

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NORWAY

Annual Report 2002/03 to CENL

Organisation and administration

During 2002 a vision for the Library has been agreed upon and a strategic plan has been formulated. A thorough analysis of the functions of the Library has been carried out and now the organisation as such will be discussed. The ultimate aim is to give the Library an organisational structure that will secure a co-ordinated and optimal way of performing its tasks.

Buildings

The building from 1913, housing the Oslo Division, will be totally renovated in 2003-2005. In 2002 part of the Library's services were moved to temporary premises, and the building was totally evacuated by summer 2003. New underground stacks are now under construction adjacent to the old building.

At the Rana Division the new Automatic Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS) has been installed in the Repository Library. Throughout the world there are only a handful of libraries that use ASRS technology, and the installation in Rana is probably the most advanced one. The new building for the Repository Library will be inaugurated in June 2003. In addition to the Repository Library, the building will also house the Information and Communication Department and part of the Center for Legal Deposit.

Bibliographic projects

The digital conversion of the card catalogues and the printed national bibliography is an ongoing project. In 2002, approx. 75 000 books were converted. During the project period (2001-2005) a total of 600 000 items will be converted.

The 5th abridged Norwegian edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification was published in June 2002 after a project period of three years. The Norwegian edition is built on the DDC 21 (1996) and the Abridged Edition 13 (1997).

Collection development

A three years pilot project to purchase book illustrations has been initiated, and in 2002, 11 illustrations from six books were purchased. The purpose is to build a representative collection of original book illustrations to be used for research and public exhibitions.

The oldest preserved film from Norway was added to the Library's collection in 2002. The film "Hammerfest", from 1903, which was believed to be lost, was discovered at George Eastman House in Rochester (USA).

The Film and Photographic collection of Helge Ingstad, the legendary Norwegian explorer, was deposited at the Library in 2002. The Library has also acquired the unique collection of 6000 photos taken by Peter Wessel Zapffe (1899-1990) – a well-known philosopher and climber.

A new database containing 22 maps drawn by hand, was completed in 2002. The maps were made in connection with the Swedish King Karl XII's two military campaigns in Norway during the years 1716-1718. (www.nb.no/karl-xii-kart/index.html)

The Library acquired archive material related to several famous authors, among them a totally unknown collection of 7000 letters written to Knut Hamsun and his wife.

Documenting Ekofisk

In collaboration with Philips Petroleum Norway and the Norwegian Oil Museum, a project aimed at documenting the "Ekofisk I" oil installation was initiated in 2002. Several heterogeneous databases with relevant information will be integrated in a centralised search portal on the Internet. The OAI protocol (Open Archives Initiative) will be used to harvest metadata in Dublin Core format to the central portal. The project will be completed at the end of 2004.

The Digital Radio Archive

In a collaboration with the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK), 62 000 programs of historical radio broadcasts (9 400 hours) have been digitised in full DAT quality in 2002. Since the project started in 2000, 22 000 hours of historical radio broadcasts have been digitised, and all the digital programs are stored for preservation and access in a digital repository at the National Library. A user interface for access to the digital archive was also developed and put into operational use at NRK and the National Library in 2002.

Legal Deposit of Digital Documents

The Paradigma project, aimed at getting legal deposit of digital documents into normal operation, completed its second year by carrying out a first complete harvest of the Norwegian web-space. Altogether 3.1 million of an estimated total of 5 million URLs were harvested. Also, a lot of central issues regarding legal deposit of digital documents have been discussed.

Digital Repository

At the end of 2002, the Digital repository at the National Library contained approximately 7 million digital objects, constituting a total of 16 Terrabytes of data. The digital objects are stored on-line as digital computer readable files. A standardised framework for controlling input of digital objects and the access to the digital objects, will be completed in 2003. Already, using URN as a unique identifier for all the digital objects, the storage technology used is completely hidden from the applications accessing data from the repository.

New address etc.

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