

# RUSSIA

RUSSIAN STATE LIBRARY

DR VICTOR FEDOROV— DIRECTOR GENERAL

## ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2001 – 2002

### **1 LIBRARY MANAGEMENT: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS, PLANNING, DECISION MAKING, EVALUATION, DEFINITION OF THE MISSION.**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2002 the volume of the RSL stocks amounted to 42.8 million units, in 2001 the RSL received 338.5 thousand units of documents, 78.9 thousand foreign units included. Upwards of 1 million descriptions have been entered into the electronic catalogue. As against the year 2000 the figures of the services to readers have dropped considerably. It is due to the completion of the modernisation of the technical communications of the main 19-tier book storage. During this work the part of the stocks was inaccessible for the readers. For the first time in the library practice such work is going on without evacuation of the stocks.

### **2 ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS AND FORMATS, NEW LEGISLATION INCLUDED**

The state standard 7.82-00 "Bibliographic description of electronic resources" has been approved.

The format MARC-21 is being adapted in the course of the introduction of the new software. The library is a party to the standardisation of the description of the Internet resources, to the adaptation and introduction of the Dublin core format in Russia.

### **3 FINANCING**

As compared to 2000, the state financing has risen – 54 % and comes to 350.5 million roubles (about \$ 11.2 millions). It has allowed increased investments in the reconstruction of the RSL buildings and expenses for the acquisition of literature, support of the publishing-polygraph activities, special engineering and so on.

Non-budget sources of financing (payable services, business dealings, grants and others) made up – 8.5 % in comparison with the RSL budget in 2001.

### **4 LEGISLATION**

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2001 the Government of Russian Federation endorsed the new Statute of the RSL (ordinance No 227).

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2001 the Ministry of science and technology of Russian Federation accredited the RSL as a research institution authorized to carry on research activities in the field of librarianship, bibliography and bibliology.

## **5 BUILDINGS**

In 2001, construction and reconstruction of the RSL buildings block were examined:

- the Public council at the Mayor of Moscow endorsed the concept of reconstruction and restoration of the RSL buildings block;
- the basic parameters of the business-plan were developed;
- measures were taken to raise funds.

During last year considerable effort was invested in repairs and renovation of the buildings and work rooms of the RSL, for example:

- repairs of the roofing of the main buildings complex (14700 m<sup>2</sup>) have been concluded;
- the hall of the electronic catalogue, the network control centre, the business information centre have been repaired, equipped and put into operation;
- the two-level reading hall of official documents has been renovated;

Reconstruction of the power system, repairs and replacement of the inner engineer network in the buildings block of the RSL are going on.

## **6 STAFF**

In line with the new RSL Statute new posts have been introduced:

- Director General
- Executive director – Deputy director general
- Director on library resources
- Director on library-information services
- Director on research and publishing
- Director on informatization
- Director on technology and development.

A new advisory body at the RSL Director General – the Board of Directors – has been set up.

By the decree of the Government of the Russian Federation № 529-p of April 16, 2001 Victor V. Fedorov has been appointed Director General of the Russian State Library.

The library personnel of the amount 2259, with the workers of the library departments accounting for 66 %, the staff of the research departments accounting for 22 %, the workers of the auxiliary services accounting for another 12 %. The salary of the workers in the budget sphere is rather low and that is one of the main reasons for the library being understaffed. In 2001 the wages of the library employees rose thanks to the Government of RF, which had raised the tariff rates. The average salary in the RSL has gone up 2.5 times as against the year 2000 with account taken of all sources of financing, working out at 3521 roubles (≈ \$ 110 a month).

The staff ageing is one of the acute personnel problem. As of January 1, 2002 more than 40 % of the library employees are past fifty, with the young people at the age of less than 35 years amounting to about 35 % of the entire number of the staff.

Relations between the staff and administration are regulated by the Collective agreement which is entered into every year.

## **7 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES AND NETWORKS**

In 2001 the European Commission voted the TACIS project "Establishing the information system for the Russian State Library", whose first stage had been concluded in 2000, the most successful undertaking in the field of introduction of telecommunication technologies in culture.

The programme of the development of the all-Russian information and library computer network "LIBNET" for the period up to 2005 has been composed. The RSL along with the Russian National Library have organised the Centre "LIBNET" with the object of creating a union electronic catalogue of the both national libraries of Russian Federation.

Appreciable efforts has been made to conceive new subsystems of the Automated information and library system (in R.: АИБС):

- services to readers;
- enrolment of readers (the software has been worked out, equipment has been bought for making and using reader's cards, their design has been worked out);
- management of personnel (the software "1C enterprise" has been acquired and put into operation);
- network service of the CD-ROM's (Jukebox).

