saving by means of the change

A project group was set up whose work was in three phases: pre-investigation, inviting tenders, tenders.

Among the four pre-qualified companies, two decided to submit tenders. In addition, The Royal Library itself drew up an internal so-called control tender.

However, it emerged as a result of the study that the formulated aims could not be fulfilled by outsourcing. On the basis of the tenders and the control tender it could be concluded that the goal of freeing manpower from the periodicals processes could only be implemented with considerable additional expenditure and with certain reductions of the services as a result. On this basis, the Board of Directors decided to continue to let the handling of periodicals stay in the hands of the periodicals section.

9. Conservation/preservation of collections

Conservation work in 1998 was dominated by preparation of the collections that are to be put on open shelves in the new library building on Slotsholmen, which will open in September 1999.

The decision by the photograph section to concentrate on taking and supplying pictures digitally has proved to be the right one, which can be seen in the large number of digital documents presented on the www. It can also be seen in a smaller number of photographic reproductions supplied in 1998. The extensive work with copying microfilms also continued in 1998. The modernisation process of the Photographic Studio, which has been in progress for a couple of years, will also continue in 1999.

A Nordic conference on conservation, presenting information, and access to the use of historical collections was held in Stockholm in October 1998.

The purpose of the conference was to create a Nordic forum for library directors and decision makers so they can exchange experience about conservation, presenting information and access to the use of the collections in national, research-university and university libraries. The conference, which was arranged by the Kungliga Bibliotek in Stockholm and The Royal Library, was attended by approximately 80 people from Scandinavia, the Baltic States and the rest of Europe.

The more open contact between libraries and the public and the expanded role of the libraries as presenters of information and cultural experiences increase the need for the development of new organisational work methods and policies in relation to conservation, presentation of information and access to the use of historical collections. The conference was intended to elucidate the interaction between these new activities and the responsibility of the library to preserve the collections for posterity.

10. IT and new technology

The Royal Library is responsible for the implementation of the Legal Deposit Act concerned with electronic net publications. Together with the State and University Library, The Administrative Library, the Danish State Information Service, the Library Board and the Danish Library Centre, a common notification form has been made, so that, with one notification, data go to the legal deposit system, the National Bibliography and the joint index of state publications in the Danish State Information Service. Documents enriched with Dublin Core meta-data are handled with easier notification procedures.

In 1997-1999, The Royal Library is carrying out a pilot project under the Danish Electronic Research Library. The project is about presenting the large and varied cd-rom collection in The Royal Library and some web-based full-text bases to a number of Danish public libraries and research libraries. The aim of the project is to test the technical, economic and content aspects associated with an extension of the circle of users to more university and research libraries, which are physically located outside the library's own network.

The virtual library has come closer. In 1998, the Office of International Publications received no microforms. The material that previously came in this form is now in full text on, for example, the Europa server (*Europa, the European Union server*). At the same time, a growing number of series that take up a great deal of shelf space, which previously came in paper form, are now published on cd-rom, which gives easier access to the material for a larger public and a saving for the office. This means that an increasing part of the presentation of material is done virtually, with the help of the section's web pages, which have links to the web pages of the organisations for which the office is storage library. However, paper versions have not disappeared by any means, so in future there will still be a need for reading rooms for real (in contrast to virtual) publications.

In other ways too, the focus was on the electronic resources in the library. On the basis of the many cd-rom acquisitions by the library, efforts were made to make the vast majority accessible for the users via network, as far as possible for researchers and staff at the University of Copenhagen too, as well as from the library's own premises. Work is being done on integrating cd-rom products with other electronic works, and the department continues to inform the users about these tools and their use. In 1998, the book, *cd-rom i Det Kongelige Bibliotek* (cd-rom in The Royal Library) was issued, written by research librarian Barbara Melchior. The contents of the book are now in another more up-dated version on the Internet.

11. Services to readers

In recognition of the fact that many of The Royal Library users are new and thus unfamiliar with procedures in a large research library, the library has developed a special new-borrower programme with the most basic information a new borrower needs. A "new-borrower folder" is given on enquiry at the Information desk or the Circulation desk in connection with the first enquiry in the library. The text can also be seen on The Royal Library web pages.

It is one of the tasks of the web section to facilitate access to sources of information on the Internet and make them accessible in structured form to the borrowers through The Royal Library home page.

New web pages have already been made which should help the borrower find relevant sources on the Internet. These pages will be continuously expanded and up-dated. In autumn 1998, information about the various service centres in The Royal Library was expanded with web pages that deal with these places. For instance one can read about how to borrow books and what courses are held at the service centres as part of user education.

12. Exhibitions

On account of the closing of Slotsholmen, there has been very limited activity with the normal tasks of the department, particularly obvious in the visiting and exhibition activities. The Royal Library had its traditional stand at the annual book-fair in Copenhagen in November, and presented the year's new publications and other materials. On the stand, the authors gave brief talks to present for instance work on *Carl Nielsen Udgaven* (The Carl Nielsen Edition) and the major work on the 350-year history of legal deposit.

The National Photographic Museum made an advance start with its exhibition activities by arranging Denmark's first electronic museum exhibition on the Internet. This was done as part of the *Golden Days in Copenhagen Festival*, and the title of the exhibition was *Fotografens København. Fotografier fra 1850-1860* (The Photographer's Copenhagen. Photographs from 1850-1860). The exhibition on the net showed a number of photographs of monuments and squares from the Copenhagen Golden Age, and in addition, supplementary information was available about the photographs, the locations etc. This first electronic exhibition was seen by 12,447 "visitors".

