

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

No major changes on this field.

2. Handling of electronic publications and formats, including new legislation

Provision of electronic documents

In 2000 we continued the collection and holdings work – within the organisational frames created in the previous year – aimed at the provision of the library's electronic documents. The uncertainty of the personnel situation caused difficulties in the course of the year but the problem was settled by the end of the year. In 2001 the IT tasks need to be reorganised in keeping with the strategic plan.

Digitisation activity

Digital archiving work continued in 2000; currently the department cares for more than 350 digital images stored in archive forms from the library's holdings.

The third and fourth volumes of Gedeon Borsa's Writings on the History of Books were digitised and following publication in printed form the electronic version will also be completed in early 2001.

CD-ROM location list database

A "CD-ROM database with the libraries' location data" (CD-ROM location list database) continues to be built. Each year the libraries also send us their CD-ROM acquisitions. The number of libraries supplying data has increased from the initial 130 to 147. On December 31 2000 there were 930 titles and 1154 analytical titles, representing an increase of 348 titles and their locations. The CD-ROM location list database contains the main bibliographic data and locations of monographic (632) and periodical (48) CD-ROMs published in Hungary, and of foreign monographic (236) CD-ROMs. The foreign periodical CD-ROMs (330 titles) and their locations can be found in the NPA (National Periodicals Database; of these 18 titles have been recorded in both databases because of their analytical titles. The web service provider of the CD-ROM location list database is the János Neumann Cultural Service Public Benefit Company (Neumann Kft.) which undertakes free annual updates.

3. Funding

The library's annual budget: 1.7 billion HUF

Of which, wages: 1.02 billion HUF

Material costs: 0.68 billion HUF

Sum spent on books and periodicals: 22 million HUF

Sum spent on training and further training of employees: 10 million HUF

The library's annual receipts (not including donations and sponsoring): 1.7 billion HUF

4. Legislation

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

2000 was a year of changes in the life of the Library Institute. The Ministerial decree 6/2000 NKÖM which regulated the institution's legal status appeared in March. Following the introduction of the regulation it became possible to call for applications for the position of director of the institute and then from August to fill the position. The change of head was accompanied by an audit of the work of the Library Institute and then its reorganisation. The draft of the institute's organisational and operating rules was completed by the end of the year and contains the new department structure. Invitations for applications for the positions of department heads were announced in December.

5. Buildings

The library's total area: 62,000 m²

Work began on the underground stores investment project: tender for prime contractor, tender for design, archaeological work, applications for permits, establishment of a Facilities Office,

elaboration of reports, inspections, etc. However, unfortunately in November the Ministry halted this work, citing lack of funds.

Two storage premises – in Rózsa utca and Vas utca – were vacated with the aim of reducing costs and increasing receipts.

6. Staffing matters

Number of full-time employees: 538

Number of employees on contract: 12

7. Information technology and networks

Development of NEKTÁR (National Library Comprehensive Information System)

The main task in 2000 was to replace the DOBIS/LIBIS software system used to handle the NEKTÁR databases with the AMICUS/LibriVision system, migrating the data from one system to the other. Parallel with the change of operating system (maintaining continuity of services) we switched over to the new system.

- The database built in the DOBIS/LIBIS integrated library system was continuously maintained while at the same time the migration tasks listed below were also performed. The error correction tasks were carried out in both databases handled by DOBIS/LIBIS, the DMARC-HUNMARC conversion program was refined. Preparations were made for the migration on the basis of a detailed schedule. We made a number of tests of the conversion of bibliographic, copy and acquisitions data, as well as of character conversion. A number of tests were also made of the downloading requiring structural change of data from the DOBIS/LIBIS databases and the member libraries to the appropriate AMICUS views, libraries, branches and collections. We elaborated special working rules to be applied in DOBIS/LIBIS during the migration.
- We carried out the migration successfully, without loss of records, fully respecting the deadlines and after only 16 working days of shutdown everyone was able to continue work in all modules in Amicus where he/she had left off in DOBIS.
- We tested the versions of AMICUS integrated library system received (Amicus 3.2 SP1, SP5, SP6, SP7), reported errors, and checked the corrections sent. We had the missing translations done and corrected them where required. We created the live database operating environment. We elaborated the system of Amicus entitlements user log-ins and entered Amicus users for the start. We elaborated saving procedures for the full-scale operation of Amicus, wrote auxiliary programs and incorporated them into the operator menu system.

