

Bibliothèque nationale de Luxembourg

National Library of Luxembourg

Annual report 2002-2003

CENL

Management of the Library

Director: Dr. Monique Kieffer

Funding

The budget has increased in 2002 and 2003, especially for the acquisition of electronic contents and access tools.

Legislation

The status of the cultural institutions of Luxembourg is currently redefined. A new law is being drafted which will include digital publications in the legal deposit clause.

Buildings

The BnL is suffering from severe lack of space. In 2002, the Government Council has decided to relocate the National Library and its annexes to a single building. The Robert- Schuman-Building has been chosen and its interior will be entirely redesigned by the winner of the international architecture competition organized to this end. The future BnL will thus be an integral part of a cultural complex consisting of the National Library, two museums and a philharmonic hall.

Personnel

In 2002 and 2003, the BnL has been able to increase its staff.

Information technology

A prime concern has been the ongoing training in information technology. The Aleph 500 version 14.2 has allowed the BnL to offer easier and more powerful access to internet resources and information technology to its staff, its readers and all the members of the Luxembourg library network. At the same time, there have been local developments and migrations, mainly the following:

- migration of the periodicals catalogue from the GLAS system to Aleph
- increase of the collection of commented on-line links to over 600
- on-line access to the national bibliography edited by the BnL.

Digital library

A digitizing project has been launched with the help of special grants from the "e-Luxembourg" initiative. One of the first targets is a complete digitization of the old paper catalogue of non-luxembourgish works acquired before 1985, which will be at the readers' disposal by the end of 2003.

The BnL has been given special grants to purchase databases and electronic journals. After the necessary technical requirements had been implemented, this project was started in the second half of 2002.

According to its mission, the BnL continues to develop its skills concerning the handling of digital documents in the domain of the national heritage.

Services to readers

A special effort has been made to develop the services to the public by improving the OPAC of the new Aleph version. In May 2003, there were 35 PCs at the readers' disposal, 16 of which offer free internet access. The possibility to order books from home was particularly welcomed by readers.

The combination of these measures led to an increase in the number of readers and loans.

Cultural events, exhibitions and publishing

Traditionally, the BnL organises exhibitions and conferences in its own building and is participating in diverse book and reading-related events.

Main publication: Georges-Majerus, Malou : *Bibliothèque nationale de Luxembourg, Livres illustrés et livres d'artiste*, 2002, 270 p., ill.

Library cooperation

The BnL heads the network of Luxembourg libraries (including the university libraries), which has grown from 20 members in 2001 to 25 in 2003. The network shares a common catalogue.

In terms of the international cooperation, the BnL has close ties with the Swiss network IDS (Informationsverbund Deutschschweiz).

The BnL joined the City Library of Trier and the "Médiathèque du Pontiffroy" of Metz in the European project Culture 2000 (1 September 2001 - 1 September 2002) "Zukunft für Vergangenheit" (A Future for our Past). The aim of this project is to restore incunables of the three libraries and to illustrate to the general public the problems of document preservation (see: www.libri-europae.org).