

STAATSBIBLIOTHEK ZU BERLIN  
PREUSSISCHER KULTURBESITZ

## Building up Digital Collections at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

IFLA Workshop on Digital Collections Development  
March, 3–5, 2010 in Moscow

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Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preussischer Kulturbesitz

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## Agenda

- ⇒ Short Introduction:  
The Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preussischer Kulturbesitz  
(Berlin State Library – Prussian Cultural Heritage)
- ⇒ Collection Development at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin
- ⇒ Building up Digital Collections – some main pillars:
  1. Providing Subject-Specific Virtual Libraries
  2. Negotiating National Licenses
  3. Digitizing Own (Historical) Collections
- ⇒ Conclusion

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## Introduction: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

- ⇒ The Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preussischer Kulturbesitz (Berlin State Library – Prussian Cultural Heritage) is Germany's largest academic research library.
- ⇒ It was founded nearly 350 years ago in 1661.
- ⇒ A library on two sites ... and more.



Site Unter den Linden



Site Potsdamer Strasse

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## Collection Development

- ⇒ Collection portfolio:  
Texts from all fields of knowledge in all languages, in every available form, from all epochs and all countries of the world.
- ⇒ Current holdings and collections:  
Printed publications from many centuries, a variety of special collections and an increasing number of digitally presented texts as well as databases.








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## Collection Development Policy

- Universality in different aspects:
  - Regional universality
  - Subject universality
  - Temporal universality
  - Universality of media and publication forms
- Selection criteria:
  - Source value
  - Academic quality of the publication
  - Inner coherence of the collection
  - Information value



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## Building up Digital Collections: 1. Providing Subject-Specific Virtual Libraries



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## Definition: Subject-Specific Virtual Library


- The Subject-Specific Virtual Libraries are part of the special subject collection network in Germany, funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
- Modules:
  - Easy access to online catalogues via meta search engines
  - Alerting services
  - Guides to relevant websites in special fields
  - Location-independent access to license-required online databases
- More Information:
  - Vascoda <http://www.vascoda.de/>

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## Subject-Specific Virtual Libraries of the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

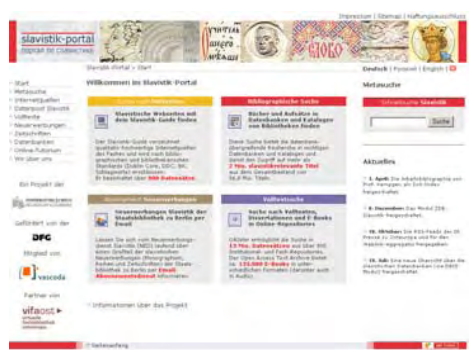
- Among other portals the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin is hosting the following Virtual Libraries:
  - Virtual Law Library: <http://www.vifa-recht.de/en/>
  - Virtual Library East and Southeast Asia – CrossAsia: <http://crossasia.org/en/>
  - Slavistics Portal: <http://www.slavistik-portal.de/en.html>



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Example: The Slavistics Portal



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Example: The Slavistics Portal

- ⇒ Hosted by the Eastern Europe Department of the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin (Start: 2005)
- ⇒ Main modules:
  - Slavistik-Guide to relevant online resources
  - Alerting Service about new acquisitions
  - Metasearch engine: Access to e-Journals, TOCs, bibliographic records
- ⇒ New Technologies:
  - Federated Index Search with iPort™ and Lucene
  - Automatic Link Suggestions
  - SRU Interface (Search & Retrieval via URL)

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Current Trends for Subject-Specific Virtual Libraries

- ⇒ Implementing more license-required databases via identity-based authentication
- ⇒ Providing subject-specific repositories and self-archiving tools for authors
- ⇒ Offering digitized historical collections
- ⇒ Harvesting and archiving web resources
- ⇒ ...

