Building up Digital Collections at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

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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

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.

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.
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

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

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:
  - Vascode: http://www.vascode.de/

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/
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)

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
- …

Building up Digital Collections:
2. Negotiating National Licenses
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

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

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 / SSReaders
  - Kluwer Law International Journals
  - Entscheidungsammlungen der Entscheidungen des Reichsgerichts in Zivilsachen (RGZ) und der Entscheidungen des Reichsgerichts in Strafsachen (RGSt)
  - Universal Database of Social Sciences & Humanities

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
- **More Information:**
  - https://www.nationallizenzen.de/angebote/nlproduct.2009-02-27.1177984066
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/

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

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