13. Publishing

In 1998, two volumes of *Danish Humanist Texts and Studies* were published, the 16th and 18th in the series: Henrik Horstbøll and John T. Lauridsen (ed.): *Den trykte kulturarv. Pligtaflevering gennem 300 år. 1998* (The printed cultural heritage. Legal deposit during 300 years) and Erik Petersen: *Intellectum librare Johan Albert Fabricius. En humanist i Europa. 1-2. 1998*

On the composer's birthday - 9 June 1998 - the two first volumes of *Carl Nielsen Udgaven* were presented to the public in the assembly hall in the Royal Danish Music Conservatory.

The two volumes, one with *Symfoni nr. 2, De fire Temperamenter* and the other with *Symfoni nr. 5*, are the start signal for the largest complete music edition in Denmark, consisting of all Carl Nielsen's finished works in a practical-scholarly edition in 32 volumes. At the same time, the occasion marked the culmination of 3½ years' hectic activity on *Carl Nielsen Udgaven*, with preparation of the 32 volumes, preliminary registration of the extensive source material, determination of guidelines for the edition, establishment of contact with publishers, ensuring the economic base and much else.

A complete edition of Carl Nielsen's music, addressed to both research circles and the practical musical life, has long been needed for several reasons. First, Carl Nielsen is unquestionably Denmark's leading composer and the composer whose music is most widely known in the rest of the world. In spite of this situation, many of his works have not yet been printed - almost 70 years after his death - and several of the works that are printed do not live up to what musicians and researchers could rightly expect in this connection. Second, in the Carl Nielsen tradition, it has played a role that the composer himself was not very careful about making fair copies and proofreading his works; he often left it to well-meaning musician colleagues or friends to make changes and "improvements", which have since been accepted. The edition has considered it a responsibility, on the basis of a detailed study of the sources, to bring the music in the form in which Carl Nielsen had left it, stripped of later additions or retouches. In this way, posterity will have the possibility of relating to the music and - if wanted - to give *its* interpretation of the music without intermediaries between the composer and us.

The edition is expected to be finished in 10 years, as the aim is to publish an average of three volumes a year. Parallel with the work with the music, a complete edition of the composer's numerous articles, lectures, interviews and other works will be published within the framework of *Carl Nielsen Udgaven*. This material will give a more differentiated picture than has hitherto been available of Carl Nielsen as a person and his views about his own and others' music.

14. Cataloguing and other technical processes

The cataloguing process has changed little in 1998. The transition to a new cataloguing format, DanAArc2, is waiting until the OPAC, REX, is transferred to a new library system.

15. Library co-operation

On the national level, The Royal Library co-operates with the other large research libraries in Denmark in the joint project: The Danish Electronic Research Library. The project is described in detail in item 5.

The Royal Library takes part in a large number of international co-operative organisations and projects.

In co-operation with the National Library in Bhutan, the library is working on a 2-year, DANIDA-financed project on up-grading the qualifications of library personnel in Bhutan in order to conserve the written cultural heritage and make it accessible to research circles inside and outside Bhutan. Tibet experts and a computer scientist are attached to the project.

The Conservation Department is involved in several international projects and committees such as *Dansk Standard/ISO*, *UNESCO's Memory of the World Program/Subcommittee of Technology* and *Forsknings- og Utvecklingsprojektet för papperskonservering*.

DIEPER *Digitised European Periodicals* is a 2-year EU project, with participants from 6 European countries, which was started in November 1998. The aim of the project is to create a European standard for retro-publication of periodicals similar to the American *JSTORE project*.

The Danish Institute for International Exchange of Publications, IDE (Institut Danois des Étranges), handles the UNESCO agreements about the exchange of state publications between Denmark and other countries. During the year, on the basis of weeded material from Danish research libraries, IDE prepared and sent out 4 lists of added copies. In the last quarter, IDE, after careful selection, has received a very large number of old monographs and sourcebooks from the library of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which will be the basis for a number of interesting lists of historical added copies.

In 1998, The Royal Library lent material to foreign institutions, among them to the following exhibitions: *Le Ciel*, Bibliothèque Nationale de France; *Illuminated Manuscripts in Portugal, Character and Influences*, Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal; *The Prime of the Flemish Polyphony: The Music Manuscripts of Petrus Alamire*, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven; *Pilgrims and Jubilees. The medieval pilgrimage to the tomb of Saint Peter (350-1350)*, Palazzo Venezia, Rom; *Unwiederbringlich. Fontanes Blick auf Dänemark*,

Stadtgeschichtliches Museum Spandau, Berlin.

16. Staffing matters

The working year of 1998 reflected the fact that it was the first year with the new result contract with the Ministry of Culture. The result contract has a number of financial and staff goals, some of which were to be realised already in the first year.

The result contract lays down that as far as possible the institution is to avoid dismissing members of staff as a result of the realisation of the contract. This goal was fulfilled in the working year 1998. There were internal re-shuffles after application, and this meant that resources could be moved from areas with declining resources to areas that are growing.

The library decided in 1998 to make a renewed effort to focus on absence due to sickness because of its scale. On the suggestion of the Co-operation Committee, the institution applied for a grant from a group-contract pool that had been specially earmarked for projects in state institutions to reduce absence due to sickness. The institution was given a grant for a project entitled: *Kan motivation i arbejdet bidrage til at nedbringe sygefravær?* (*Can motivation in work help to reduce absence due to sickness?*) In the second half, a management company carried out a job-satisfaction study among all the staff in the library as part of the project. The results of this study will be the subject of a wide-ranging discussion in the library from publication at the beginning of 1999 until June 1999, when a final decision on an action plan will be taken.

17. Major celebrations (anniversaries and events)

The Royal Library in 1998 organised 25-27 November the conference ICBNS *International Conference on National Bibliographic Services*, a section of IFLA, the international library organisation. About 125 people from approximately 70 different countries participated in the conference.