The electronic catalogue of author's abstracts and theses received by the RSL has been released on the CD-ROM's (about 300 000 bibliographic records).

- The retro conversion of catalogues:
- The union catalogue of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Russian books (it has been scanned and is being transferred to the MARC 21);
- The general systematic-classified catalogue (it has been scanned and is being transferred to the MARC 21);
- The scanned general systematic-classified catalogue on the basis of a developed search system has been placed at the disposal of readers.

In 2001 the transition to a technology of the shared cataloguing did not come to an end.

## **8 DIGITAL LIBRARY**

Fragments of the digital library of the RSL are to found on the page of the Open Russian Electronic Library (<http://orel.rsl.ru/>). In 2001 110 000 visitors to the page were registered. As at January 1, 2002 the depository of electronic documents disposed 7 341 documents and 368 CD-ROM's.

Both texts and graphic images are digitised under the following projects:

- "Meeting of frontiers" (a joint project with the USA Library of Congress);
- "Memory of Russia" (old Slavonic printed books of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century).

## **9 LEGAL DEPOSIT COPY.**

The Federal law "On inserting alterations and amendments into the Federal law "On the legal deposit copy of documents" adopted by the RF State Duma in second reading.

## **10 ACQUISITION.**

Last year requirement concerning the purchase of literature, subscription to periodicals and the purchase of electronic items were financed at only 70%.

In the past 3 years the RSL has been engaged in a strategy of acquiring the stocks aimed at setting up a system of the shared library stock in Russian federation. In 2001 the normative and legal basis of the system has been developing. The draft agreements with the regions stating responsibility and mutual obligations of the parties were prepared.

## **11 PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION**

Work on preserving the stock was conducted both in the practical respect and in the research field, publications are microfilmed in compliance with the policy of copying the documents, important for keeping information, meeting users demands and saving the storage plan. In 2001 the microfilming of decrepit Russian newspapers of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 20<sup>th</sup> century and the microfiching of the theses dating from the 1950s were priority actions.

In 2001 book bindings were conserved. The 22.2 % increase in the volume of the binding work has made for improving the conditions of keeping literature in soft covers and threadbare bindings.

## **12 SERVICES RENDERED TO READERS**

In rendering paid services in 2001, the library worked for perfecting their range and quality of treatment of the RSL users. Paid services with the use of new information technologies, advises concerning the search in the Automated data base and in the Internet, search for and selection of information on subject queries, the scanning of documents figure large. In 2001 a new reading room for 38 seats equipped for work with the RSL electronic catalogue and connected with the Internet was put into operation.

By way of improving the services to the remote readers the Loan department was in 2001 reorganised into Centre of interlibrary loan and delivery of documents of the RSL.

In 2001 the RSL rendered the following services in the automated mode:

- electronic delivery of documents;
- scanning and recognition of documents;
- provision of access to the full text-documents;
- provision of access to the Internet resources;
- provision of data bases on the CD-ROM;
- provision of the OPAC and of other data bases integrated by the RSL;
- recording information on Zip-diskettes, the CD-ROM and so on.

The setting up of the Centre of the business information is another development in offering the RSL users official and normative-production documents.

## **13 CULTURAL EVENTS, EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLICATIONS**

The Russian Foundation of Culture has presented the RSL with 25 books on Rossica.

In January 2001 the Centre of Legal Information of the RSL brought off the first action of the Russian Foundation of Legal Reforms "Legal literature for all". Books on the modern law and their copyright were presented for distribution through the global information Internet environment.

In 2001 the RSL arranged 285 *thematic exhibitions*. The exhibitions “The Book of Books. The Bible in the book culture”, “The Commonwealth of Independent States ten years old”, “Russian Nobel Prize Winners. In commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Nobel prize” met with keen interest.

The RSL organized some exhibitions in conjunction with its foreign partners, “Commemorating the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Russia and Mexico”, “EduFrance – Higher Education in France” included.

Publications on the results of research into library science, book knowledge and bibliography is in the limelight of the *publishing activities* of the RSL, with the RSL journal “Library science” being in the lead of the Russian professional press in this field. In 2001 6 numbers of this journal were published, as well as the supplement “News of the RSL” and 4 issues of the “Herald of the Library Assembly of Eurasia”, being distributed in Russia, CIS countries, Baltic States, USA, France, Germany, China.

With the aid of the Foundation of assistance to the development of the Oriental literature Centre the journal “Oriental collection” appears.

The subscribers for research-informational, abstracting and bibliographic publications of the Information Centre on Culture and Arts has grown up to 1300. 108 titles have been published.

The publishing house “Pashkov dom” found its place in the general structure of Russian book publishing activities, provided themselves with a repertory of their own.

