Libraries in a time of change

CCLS Lecture Series
Hubertus Neuhausen
Library science vs. Library as a service provider

- Thesis: There is no special library science!
- University libraries are a central infrastructure providing services for research and teaching with a huge consumption of resources – i.e. resources for an overall objective.
- Consumption of resources and support for the overall objective have to be proportional.
- The services we provide have to be adapted to the needs of the institution we serve:
  o i.e. to the university and her teaching and research
  o as well to the needs of the students and their studies.
- If the environment changes, libraries have to adapt.
What does change for libraries mean? Four major transitions in the history of „books“

• From oral literature to writing (papyrus scroll): Homer; 7th – 4th century; Plato´s criticism of writing in the „Phaidros“.

• From papyrus roll to handwritten codex: Martial (I.2), especially early christian literature; 1st-3rd/4th century

• From handwritten codex („book“) to printed codex: Johannes Gutenberg; 2. half of 15th – 19th century.

• From printed texts to electronic „content“: Nineties of 20th century - ??
What does change for libraries mean?
From printed book/journal to e-text (ca. 1990 - ??)

- In the so called STM-Sciences (Science, Technology, Medicine) scientific literature is read in electronic journal articles.

- In these subjects in the nineties of the 20th century electronic journals („e-Journals“) started to proceed.

- Around 2005 Springer offered their scientific books as electronic books in „packages“ (esp. STM and economics).

- Advantage of electronic media:
  - You can use them everytime and everywhere.
  - You can read them without any delay.

- Innovation driver: the Internet.
What does change for libraries mean? Massive growth in electronic/digitised texts

- Massive efforts in retrospective digitisation in those libraries, which we make accessible via our portal (BSB Munich 1 Mio. books, ÖNB 600,000 books).
- Because of new legislation in copyright law libraries are allowed to retrospectively digitise out-of-print and “orphaned” books with a year of publication up to 1965.
- Google Book Library Project and Hathi Trust as well as DPLA/Europeana.
- Between 2004 and 2010, the DFG spent 100 Mio. € on closed collections in electronic form (monographs and journals [Nationallizenzen]).
- Open Access (scientific literature, which is published as open access originally or as a second publication) increases massively.
- 50 % of the USB’s acquisition budget is spend on electronic media, much of this is duplicate to existing printed stock.
- The share of electronic media will be increasing in the coming years (except for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities).
What does change for libraries mean? Technical environment

- 2004/5: Google starts Google Book Library Project: First partners were NYPL, Harvard, Standford, Michigan and Oxford. Further partners are BSB und ÖNB.
- Service providers for wireless networks switchted to UMTS (universal mobile telecommunications system), i.e. (3G wireless network) in Germany: the mobile internet was available.
- Invention of the year 2007 (Time-magazine): Apple‘s iPhone, which invented the smartphone. With the iPhone, gesture control for PCs was established.
- 2007: Amazon launches the reader Kindle
- 2008: foundation of the Hathi-Trust: a merger of American and European libraries to store scans (among others) from the Google-Book-Project. Otc. 2011 lawsuit of the Author’s Guild against HT.
- 2010: Apple laucnhes the iPad, with this the so called tablet-computer was invented. Currently the iPad has a market share of approx. 2/3 in the sector of tablet-PCs.
What does change for libraries mean? Technical environment

• 2011 (Oct.): with the iPhone 4s Apple launches a smart phone, which can partially be controled by speech via the voice recognition software Siri.

• 2011: Amazon sells more electronic than printed books in the US. Pew-Report (USA): 21% of the intervied persons own an e-book and 43% read electronic material (newspapers, journals).

• 2011/2: in the christmas season the ownership of e-book-readers and tablet-PCs in the US doubled (from approx. 10 to around 20%, ibid. Pew-Report)

• 2013/4: more people use the mobile internet than the fixed-line one.

For libraries:

• Cloud Computing as a basis for Integrated Library Systems: Global cooperation is possible.

• Open linked data: Development of a global metadata network for libraries, museums and archives.
What does change for libraries mean? Students change

For students, libraries more and more become learning and living venues with a „book wallpaper“, in which they spend a lot of time.

• Extensive opening hours
• Enough user workplaces and attractive surroundings.
• Good equipment with Wi-fi, good accessibility with mobile communications.
• Prerequisites for „cross-media“ learning and working
• Cafeteria, drinks and food dispensers with extensive opening hours.

Students „move“ on the internet, increasingly they „grew up“ there:

• Google (or others) is the first source of information: „What’s not on Google, does not exist“.
• Library catalogues subordinate information source.
• Standards set by Google, Amazon are taken for granted.
• First point of access to the internet: „mobile devices“.
What does change for libraries mean? Scientists change.

In the STM-subjects, but increasingly also in further disciplines (at the UzK WiSoF and HumF) library for scientists becomes a service: supply of e-Journals and e-Books. „the library I never go to“.


But: „The „lab“ of the humanities scholar is his library“.
(A. Speer, Prof. f. philosophy at the UzK)

The book-oriented subjects at the UoC are Phil fac and the Law fac.

In the Humanities interdisciplinary research gets more important.

Even in these subjects there are important and attractive electronic resources, but acceptance depends very much on single persons.
What are the consequences for libraries?

We have to get rid of old stereotypes:

- Libraries are an end in themself, honorable institutions, every book is an objekt of cultural value.
- In German we speak of „temple of books or knowledge“, „cathedrale of knowledge“. The architectural antecessor of the reading room is the church interior.
- Visitors of a library are expected to behave as they were in church: to be devotional and silent, not to eat and to drink, to dress in an appropriate style.

