

# "St. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI" NATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Skopje, Republic of Macedonia

## 1997 Annual Report

During the 1997, the National and University Library "St. Kliment Ohridski" (NUL) had development activities in accordance with the NUL Plan and the Programs based on the following core issues:

- Research, acquisition, processing, keeping and preservation of the Macedonian publishing production as well as foreign publications of interest for the Republic of Macedonia;
- Research, presentation and promotion of the national heritage in the Library collections
- Supply of two-fold transfer of scientific and technology information for the needs of different user categories in the country and abroad;
- Creating conditions for modern librarianship development by application of information and telecommunication technology;
- Development of the librarianship country wide, according to the activities, suggestions and standards of the international library associations and by direct participation in their work.

## 2. Finance and funding

The NUL is mainly financed by the Ministry of Culture which is obliged to cover the salaries, the maintenance costs, the public utilities and the majority of the NUL Programs. The Ministry of Science covers the costs of the Program of the Referral Center and the purchase of foreign periodicals. However, the NUL has its own income by which, last year, for example, it had covered 25% of the NUL Programs expenses.

## 3. Legal status

The year of 1997 was marked by the eventual appearance of the Draft Material for the future Law in the Field of Culture, prepared by the Ministry of Culture. According to this Material, with reference to librarianship, changes have been proposed considering the financing of the libraries in the Republic, i.e. only the institutions that would be of national interest would be financed by the Ministry of Culture. This would probably have an impact on the public libraries, mainly. In addition, after this Law is passed, preparation of a new Law for Librarianship will follow.

## 4. Legal deposit materials

Since the legal deposit acquisition is a priority task of the NUL, during the last year more than 80% of the national publishing production was gathered.

## 5. Building and plant

A new Reference Reading Room has been opened within an existing space in the Library. 700 titles of all fields of the human experience have been exposed on self-access and there are 20 seats for readers. The National INIS Center had its official promotion.

## 6. Acquisitions

The Manuscript Collection has been enriched with 7 new items dating from 18th to 19th century, while the Old Printed and Rare Books Collection has got some 20 new items both originals and copies. The Collection of Contemporary Manuscripts has got some 520 new items. In order to figure out the situation of the acquisition in NUL here are some figures revealing the percentage of the library material supplied last year, according to the different acquisition types:

- Legal deposit 56%
- Purchase 9%
- Exchange 16%

- Donations 19%

The total amount of the new library materials was 30.053 items.

### **7. Conservation/preservation of collections**

Last year 5.834 sheets of old and rare books have been conserved in the Conservation and Preservation Laboratory. Recently the NUL is involved in a joint project with the Faculty of Fine Arts concerning processing paper handiwork. In our Laboratory tests have been done of the newly produced paper and its application in restoration and conservation processes.

### **8. IT and new technology**

In this respect the following activities had been done:

- a new type of LAN (Fast Ethernet) was installed, by which more work-stations were connected on Internet (WWW);
- 10 new terminals and 14 PC's were purchased;
- a WWW version of OPAC is installed;
- NUL created its home-page with a possibility the local OPAC to be searched on Internet via WWW. For this purpose a team was formed by NUL employees consisting of librarians and a system engineer and the home-page was created both in Macedonian and English language;
- Last year our Library has been represented in GABRIEL, too.
- The NUL, together with the Faculty for Natural Sciences and Mathematics has prepared the Main Project for construction of the System of Scientific and Technology Information of the Republic of Macedonia, part of which is the establishment of the Library Information System. The preparation of the Project was financed and supported by the Ministry of Science. The choice of the system (software) that will be used by the libraries country wide will be done by tender.

### **9. Services to readers**

The structure of the NUL users is as follows:

- students 85%
- scientists and scholars 7%
- high school students 6,5%
- other 1,5%

During the last year 108 000 items have been lent.

The inter-loan library service had supplied the users with 1163 copies of articles, standards and other documents mainly cooperating with the Boston Spa via ARTTEL. This service had borrowed 600 documents to other libraries in the country and abroad.

The CIP had been prepared for 800 titles which is about 200% of the planned amount.

800 researches have been done for users in the local referral database MAREBA, the local OPAC, the DIALOG and Internet.

Information in the form of Current Contents, comprising 25 fields of science have been prepared three times last year and disseminated to 300 addressees.

On request of teams that work on scientific projects 30 special searches had been done on respective topics, the results of which were delivered in written form.

Regular training of groups of student users was done during the whole year.

### **10. Exhibitions**

11 exhibitions were organized of books, drawings, graphics, contemporary manuscripts as well as of Slavic manuscripts and old printed books.

## **11. Publishing**

The Macedonian Current Bibliography that is published in three different parts: books, articles and titles of periodicals respectively, had appeared in 7 respective issues.

Bibliography of the Painting Art in Macedonia, vol. II : 20th as well as two titles of local library and information periodicals were prepared and published in and by NUL.

## **12. Cataloguing and other technical processes**

Preparation of a written material on the Rules for Subject Headings has started. The experiences are used of some of the most prominent libraries like the National Library of France and the Library of Congress in Washington, USA.

Two standards for library material processing were translated :ISBD (non-book materials) and Guidline for Authority .

## **13. Library cooperation**

One of the main forms of international cooperation of our Library is the exchange of publications. The NUL permanently exchanges lists of publications with 180 libraries world-wide. During the last year more intensive cooperation has been re-established with the former Yugoslav republics, i.e. Slovenia, Croatia and Monte Negro.

In 1997 draft materials were prepared for cooperation with several libraries abroad. We would emphasize the initiatives undertaken by the NUL and the national libraries in Zagreb - Croatia, Cetinje-Monte Negro, Belgrade-SR Yugoslavia.

During the official visit of the NUL Director, Ms. Vera Kalajlievska to the Vatican Library, possibilities were discussed for a further mutual cooperation.

Suggestions for Cooperation with the libraries in Poland were prepared and offered by NUL, on request of the Macedonian Ministry of Culture.

In the course of the last year several lectures were given in the NUL on library and information science topics out of which we would point out:

- The Censure in the Libraries, by Marianna Tax Choldin, Mortenson Center, USA
- A serial of lectures on The Modern Trends in Library and Information Science, given by professors of the Library Department from Zagreb, Croatia.

Representatives from the NUL had attended:

- conferences in Greece, UK, Slovenia, Danemark, Poland, Hungary and Croatia
- seminars and workshops in Danemark, Hungary, Poland, Latvia, SR Yugoslavia
- other professional visits to libraries and other closely related institutions in Slovenia, Croatia, Bulgaria etc.

## **14. Staffing matters**

In respect of local staff training and information on library issues, a new opportunity has been opened for the employees in the NUL. Namely, presentations are organized of the experiences, the new technologies or new ideas that the librarians would like to share with their colleagues. It is an opportunity for each colleague both to give presentations and to hear, learn or simply discuss library issues with the rest of the staff. At the beginning of each presentation short information is given on new editions in the field of librarianship. These presentations take place on Fridays and are called Meeting Point: NUL.