

National Széchényi Library

Management, administration, budget

The budget allocated for 1995 was 3.5% less than the sum provided in 1994. As a consequence of this and the price rises and inflation in the intervening period, by August 1995 the library has accumulated a debt of 20 million HUF (approx. 200,000 USD). It has therefore been decided to introduce, as from 1st September 1995, a fee for library use set at 2000 HUF/year and 1000 HUF/year for university students and pensioners. The ministry has also promised extraordinary assistance.

A reduction of 5-10% in the number employed is expected in 1996.

The rules for a complete inventory of the holdings have been drawn up and the practical work has also started. It is expected to be finished in 1997.

The national library took an active part in drafting the regulation on deposit copies. This is expected to come before the government and be adopted before the end of this year.

Unfortunately, it will not be an act, only a government regulation.

The library's stores will be full by the year 2000. In 1995 the ministry allocated 5 million HUF (approx. 50,000 USD) for a study plan to serve as a basis for decision: the feasibility of building an underground store beneath the library building must be examined.

In early 1995 the Hungarian national library signed an agreement on co-operation with the Association of Hungarian Librarians and the Library and Informatics Chamber.

Number of readers (1994)

Registered readers: 30,290 (of which 16,396 university students)

Number of visitors: 200,000

Interlibrary loans

Requests from the National Széchényi Library: 1,457

Requests made by the library: 18,543*

(*Note: This figure includes requests made by other Hungarian libraries, received and forwarded by the National Széchényi Library.)

Publications

Monographs: 6

Periodicals: 7 (53 issues)

Database: 6

We have had a video film made, presenting the library's most beautiful and interesting documents. There is also an English-language version. Price: 30 DM or 20 USD.

Automation

We have introduced the DOBIS/LIBIS expansion method. The updated CD-ROM of the National Periodicals Database for 1981-1995 has been issued.

No progress has been made on retrospective conversion or the union catalogue of book.

General information:

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Supervisory authority: Ministry of Culture and Education

General Director: Géza Poprády

Employees: 781

Year of foundation: 1802

Budapest, August 1995

Géza Poprády