The Amicus training was carried out successfully for close to 200 staff members of the National Széchényi Library, the Special Library for Library Sciences, and the National Museum, and supplementary training was carried out during the shutdown in December.

- We created the user's surface for version 1.6 of LibriVision, installed version 1.8.5, introduced the changes, changed the NEKTÁR and OSZKAT surface, developed search aids and explanations and connected the Z39.50 endpoints.
- The MicroISIS databases were continuously maintained and further developed. We elaborated the specification for conversion of the IKB database to HUNMARC, the programming of preparatory changes for the conversion was done; preparation and testing of the conversion program is being carried over to 2001. The programs needed

for migration of copy records of the KATAL database has been developed. The parameters have been developed for the KATAL character conversion program. A reference basis has been created for the IKR database. The specification for conversion of the HUNG database to HUNMARC has been elaborated and programming of the preparatory changes for the conversion has been done.

Software-hardware maintenance, care, operation

- We did all the ongoing tasks related to maintenance of the databases, operation of the servers, and supervision of the network, the new equipment (43 new PCs, old units were used to replace even older ones) was installed, adjusted and tested, any faults arising were corrected. A mobile phone which can also be called by e-mail was introduced so that both staff and monitoring software can call the technicians on duty when an error is detected. We installed a Linux operating system on the servers and on some workstations.
- The 609 computer room was air-conditioned and furnished.
- Inventory records of IT equipment are kept up to date.

Methodological tasks

- A summary of the data exchange format for HUNMARC bibliographic records and classification records has been posted on the Library's home page. Tasks related to care of the HUNMARC data exchange format have been carried out continuously.
- We carried out a study of the export of a thesaurus to HUNMARC classification data exchange format.
- We elaborated the 0.0 (experimental) version of the National Széchényi Library's thesaurus.
- We developed the 2.0 version of cataloguing of motion pictures and video documents in the Library according to HUNMARC bibliographic records.
- We set up an Amicus mailing list.
- We posted the internal rules related to Amicus on the Amicus internal homepage.
- Parallel with the introduction of Amicus, work was begun to place the system of publications of the Hungarian national bibliography on HUNMARC bases. We defined the scope of data elements, the structure of the publications, and the classification criteria, in general and then in detail for the fortnightly fascicles of the Hungarian National Bibliography. Bibliography of Books, and tested the program to be used. We created the production line.

8. The digital library

Information and Document Provision Division

The digital archiving work continued in 2000; at present the department cares for more than 350 images stored in archive form from the Library's holdings.

The third and fourth volumes of Gedeon Borsa's writings on the history of books were digitised and after publication in printed form the electronic version will also be published in early 2001.

Digitisation from microfilms. An entirely new technique was introduced and applied in the digitisation of microfilms. In this respect in 2000 we made possible the facsimile publication of outstanding early Hungarian books through digital conversion from our microfilms and the production of a CD version. These included: Bornemisza Péter: *Prédikációk*1584. Detrekő. 1457 p., Pázmány Péter: *Igazságra vezérlő Kalauz*.... 1637. Pozsony. p., as well as Kultsár György: *Postilla* ...Alsólendva. 1129 p. The first two appeared in 2000 and the third

will be printed in early February 2001. In the case of periodicals we digitised the 1898–1915 issues of the weekly *Dombóvár és Vidéke* and the 1848/1849 issues of *Komáromi Értesítő* and *Komáromi Lapok* – from our microfilmed collection and issued these on CD-ROM.

