

CHILE

BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL DE CHILE - NATIONAL LIBRARY OF CHILE

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ORGANISATION, STRUCTURE AND STATISTICS

The structure of the National Library is composed of 5 sub-departments (Research and development, collections, bibliographic processes, User services and special collections/archives) who's executive officers in conjunction with the Sub-director form the Corporate Management group of the library. This committee counts on support and its mission is to put in place the operation goals established in the strategic plan. The library collects statistics of practically all its activities. Some figures to show the activities and process for 2003:

- Acquisition of bibliographic materials through legal deposit, purchases, donations and exchange; titles 11,013, copies: 118,228. This does not include journal issues (268,321).
- Bibliographic processes: cataloguing of monographs, manuscripts, journals and maps 14,849 (not including that carried out in projects)
- Preservation (not including that carried out in projects): Microfilming 630,000 images; digitisation 230,000 images; Binding 2,149 volumes.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

Includes the library automation system ALEPH – which has been implemented as the second site in Spanish.

COMPUTING EQUIPMENT:

Include 2 servers for the ALEPH platform, with 173 Personal computers, plus 19 terminals corresponding to the searching workstations used by users, also maintaining 50 printers. Also add to the list a database server and a security server.

Includes a fibre optic network with internet connectivity and with a 10 MB bandwidth.

PERSONNEL

The Library has a workforce of 181 public servants composed of: 13 directors; 49 professionals; 7 technicians; 66 administrative staff and 46 assistants. In addition, there are a number of people working on special projects.

LIBRARY SERVICES, ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

USER VISITS

- Library visits 341,121
- Works consulted 4,039,988
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- Photocopies 676,227
- Preparation of bibliographies 464
- Email information queries 2,273
- Loans (home loans) 10,852

External users 6,370,705 9 includes the online catalogue 2,748,903; Portal (could be website visits) National Library at the Cervantes Library 720,230; Chilean memory 2,901,690

CULTURAL EXTENSION

The outreach activities which took place at the National Library were widely received. From these the following are of particular interest;

EXHIBITIONS:

- Salon Fundadores (Founders room) - "Ignacio Domeyko citizen of two nations". Anne Frank – a real story /history" "In full colour"
- "Galeria Azul (Blue Gallery) – "Entepola - encounter of the Latin-American popular theatre". "Hungarian Scientists". "La Lira Popula (the popular Lyre) popular Chilean recordings".
- Jardines Biblioteca Nacional (National library gardens) – "Pamphlets – places a scream on the ground".

EVENTS:

- Sala America (American Room) Conferences, book presentations, film cycle; music cycle etc.
- Sala ERcilla – book presentations, conferences, round tables
- Sala de investigadores – Thursday night discussions (terulias – discussion/chats/get togethers)

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Currently the National Library is pursuing three avenues of development in this area; the magazine "Mapocho – research carried out by the Writers Archive; the research and rescue work carried out by the Oral literature Archive. During 2003 amongst other works the following were published. "Cartas salidas del silencio (Letters taken from the silence) Canto a la Argentina – facsimile of Ruben Dario folder; Prehistoria en Chile (prehistory in Chile) by Jorge Montealegre.

MAIN PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2003

- "Memoria Chilena" (Chilean Memory): 3 year Project in its first stage, which includes virtual content on the history and culture of Chile, supported in the digitisation of historic collections of the National Library. Currently "Chilean Memory" offers 261 thematic homepages; digitised archive of 928 complete books; 4,249 images; 857 fragments from works; 721 articles from dailies and specialist journals; 38,926 newspaper clippings from the national press on literary criticisms and 7 sound archives, in total this comes to 140,421 digital pages available. The website won the competition to represent our country at the Stockholm Challenge in the category of Organisation

with high social impact in Culture, turning into the only site in Latin-America to be nominated for such a mention.

- Maintaining and growing the National Library website at the virtual Cervantes Library, which resulted in our website joining the 5 most frequently visited sites at the Cervantes Library. During the year it received 720,232 visits.
- The new website will include the largest project in the construction of the DIBAM portal, which will integrate all of the institutions in a single interconnected space. The site includes the online catalogue where all of the published material (books, serials and newspapers) of the different collections can be found; as well as catalogues the user can also access the digital collections of the National Library (Chilean memory, Chilean writers library and the national library of Chile at the Cervantes portal).
- Microfilming of the historic national newspapers project that was completed at the end of 2003, with the estimated target of 2,180,000 images.
- Microfilming and digitisation “al dia (up to date)” of the 16 national newspapers circulating nationally. 730,000 images were digitised. Three year project which will in time become part of the National Library processes.
- Cataloguing, digitising and making available online the complete collections of the “Archivo de Referencias Critics” Reference Collection. During the year, 58,138 articles and 120,185 images were catalogued and added to the database.

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