The RSL engaged in mutual joint publishing activities. In 2001 the following books were printed:

- “Publicity and PR” (jointly with the International institute of publicity);
- “Martyrology of the Russian military émigrés” (jointly with the Russian Foundation of Culture and the Publishing house “Koktebel”).

besides the following albums were published “Women in the Russian poster” and “The Russian publicity poster” (jointly with the Publishing house “Contact–culture”) in the series “Masterpieces of the Russian poster”.

## **14 LIBRARY CO-OPERATION**

In 2001 the RSL was active in developing co-operation in the main directions of the professional activities and in enhancing partnership with the Russian and foreign libraries, and other agencies.

Under the “Agreement on the partnership and collaboration of the national libraries of Russia” the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the Council of co-operation of the Russian state library and the Russian national library took place in Moscow. The draft All-Russia programme of development of the retrospective national bibliography of Russia up to 2010 was prepared.

- In conjunction with the republican libraries of Karelia, Udmurtia, Chuvashia, the regional libraries of Tula and Orel the RSL took part in carrying out the national programme “Preserving the library holdings of Russia”, in shaping the shared library stock of Russia, in carrying forward the national system of the library and information services etc.

Being a member of the Russian Library Association as it is the RSL has initiated the setting up of 2 new sections of the RLA that is “The bibliography” and “The publishing and book distributing activities”.

In its capacity of co-ordinator of the Library Assembly of Eurasia (LAE) the RSL is deep in collaboration with the CIS libraries, it has contribution to organising and carrying out some arrangement to its credit

- the Second annual meeting of national libraries of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (October, Yerevan, Armenia);
- the Ninth session of LAE (April, Moscow);
- the Third international conference “Libraries – centres of the dialogue of cultures” (October, Alushta, Crimea, Ukraine);
- as well as compilation of the Web-site (SONEGOS) of the libraries taking part in the Library Assembly of Eurasia.

The RSL carried on interaction with international governmental and non-governmental organisations (UNESCO, Council of Europe, British Council etc.), and international professional organisations (IFLA, ISO/TC 46, CDNL, CENL, IAML and others).

The RSL delegation took part in the 67<sup>th</sup> IFLA session on the theme “Library and Librarians: Making a Difference in the Knowledge Age” (Boston, USA).

In 2001 the RSL in its capacity of the Russian IFLA Committee prepared 6 issues of the “News of the Russian IFLA committee” and sent them out free of charge to the central and regional Russian libraries.

The RSL Director-general V. Fedorov attended the 15<sup>th</sup> CENL annual session (Riga, Latvia).

- The RSL took part in the following meetings: of the ICOM Group of graphic documents (Finland), of the FRANAR seminar (Paris, France), of the IAML annual conference (Perigueux, France), of the 20<sup>th</sup> international cartographic conference “The 21<sup>st</sup> century cartography” (Beijing, China), of other international seminars and conferences.

In 2001 the circle of partners of the library in bilateral interlibrary co-operation widened and several agreements were entered into force. On the basis of bilateral agreements the RSL has relations with the foremost libraries of Great Britain, Germany, Egypt, China, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Singapore, the USA, the Czech Republic, Estonia.

## **15 MAIN FESTIVITIES AND DATES (ANNIVERSARIES AND EVENTS)**

The 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of N.V. Isakov (1821–1891), the first director of Moscow public museum and Rumyantsev museum placed in Pashkov mansion destined to become the historical-architectural heart of the present-day Russian state library.

To 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the world known compiler of the “Dictionary of the alive great-Russian language”, writer and ethnographer V.I. Dahl the RSL set up memorial medal “For input to Russian culture” for award of the outstanding linguists, writers, workers of the culture and the Russian folk creation, as well as statesmen, introducing their input into Russian culture development.

## **16 OTHER NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION**

In November 8, 2001 the Council on Culture and Arts at the President of Russian Federation was called into being. The RSL Director-general Victor Fedorov is a member of the Council.

In May with the assistance of the Ministry of culture of the RF the RSL drew up a targeted programme of upgrading the skills of library managers of the Chechen Republic of the RF and staged their training.

In 2001 the Higher certifying commission of the Ministry of education of RF approved in the RSL a Council in charge of defence of theses in order to receive doctor's degree. 2 theses were defended for taking doctor's degree and candidates degree.

## **17 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

As of January 1, 2002 there are 59 departments, 14 centres, 10 directorates within the RSL.

In 2001 the management of library activities was reorganised. The library complex was split up into two sub-complexes: forming the library resources (19 departments) and the services to readers (4 departments). The technological department, as a service for the whole library, was separated from the library complex and orientated to improving the traditional technologies in the condition of informatization development to be.

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