10. Acquisitions

DEVELOPMENT OF THE COLLECTION

Ongoing work

In the area of collection development, the quantitative increase in the credit budget and other financial sources offered good possibilities for expanding both the general collection and the special collections. The actual figures in book acquisitions exceeded the planned targets by around 4000 volumes, although this is largely due to the increase from year to year in the number of deposit copies received.

In the course of the year 90 book, postcard and small prints auctions were held where around 22,000 items were offered. A new feature was the introduction of Internet auctions. It was a task for the experts to identify the protected items and justify the protection. Authorisations for permanent export had to be arranged for 2 public bodies and 22 private persons, as well as 2 cases of temporary export.

Work continued on the 100 crates of books and periodicals from the auxiliary libraries and the Special Collection of Contemporary History which are being transferred to the general collection or discarded.

Work was finished on replacing from the Storage Library missing books found during the major stocktaking of monographic works published in Hungary after 1952. The work was successful: 18 crates of main and duplicate copies of books were replaced. The 3500 books donated by the Writers' Bookshop to the Library were checked. Only a very small proportion of these were added to the collection; the remainder are being used by the International Exchange Service, the Pro Hungaria Foundation and for schools.

Priority tasks

The foreign group began processing of 50 volumes of unplanned history of science publications from the "Historia scientiarum" series published by Olms-Weidmann, and continued to write reviews of foreign acquisitions for "Könyvtári Figyelő" (Library Monitor). Since September 2000 the domestic group has been working on drawing up a list, checking and sending for processing the 5000–6000 pre-1850 items from the Storage Library in Törökbálint.

11. Preservation and Conservation

Binding

Following the restructuring of the institution, the department now works as part of the Information and Document Provision Division.

We carry out our basic tasks of binding, repairs and restoration for protection of the holdings and the production of storage equipment to meet needs.

An innovation was that during the summer closed period we conserved and dusted the leather-bound books on the open shelves in the Literature Studies reading room and did minor repairs on the spot.

As an unplanned task we boxed and repaired the newspaper material (*Detroiti Újság*, *Szabadság*, *A Nép*) of the Collection of Contemporary History which had been processed by the Cataloguing Group and was in a very poor state.

Under the direction of chemists of the Restoration Department, end-papers were produced by a mechanical procedure as an experiment with very good results. The further developed technologies are being used in our everyday work.

Meeting the demands for catalogue cards and trimming paper and cardboard also increased the tasks of the department.

Protection of the holdings

- Intensive activity was carried out for the completion of a new advanced training course for restorers and for the preparation and publication of lecture notes reissued for the course.
- In the restoration workshops research and development work was carried out to examine materials and their damages as well as to provide and further develop the scientific base for the technology of restoration procedures.

12. Services to readers

Readers' service and information activity

The Reference and Readers' Service carried out its tasks in co-operation with the related departments: it provided an information service, answered oral and written reference questions, gave source information, gave guidance on the use of online and card catalogues, expanded and cared for the material of the reference libraries, registered readers, kept the records, gave general assistance, provided materials from the general collection for reading on the spot, internal loans, photocopying as required and possible, and provided the information service in the reading-rooms. The department undertook to provide information services mainly in the area of Hungarian literature studies and Hungarian history.

The main statistical indicators of the work done were as follows:

REGISTRATION STATISTICS 2000

	2000	1999
Registration		
number of registered readers	27,717	28,090
registration fee receipts, HUF	11,263,600	13,344,100
Number of readers		
library users	230,000	201,314
persons requesting documents from storage	74,111	88,916
Documents requested by readers		
books requested from stores	141,695	145,044
periodicals requested from stores	69,988	57,531
microfilms requested from stores	34,177	30,873
Internal loans		
external institutional loans	333	176
individual internal loans	7,182	7,454
books for internal service loans	9,184	8,454
periodicals for internal service loans	10,597	14,179
Express copying		
A4 copies	216,178	221,960
A3 copies	2,800	1,780
annual receipts, HUF	3,365,410	3,368,530

A factor in the slight decrease in the number of registered readers was the decision adopted by the director general in November 1999 restricting the number of own books readers can bring into the library; as a result, mainly non-humanities students ceased to visit the library and there was an appreciable easing in the crowding which had made serious work almost impossible in previous years during the examination periods.

