

LATVIA

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF LATVIA

ANDRIS VILKS — DIRECTOR

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2003 – 2004

The total **collection (01.01.2004)** of the NLL in comparison with 2003 has increased to 45 879 items.

In 2003 the Library's **financial position** was 2478392 USD in total, the sum allocated from the state budget was 2040214 USD.

The purchase for enriching the Library's collection constituted 283588 USD.

In the year of report the NLL has participated in the working group revising the law on **Legal Deposit Copy** of Latvia. The work is to be continued.

Mrs. Helena Demakova, the new Minister of Culture, stressed the realization of the **National Library of Latvia project** to be a priority in her work.

The second stage of the **reconstruction** project for the repository *Silakrogs* has been **revised**.

Repair works at the central building 14 K. Barona, 6/8 Jekaba Street, and 75 Terbatas Street are being realised.

During the period of report several discs have enriched the **Digital Library** of the NLL. For example, *Poster in Latvia 1945-2000*, comprising ca. 600 posters from the unique collection of the Library;

Riga from the end of the 19th century until the end of World War II depicting 3 thousand of the most interesting and rare pictures of Riga selected from the archive (ca. 54 thousand items) of the Baltic Central Library.

Owing to the target program of Culture Capital Foundation the pre-war newspapers of Ventspils, Kuldiga and Jelgava regions are scanned.

Restoration of the incunabula of the 15th century belonging to Aglona Basilica has been a novelty in the field of **restoration**. Experts from the Document Restoration Laboratory of the State Archive, Foreign Art Museum and the Academic Library with the assistance of Prof. Endelis Valks Falks from Tartu Art College have participated in the assessment of the whole process.

In 2003 the formation of the automated search of restored documents and restored items has started.

In the field of **automation** the year 2003 was remarkable for further integration of the Library's business processes into its LIS (Library Information Systems). Automation covered cataloguing, acquisition, OPAC, document delivery and other Library processes.

The National Library extended its conception and strategy for the Digital Library and practically prepared 30 CDs of digitized documents from the Library's collections of Maps, Rare Books and Manuscripts and Small Prints and Graphic Documents.

The National Library continued conversion of the National Bibliography into digital format. Ca. 60,000 records were converted, 30,000 of them were edited and prepared for uploading into ALEPH LIS. All National Bibliography data that has already been uploaded is accessible on-line to the Library's users and all other users with Internet access. The National Bibliography data has amounted to 900,000 records.

The National Library of Latvia uses several licensed Latvian and foreign on-line bibliographic and full-text **databases** (LETA, NAIS, EBSCO, OCLC, EASTCOM, WESTLAW). The NLL has started a new generation of document 'acquisition' in the Library's practice with new concepts and resource calculation. The number of PCs for readers' access to these databases and other on-line resources has increased to 35 (of 321 in total), still remaining insufficient.

The National Library continues publishing the **National Bibliography** and other library specific publications in 'normal paper format', but it has also published an advance copy of *Press Chronicle* in CD-ROM format. The Library has started to correlate its strategy for such publications with its readers' demand for moving to on-line and digital forms.

The NLL participated at the international **projects** CALIMERA, PULMAN, CONCORDIA and national projects as well.

The **main indicators** of the NLL (readership, visits, loans) continued to grow in 2003.

In 2003 the task to ensure the Library users have access to the traditional **services** as well as the services provided by modern information technologies has continued. Within the framework of SILIS (State Integrated Library Information System) the NLL has participated in the work of LINC (Library Information Network Consortium).

Specification of the NLL **acquisition profile** and co-ordination of Latvia libraries acquisition module has been realised. In co-operation with LATABA libraries the work of the Interlibrary Loan has been perfected corresponding to the contemporary requirements having resulted in **Electronic Document Delivery** service to readers.

The Document Delivery system is available to users. In 2003 the number of requests has increased by more than 20%. The data of the National Bibliography is used thus making the service available and free of charge.

Exchange of exhibitions among foreign countries has become a tradition.

Celebrating the 85th anniversary of the Republic of Latvia the exhibition *Art Nouveau in Latvia* was mounted at the Hague Public Library on November 19, 2003. In December the joint project of the Children's Literature Centre of the NLL and the IBBY of the Netherlands *Posters to a Poem* has taken place. In December the Czech National Library has mounted an exhibition *The Culture of Charles IV in the Centre and Periphery* at the exhibition hall of the NLL.

In 2003 the NLL has started to **publish** the journal ***Bibliotēku Pasaule*** (*Library World*).

The Department of Rare Books and Manuscripts has published the proceedings **Rarities**, dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the Department of Rare Books and Manuscripts, published with the support of Culture Capital Foundation.

Intense translation and adaptation of international **standards**, for example, **AACR 2** and **ISO 5127** as Latvian standards took place. The work with the branch terminology was carried out as well.

The new **co-operation agreement** has been concluded between the NLL and Tartu Art College.

In the period of report the NLL has participated in the work of 15 Latvian and **international organisations**.

At the last decade the **staff** of the NLL has decreased from 540 in 1993 to 380 in 2003.

In 2003 the Library employed 380 staff members, among them 318 librarians and 62 other staff.

To ensure the circulation of information, several **changes** have taken place in the **structure** of the Division of Readers' Services. Four departments have been included into this division: the Acquisitions Department, the Stock Taking Department, Repository and the Department of Restoration and Digitization.

The year 2003 has been rich in noteworthy events.

In May Maurice Freedman, President of ALA, has met with Latvian librarians and the Parliament of Latvia.

Study of the incunabula *Clemens V. Constitutiones (Basel, 1476)*, which belongs to Aglona Basilica, has been started and its restoration is being realised.

In June 2003 the seminar LiLaEst of three Baltic States took place in Daugavpils (Latvia).

The publication **Rarities** has been awarded the most beautiful book of the year 2003.

The NLL has participated in arranging the international conference ***Formation of the Collection of National Libraries – for Culture and Education of the Society.***

ADDRESS:

The National Library of Latvia
14 K. Barona Street
Riga, LV-1423
LATVIA

Tel: + +371 7365250
Fax: + + 371 7280851

Email: lnb@lnb.lv

URL: <http://www.lnb.lv>