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– Section des Collections
– Section des Services aux usagers
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Annual report to CENL: Swiss National Library (SNL) **<http://www.snl.ch>**

New Director

The SNL has a new director since April 1st 2005: Ms. Marie-Christine Doffey. Marie-Christine Doffey has worked at the Swiss National Library since 1991 and has been its deputy director since January 2003. She has been in charge of managing and coordinating all the library activities covering the Helvetica collection (except for the special collections). She is also leader of the project to introduce a new public management structure into the SNL from January 2006 onwards. She has represented the SNL on the Board of the ISSN international network and in LIBER.

She holds a degree in ancient history from the University of Fribourg and a Master of Advanced Studies in Arts' Management from the University of Basel.

SNL Mission statement

The Swiss National Library is responsible for collecting and making available to the public, now and in the future, Helvetica i.e. documents (in all formats, printed or digital) published in Switzerland or produced elsewhere by Swiss authors or concerning Switzerland / Swiss people.

New Legislation

In May 2005, the Swiss government adopted the proposal to move the SNL from 2006 to a New Public Management structure allowing greater autonomy for the library. The parliament has defined the following objectives for the library for the period 2006-2008:

- respect the dual goal of the library to preserve and make available its collections ;
- continue to develop services, especially online, that are adapted to the users' requirements ;
- continue to foster national and international cooperation and coordination ;
- extend and consolidate the reputation of the library

These objectives are already a central part of the library's activities.

Funding

As part of the general government measures to save overall 3 billion Swiss francs, in which the Swiss National Library has to contribute cuts of 1.8 million Swiss francs during the period 2006-2008, the Swiss National Library has had to make some difficult choices as to which

part of its activities should be reduced. In March 2005, the following decisions were made: cease publication of three bibliographies; reduce staff for part of the archives, hold fewer exhibitions and other cultural events; reduce funding for the Dürrenmatt Centre.

Buildings

In February 2005 work began on the construction of the new underground stacks. Construction will take three years and should provide enough storage space for the library until 2025. The budget is 37.5 million Swiss francs.

Handling of electronic publications and formats

The Swiss National Library emphasizes cooperation in its management of electronic documents:

The long-term permanent archiving of electronic publications can only be guaranteed in close cooperation with other institutions at national and international level. The SNL is actively promoting cooperation across Switzerland with the following partners:

Swiss Federal Archives: Development, purchase and operation of a common archival system.

Commission for Swiss University Libraries (KUB): Joint metadata structure, standardised transmission and archiving of electronic dissertations.

Swiss cantonal libraries: Information exchange regarding the archiving of electronic publications. There is a plan for the SNL in an initial phase to support the cantonal libraries in the archiving of information stored on floppy disks.

Swiss publishers : Pilot project for the delivery and archiving of electronic publications together with the two publishers Karger und Stämpfli.

Swiss booksellers and publishers' association: Information events to familiarize members with aspects of storing electronic publications and closer cooperation with the publishing houses.

See: <http://www.e-helvetica.ch>

Acquisitions

Swiss publishers produced 11'061 new books in 2004, a 7% increase on the previous year: titles are distributed in more or less the usual proportions across languages: 57.2% in German, 22% in French, 3.5% in Italian, 0.5% in Rumantsch; 13.2% in English and 3.9% in other languages or in more than one language. In addition 5'903 items of 'grey literature' were published.

New services to readers

In cooperation with the Bern Municipal and University Library, the SNL has set up and maintains the Internet Clearing House, a virtual reference tool providing an overview of the services, collections, cultural activities, projects, electronic publications, course and training offers in Swiss libraries. <http://www.ichschweiz.ch/>

A Swiss Infodesk service has been set up providing an annotated link directory of selected online information about Switzerland, plus the possibility to send queries online to the reference desk. <http://www.snl.admin.ch/swissinfodesk/>

Major exhibitions

Brotlos?

Of writing and money

25th February – 22nd May 2005

How do Swiss writers manage to make a living? Do they earn any money? Do they talk about it in their work? These are the three questions asked in this major exhibition which

presented documents concerning Hermann Hesse, Annemarie Schwarzenbach, Max Frisch, Friedrich Dürrenmatt, Blaise Cendrars, Charles-Albert Cingria, Corinna Bille, Alice Ceresa, Andri Peer and others, and films especially produced for the exhibition. The films and documents presented a contrasting image of Swiss contemporary authors, giving rise to stories that are sometimes very sad, often astonishing and sometimes even irreverent.

VARLIN – DÜRRENMATT HORIZONTAL

Centre Dürrenmatt Neuchâtel

24th April – 31st July 2005

In the 1960s the painter Varlin (Willy Guggenheim, 1900 –1977) and Friedrich Dürrenmatt (1921–1990) were close friends. Varlin painted several impressive portraits of Dürrenmatt who in turn wrote about Varlin's work and portrayed his final sufferings in his own paintings. Starting from the Dürrenmatt collection, the exhibition aims to illustrate the complex dialogue between the two artists. The title and 'horizontal' approach of the exhibition draw on one of the central motifs of Varlin's work – the bed – furniture so closely linked to human life through love, birth, laziness, sleep, illness and death, all central themes in Dürrenmatt's work.

Library cooperation

National – see section and service on electronic publications and services to readers.

National and international cooperation - subject indexing: The SNL has set up the Swiss Clearinghouse for Schlagwortnormdatei SWD (German-language subject headings). Libraries taking part may submit potential new headings to the Clearinghouse which then examines them to check they correspond to the RSWK subject indexing rules, correcting them if necessary before entering them in the central database in Frankfurt.

Among other international activities the SNL is a founding partner of the European Library Service (<http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org>) (The SNL main catalogue, Helveticat, Posters and bibliographies are all searchable via the European Library portal) and is taking part in the European funded activity TEL-ME-MOR (<http://www.telmemor.net>) supporting the 10 national libraries from the New Member States in becoming full members of The European Library (TEL), and raising awareness and disseminating information on the opportunities for participation in future projects. The SNL is jointly leading that part of the project concerned with studies concerning Unicode compliance and cross-language access to information, building on experience gained in developing the MACS system (multilingual access to information), <http://laborix.uvt.nl/prj/macs/>

In 2004 SNL continued working in the LEAF project <http://www.leaf-eu.org/>, aiming to build up a pan-European name authority file whose integration in the European Library Service will also be studied.

SNL staff are active in IFLA: Genevieve Clavel is Secretary of the Standing Committee of the IFLA National Libraries Section, and is working on the Success stories database for WSIS. Patrice Landry is Information officer for the Standing Committee of the IFLA Classification and Indexing Section.

The Collection

	End 2003	End 2004	+/-%
Monographs	2,621,069	2,651,261	1.2%
Periodicals (volumes)	621,380	644,357	3.7%

Graphic sheets, photographs, maps,	349,464	358,627	2.6%
music	55,762	57,376	2.9%
Microforms, CD- ROMs, electronic publications	11,284	11,970	6.1%
Audiovisual documents	12,628	13,141	4.1%
Total	3,671,587	3,736,732	1.8%