13. Cultural events, exhibitions and publishing

- 01. 21. Commemorative session on the 177th anniversary of the National Anthem
 - 02. 12. Carnival ball organised by the National Széchenyi Library, the Buda Civil Casino and the Museum of Military History
- 02. 15. "Prevention, restoration, ethics" – conference for restorers
- 04. 06-07. Meeting of librarians in the Carpathian Basin
- 04. 12. Ferenc Széchenyi commemorative day
- 04. 12. Founding meeting of Friends of the National Széchenyi Library
- 04. 20. "Integration of tertiary education and the libraries" – conference
 - 04. 27. Section session of the conference on "Towards the European Union... From the special research programmes of the OKTK promoting Hungarian accession"
 - "Identifying, recording and publishing our cultural traditions"
- 05. 09. First meeting of collections preserving books of museum value
- 06. 20. "Internet fiesta in the libraries" – conference
- 08. 17-18. 5th professional gathering of Hungarian librarians living abroad
 - 09. 12-14. Professional consultation of the Open Society Institute Budapest for foreign and Hungarian librarians
 - 10. 05-06. Conference on the role of Radio Free Europe in 20th century Hungarian history
- 10. 12. "Chapters from 17th century printing in Hungary" – scholarly conference
- 11. 10. First meeting of Italian and Hungarian librarians
- 12. 11. Scholarly session of the National Széchenyi Library

Exhibitions

Cartons, folders, cases and <i>tütli</i> – storage containers in public collections	January 24 – March 10
...Where theatre history is made... – for the 50th anniversary of the Collection of Theatre History	January 25 – June 12
Discovery of Brazil, illustrated with maps	May 3 – June 3
Three Manuscripts – millenary exhibition	August 17 – November 17
Beautiful Hungarian Maps 1999	March 21 – April 30
The colours of Turkey – paintings by Mehmet Özel	May 5 – June 3
Béla Gruber commemorative exhibition – works in private ownership	December 1 – next year
Exhibition of books of Prospero Könyvei Budapest Kft.	October 25 – November 4
Remember Hungary! – Documents from the 1956 exhibitions organised by the World Federation of Hungarian Freedom Fighters	From previous year – February 10
One million manuscripts	March 16 – July 25

Henrik Major's panopticum	August 10 – next year
Recently discovered posters of the László Kelemen company	Previous year – January 15
Unknown copy of the Magic Flute from 1796	August 22 – next year
The Peace of Karlowitz	Previous year – March 1
New acquisitions of the Map Collection, 1999	March 10 – June 10
Country maps, province maps 1550-1750	June 15 – December 31
New acquisitions of the Collection of Graphics and Small Prints, 1999	Previous year – July 1
Scenes from the interwar years	September 1 – next year
Philobibliion – the love of books	June 8 – November 30
Religio – selection from the Hungarian-language religious press	December 1 – next year
Introducing Hungary's national library	All year
<u>PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS</u>	
Gallery on Floor VIII: The nation's library – workshop of service (Library museum)	
Floor V, corridor to express lift: The Buda Castle Palace – part of the world heritage	

Publications

Borsa Gedeon: Writings on the History of Books III-IV

Three Manuscripts – The Millenary Exhibition of the National Széchényi Library

The Treasures of the National Széchényi Library – exhibition for the 1100th anniversary

14. Library co-operations

National Library of Czech Republic

Matica Slovenska – Martin, Slovakia

National Library of Argentina

National Library of the Republic of Karelia

University Library, Leiden

Consortium of European Research Libraries