➢ We have to critically assess ourselves and our services!

➢ We have to adapt ourselves and our services to the actual needs of the university and to today´s possibilities!

➢ We actualy have to understand (better) what are the actual needs of the university and their students and scientists!
How expensive are the libraries of Cologne University

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Staff costs</th>
<th>Area costs</th>
<th>Media costs</th>
<th>Total costs</th>
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<tr>
<td>USB</td>
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<td>4.274.880</td>
<td>3.416.251</td>
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<td>WiSoF</td>
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<td>NatF</td>
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<tr>
<td>HF</td>
<td>600.732</td>
<td>328.800</td>
<td>160.512</td>
<td>1.090.044</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rest</td>
<td>321.510</td>
<td>383.520</td>
<td>156.632</td>
<td>861.662</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Library of the Mathematical Institute

Are the library services (rooms, books, opening hours, equipment, etc.) really worth this great effort?

- We have to spend the money in a better, more effective way?
A short glimpse on an assessment of the actual situation at Cologne University: library as a place

Member of the advisory council for the university library:
The Cologne university library and the whole library system have a backlog of 10 to 15 years to modern English or Dutch libraries:

UB Leiden Tour: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdkwR6tultU

• HIS 2014 („Orte des Selbststudiums“): Students need and use libraries with good working places, good opening hours, good technical equipment (Wifi, electricity, etc.) and good catering.

• There is no such space in the UoC:
• Building of the USB Köln from the late sixties, planned for a university of 15,000 students: more working places are urgently needed. Building is completely worn out because of lacking maintenance.
• Besides the USB there are 147 institute libraries (Survey 2013; Library Guide 2015: 145). The bulk consists of small and medium-sized library sites.
Impressions of the UoC libraries

Reading room of the USB Köln (Foto: Kölnische Rundschau)

Library of the Institute for Public Law and Administration

Seminar for Mathematics and its didactics
Impressions of Goethe-Universität Frankfurt libraries

Library for Law and Economics Goethe-Universität Frankfurt

Library natural science Goethe-Universität in Frankfurt

University zu Köln
A short glimpse at an assessment of the actual situation at Cologne University: too many books, not enough working places for students?

- Ca. 3.000 working places for students missing in the UoC, as well as offices and classrooms.
- In the USB Cologne there are 4.2 Mio. books.
- In the decentralised libraries there are ca. 4 Mio. books; 48,6% of these are also available in the USB Cologne.

- Offering these duplicate books in open shelves costs roughly appr. 8.250 m² and 2 Mio. € each year.
- In the USB Köln in the last 30 years 70% of all books were borrowed only once.
- Because of the Google Book library project, Hathi Trust, etc. a gigantic number of books will be available online.

➢ How will we deal with library space in the future?
A short glimpse at an assessment of the actual situation at Cologne University: money (for literature) and personnel

- Expenditure for media UoC 2014: 6,96 Mio. €, Share USB: 49 %; Share eMedia: 2,9 Mio. € = 41,6 %, Share USB eMedia: 84 %.
- Total expenditure for media 2012 & 2013: approx. 7 Mio. €, however there is a substantial shift towards eMedia (annually for about approx. 10%).

- Beside the USB-funds and eMedia there is no coordination: 2 Mio. duplicate books to USB in decentralised libraries.
- Contracts for eMedia are hard to negotiate, the conditions of the contracts are hard to comply with.
A short glimpse at an assessment of the actual situation at Cologne University: personnel

• Keeping open 145 decentralised libraries with 363 student assistants costs 2.12 Mio. € (2014) each year, besides there are in the decentralised libraries:
  
  • 59,02 „librarians“ (calculated with Panda-figures for E9 [54.600 €]: 3,222,492 €
  • 21,50 other staff (calculated with Panda-figures for E5 [42.000 €]): 903,000 €

- Staffing for a print world with many sites.
- No continuous professional development/advancement of library staff and other staff.

Staff costs USB:

• 171 jobs qualified library staff: 7,583,839 €
• 91 student assistants (2014 real costs): 582,043 €

- Even in the USB there is urgent need for adjustment and reorganisation!

Important topics are not being addressed (digital preservation, research data).
Recommendations

- Spatial consolidation of the UoC’s library system, besides USB 6 - 10 sites.
- Orientation of the new library sites towards learning centres and living spaces for students (with good opening hours and good equipment).
- Near-term renovation of the USB on a modern level or a new building (if applicable learning centre with text book collection and collections; off-site storage of most stock).
- Accompaniment of the building project by projects to test new controlling mechanisms.
- Distinct reduction of printed stock at the UoC by withdrawal of duplicates (to the stock of the USB resp. to eMedia that is permanently available [national licences]).

- Top priority should be given to faculties that are responsive to eMedia (F-MNS, F-MES, F-Hum Sci).

- Supply of literature primarily in an electronic way where the culture of the disciplines permits this (F-MES, F-MNS, F-Hum Sci).
What could a library for the arts and humanities look like?

- Big units with a lot of different working places.
- Working possibilities with different media
- Good opening hours, good equipment.
- Library units near the offices of the scientific staff.
- Interdisciplinary (related subjects)
- Library services are connected with e-Learning-services and support for the „digital humanitie CCEH/DCH).”
- Library staff in good contact with scientific staff.
- Personal help with investigation for literature and materials for research.

- Research data management and long time preservation.
- Metadata services.
What could new services for the arts and humanities look like?
Thank you very much for your attention.