

The National Library of Russia

General director Vladimir N. Zaitsev

Annual Report

Management of the library: performance indicators, planning, decision-making, evaluation, mission statement

The principal task of the Library Management Department in 2006 was to work out the strategy and general plan of the National Library of Russia (NLR) development.

At the moment the work at the general plan of the development and the reconstruction of the National Library of Russia is being completed. The plan will define the perspective of the Library till 2015.

The revision of the pricelist for the charged services was carried out (the revision pricelist was approved July 19 2006)

The regulative documents on the library staff remuneration scheme were updated.

The NLR performance evaluation system was revised. At the moment new system is in process of working out.

The plan of further renovations in the main (historical) building of the Library for 2005 – 2010 has been developed.

The work on the program of the NLR personnel development is being carried out.

Funding

Benefits of increased funding; how the extra funds have been applied

During the year salaries of the Library staff had been increased twice first time 15% and second time 11%

Pressures on resource

NLR had to reduce expenditures for acquisition.

Revenue earning: percentage of total resources earned by the library from sales of goods, services etc.

The total sum that came to the Library's account in 2006 from selling of printed production was 473 367 rubles which is 86 000 rubles more than in 2005.

Legislation

Major changes in legislation, which affect the library and its formal relationships with government or its status

At the moment the Library participates in the revision of the Law of Russian Federation on the informational activities.

Buildings

New buildings or renovations planned: progress. New buildings (partly) opened during the year

In October one of the historical buildings was recommitted after four years of thorough repairs. In fact now it is a new building with more than 1300 square meters of active area, which made it possible to improve work conditions for a number of staff members.

Interesting innovations/changes in the use of space

The reconstruction of the universal reading hall for 288 places was completed. The historical interior of the hall was retained, but new technologies of service were introduced.

We opened the digital library room in the new building.

Major problems relating to buildings and plant

NLR lacks space for new acquisitions

Staffing matters

The staff list of NLR includes 1973 positions.

- Major changes in management structure
- Since March 1st 2006 the post of deputy director on economic was introduced to the lists of staff members, and since September 1st the post of deputy director for international relationships.

Staff development and training programmes

108 persons of staff members are being educated in high educational institutions both as internal and as extramural students.

The Library has a training center for librarians and high library courses.

Information technology and networks

Major new strategies / strategic planning for IT

Currently we use the "Russian book" automated system which supports technological cycle "acquisition – book processing – storage". At the moment the new version of the system is under development.

The national RUSMARC format service functions successfully both on the national and international levels.

Important new investments in hardware / software / systems

At the moment we have:

1126 computers (at the end of 2005 there were 988)

54 scanners

573 printers

Networking / Internet / www. Initiatives

In March the Library website was thoroughly redesigned. The structure of it had been changed, the navigation improved, several new services and resources added.

New services:

Information of users about new acquisitions

A forum for discussion of actual scientific problems

Possibility for the Library staff members to order library materials via loaning service

New resource

Four thematic bibliographies

Terminological dictionary on pedagogy

Geographical database (toponyms for the authority control service)

Guide for Internet resource "Newspapers of the World"

OPAC provision

1,5 mln searches were made in OPAC during the year. The most popular resource was the General alphabetic catalogue of the National Library of Russia (digitalized card catalogue).

Retrospective conversion of catalogues

In 2006 the retrospective cataloguing of the part of the foreign serials catalogue (from 1930) was completed and conversion of the historical card catalogues started. The conversion of one of these catalogues (the "Rossica" serials) already completed.

The Russian records of the converted catalogues are available via Internet; the foreign languages records at the moment are in the process of loading.

The digital library

The total number of electronic documents at the moment 231 338 items (to the end of 2005 there were 17 825 items)

Digital programmes / digitising of text / images etc

1. Within the scope of the agreement between the Russian national library and the Russian state library on the creation National digital library the following works were carried out:

2. 20000 dissertation abstracts were digitized. Scanning of more than 100000 abstracts published in 2000-2005 was made under the partners' agreement on the creation of the Electronic collection of dissertation abstracts accessible for readers of both libraries.

3. 150000 pages of the complete set Laws of Russian Empire from the NLR collections were digitalized.

4. The organizational documents were prepared for the work on the support of the life cycle (long term preservation) of digital copies.

5. The scanning of the registration books of provinces, regions, cities of Russian Empire started. It is planned to make scanning of the 750000 pages.

Legal deposit of materials

The percentage of the legal deposits in the acquisitions of national publications in 2006 was 71% (283085 items).