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Building up Digital Collections:  
2. Negotiating National Licenses

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### Definition: National Licenses in Germany


- Background: Since 2004 the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation) has been offering supplementary funding opportunities in the line of action „Licensing of Digital Content / DFG National Licenses“ within its „Digital Information Initiative“
- Goal: Providing nationwide access to literature
- Audience: Members of universities, research institutions, and individuals located in Germany
- Content: Completed databases, journal archives, e-books



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### Profound Knowledge in Licensing Electronic Resources at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin



- The library is licensing a broad range of databases for its users:
  - Remote access
  - Local access to online resources
  - Local access to CD-ROM
  - Regional access via consortia
- More Information:
  - Database info system DBIS: <http://www.bibliothek.uni-regensburg.de/dbinfo>

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### Negotiating National Licenses in the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

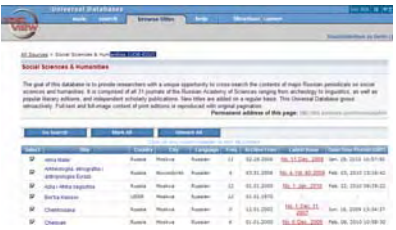
- Among a handful of libraries the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin is one of the main negotiators of national licenses
- Duties of the library: Negotiating contracts, user administration, ingesting bibliographic data
- The Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin is responsible for:
  - China Academic Journals
  - China Ancient Books 中國基本古籍庫
  - Chinamaxx / SSRReaders
  - Kluwer Law International Journals
  - Entscheidungssammlungen der Entscheidungen des Reichsgerichts in Zivilsachen (RGZ) und der Entscheidungen des Reichsgerichts in Strafsachen (RGSt)
  - Universal Database of Social Sciences & Humanities

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### Example: Universal Database of Social Sciences & Humanities (UDB-EDU)

- Content: Major Russian periodicals on social sciences and humanities
- Vendor: East View Information Services
- Period: 1931(2006) -
- <https://www.nationallizenzen.de/angebote/nlproduct.2009-02-27.1377984066>

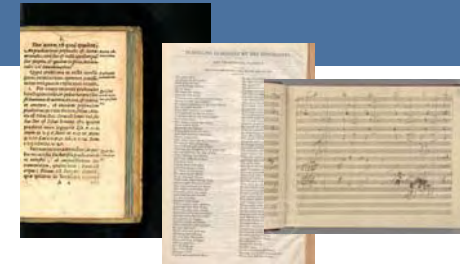


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## Future Models for Negotiating Licenses

- Most recently the program is being expanded by
  - Business models for resources with current content
  - Establishing sort of a national consortium
  - Developing joint international license models in cooperation with the DEF (Denmark), SURF (Netherlands), and the JISC (United Kingdom)
- More Information:
  - National licenses: <http://www.nationallizenzen.de/>
  - Alliance initiative: <http://www.allianzinitiative.de/en/start/>

## Building up Digital Collections: 3. Digitizing Own (Historical) Collections



## Digitization at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

- The library is digitizing its holdings in its own digitization center
- Cooperation with partners or digitization service providers
- Goals:
  - Broad access to the collections of the library
  - Obtaining expertise in digitizing a variety of formats in libraries
  - Preserving and protecting the original documents
- Funding: Budget and public funds, privat-public-partnerships

## Organizational Architecture of Digitization at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

- Since 1999: a variety of boutique digitization projects
- 2007: decision for Workflow tool „Goobi“ as a starting signal for an organizational architecture of digitization
- 2008: Planning for first mass digitization projects
- 2009: Opening of the in-house digitization center
- Project types:
  - Mass digitization of substantial parts of special collections
  - Systematic digitization of important unique items
  - Digitization on demand

## Topical Priorities of Digitization

- National and international cultural heritage
- Needs of academic community
- Outstanding and unique collections
- Duties within the nationwide library system
- Education in German, European and non-European cultures
- Threat of loss of content
- ...

## Current Mass Digitization Projects at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

- Digitization of Prussian Printings of the 17th century ([Preußen 17 digital](#))
- Digitization of selected parts of the East Asian Department ([SSG 6.25 digital](#))



## Conclusion

- The Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin is providing worldwide online access to knowledge and cultural heritage collections by:
  - Improving the research infrastructure on a nationwide level
  - Improving open access to the holdings of the library
- Some main pillars of building up digital collections at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin are:
  - Providing subject-specific virtual libraries
  - Negotiating national licenses
  - Digitizing own (historical) collections
- The library focuses on cooperation with partners or digitization service providers.
- The most important funds are the programs of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation).

## Thank you for listening!

- Questions, comments:
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