

# **Bibliothèque nationale de Luxembourg**

## **National Library of Luxembourg**

### **Annual report 2003-2004**

#### **Management of the Library**

Director: Dr. Monique Kieffer

#### **Funding**

The budget has increased in 2003 and in 2004. Major efforts have been made to develop electronic services and the digital library.

#### **Legislation**

The status of the Luxembourg cultural institutions has been redefined by a new law in force since the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2004.

For the BnL, it contains the following new dispositions:

- The legal deposit is extended to digital publications.
- The BnL has been enabled to assume functions of a university library.

#### **Buildings**

The BnL is suffering from an acute lack of space. The government decided to relocate the National Library and its annexes in a single building at the European quarter in Kirchberg. An international competition has been organized at the end of 2003, which has been won by the architects Bolles & Wilson from Münster (Germany). In the meantime, a part of the National Library will be located in a new annexe in Kirchberg.

#### **Staffing matters**

In the years 2003 and 2004, the BnL has been able to increase the number of its staff members. A special focus has been given to training programs, especially regarding information technology.

#### **Information technology and networks**

The BnL coordinates the network of Luxembourg libraries which has grown from 20 to 29 members in 2004 (shared catalogue). All the university libraries from Luxembourg are now part of the network. The BnL runs and organises the cataloguing courses for the new members.

The BnL has received a special budget from the government to develop information technologies E-Europe. Metalib and SFX (Ex Libris) have been purchased in 2004. The BnL has implemented SFX and is preparing the set-up of Metalib. The BnL has used special grants to purchase data bases and

electronic journals. The paper catalogue of non-luxembourg publications from before 1985 has been digitised and integrated to Aleph.

The automation of the international loan now allows the users to make their orders online.

### **Digital library**

The BnL is digitising publications relating to national heritage.

### **Legal deposit of materials**

The new law reorganizing the Luxembourg cultural institutions defines the concept to collect and store electronic publications entered by legal deposit.

### **Preservation & Conservation**

The general conditions of conservation have been improved but the funds for conservation policy are still not sufficient.

### **Services to readers**

The efforts made to improve the services to the public have lead to an increase of readers and loans. The lending policy of the BnL has become less strict. Users can now borrow a more important number of items. The great success of the internet services have contributed to diversify the profile of library users.

### **Cultural events, exhibitions and publishing**

Main exhibition in 2003-2004:

- Le grand ouvrage: description de l'Egypte (12<sup>th</sup> December – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2004).

The national bibliography is available online.

### **Library co-operation**

The national library co-operation has been reinforced. The BnL is the coordinator of the 29 members of the network bibnet.lu whose communication has been improved by the Circalux system.