Changes in legal deposit law

- Consideration / planning of new legal deposit arrangements

- Matters relating to the success or failure of legal deposit as a source of acquisition

Acquisitions

Commentary upon the adequacy of acquisitions funds in terms of purchased material: books, periodicals / serials; audio-visual materials, digital / electronic texts

82 851 403 rubles were spent for acquisition.

Totally (from different sources) 455 951 items came to the Library in 2006.

- Outstanding new acquisitions relating to national heritage / culture / patrimony / European heritage

Preservation & Conservation

Restoration and stabilization of 118390 leaves was carried out. 1955 bookbindings were restored.

Velum copy of the Koran was restored for the Manuscript department.

Major innovations / changes of policy

Major microfilming or digitisation programmes for preservation started / completed / planned

The Federal Centre for preservation of the Library collections performed microfilming of the NLR items according to the plan. Within the year 240033 shots of negatives and 389976 shots of positives had been taken.

New equipment purchased (major items) or new accommodation for conservation studios etc

New equipment (total cost 235 000 \$) were purchased. At the moment engineering setup and the personal training is in process.

New techniques

Technology of microfilms scanning was developed. The digital copies of microfilms are included into the digital library of NLR.

Staff issues relating to conservation: adequacy of numbers / skills etc / training / salary grades etc

Services to readers

New developments in reader services / lending services

July 13th the Basic collections reading room started working, and August 28th the Universal reading room, which was formed on the former branch reading rooms.

Unified reference service area the Room Reference bibliographic service was established. Users can have consultation in any field of service both in electronic and traditional searching tools.

Major changes in use of the library, however measured

In the New building of the Library electronic

Major changes in admission rules / criteria

A system based on the electronic technology of registration of readers was implemented. In 2006 36806 new admission cards were delivered.

Reader's charters / service agreements / service standards (newly introduced / successes / failures etc)

All materials are now available for all categories of readers in the Library reading rooms

Cultural events, exhibitions and publishing

In all buildings of the library 87 exhibitions were organized representing about 11000 editions and works of art.

Major cultural events or exhibition

In connection with the CENL Annual Meeting the exhibition "CENL 2006" was organized. The publications on the countries which participated in the Annual Meeting were presented.

To the day of the foundation and to the day of opening two exhibitions were organized:

"Gifts to the national Library of Russia. 192 years from the opening of the Library to public" and "The Library in the contemporaries' views. The 19th century. To the Day of the Library foundation"

Major policy changes

The number of exhibitions with participation of foreign Publishers grew.

The Library worked together with general consulates and other institutions of People Republic of China, United Kingdom, Republic of Korea, Finland, Japan, Greece, Norway, Hungary, Poland, Croatia, Denmark and some other countries.

Among our partners in cultural activities there are different institutions of Saint-Petersburg and other cities, such as museums, libraries, foundations, educational establishments etc.

Major new publications

In 2006 the Library published a number of editions of interest for broad public. "Russian National Library" a booklet in Russian and English, monographs "History of Russian Bibliography" by G.V.Mikneeva, "At the dawn of book printing" second edition, "Formation of informational society in 21st century" by E.I.Kuz'min and V.R. Firsov and others

The number of publications was as it was foreseen - 48 titles, but the total volume was significantly more than it was predicted. The total number of copies was 26000.

Library co-operation

30 conferences were organized including 12 in the international level.

National

We consider very important our interconnections with the LIBNET center, organized by two national Libraries. At the moment we made a noticeable progress in the development of the Union Catalogue of Russia: the records of NLR are daily downloaded for LIBNET. New technology of using LIBNET records for cataloguing was developed.

Annual meeting of the Council of Cooperation between Russian national Library and Russian State Library took place in December.

International

NLR is IFLA member. The representatives of the Library regularly participates in IFLA Annual Congresses.

NLR participates in a number of national and international projects.

“Names returned” the main objective of the project is making the systematized information on the repressions in the Soviet Union free available via Internet.

The European Library (TEL)

European Registry of Microforms Masters (EROMM)

Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL)

International Union Catalogue of Russian Books

In accordance with the agreements signed between the National Library of Russia and the Congress Library, NRL officially started its participation in the project on creation of World Digital Library.

27-30 September for the first time in Russia the CENL Annual Meeting took place.

In Oxford the conference “Voltaire reading – 2006” took place. The 6th volume of Voltaire marginalia was presented. The volume was prepared in cooperation with Voltaire foundation in Oxford.

In September CERL training workshop was organized.

Major celebrations (anniversaries and events)

To the 192 anniversary of opening of Imperial Public Library (now the Russian National Library) a conference “Precious intellectual capital” was organized.