

Annual Report to CDNL 2005 – 2006

Name of Country: Switzerland
Name of Library : Swiss National Library (SNL)
Name of Chief Executive Ms Marie-Christine Doffey

The Swiss National Library (SNL) has a new director since April 1st 2005: Ms. Marie-Christine Doffey. In February 2005 work began on the construction of the new underground stacks. Construction will take three years and should provide enough storage space for the library until 2025.

In May 2005, the Swiss government adopted the proposal to move the SNL from 2006 to a New Public Management structure allowing greater autonomy for the library. The parliament has defined the following objectives for the library for the period 2006-2008:

- respect the dual goal of the library to preserve and make available its collections ;
- continue to develop services, especially online, that are adapted to the users' requirements ;
- continue to foster national and international cooperation and coordination ;
- extend and consolidate the reputation of the library

These objectives are already a central part of the library's activities:

National cooperation in management of electronic documents:

The long-term permanent archiving of electronic publications can only be guaranteed in close cooperation with other institutions at national and international level. The SNL is actively promoting cooperation across Switzerland with the following partners:

Swiss Federal Archives: Development, purchase and operation of a common archival system.

Commission for Swiss University Libraries (KUB): Joint metadata structure, standardised transmission and archiving of electronic dissertations.

Swiss cantonal libraries: Information exchange regarding the archiving of electronic publications. There is a plan for the SNL in an initial phase to support the cantonal libraries in the archiving of information stored on floppy disks.

Swiss publishers : Pilot project for the delivery and archiving of electronic publications together with the two publishers Karger und Stämpfli.

Swiss booksellers and publishers' association: Information events to familiarise members with aspects of storing electronic publications and closer cooperation with the publishing houses.

See: <http://www.e-helvetica.ch>

National cooperation – virtual reference: In cooperation with the Bern Municipal and University Library, the SNL has set up and maintains the Internet Clearing House, a virtual reference tool providing an overview of the services, collections, cultural activities, projects, electronic publications, course and training offers in Swiss libraries. <http://www.ichschweiz.ch/>

National and international cooperation - subject indexing: The SNL has set up the Swiss Clearinghouse for Schlagwortnormdatei SWD (German-language subject headings). Libraries taking part may submit potential new headings to the Clearinghouse which then examines them to check they correspond to the RSWK subject indexing rules, correcting them if necessary before entering them in the central database in Frankfurt.

Among other international activities the SNL is a founding partner of the European Library Service (<http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org>) and is taking part in the European funded activity TEL-ME-MOR (<http://www.telmemor.net>) supporting the 10 national libraries from the New Member States in becoming full members of The European Library (TEL), and raising awareness and disseminating information on the opportunities for participation in future projects. The SNL is jointly leading that part of the project concerned with studies concerning Unicode compliance and cross-language access to

information, building on experience gained in developing the MACS system (multilingual access to information), <http://laborix.uvt.nl/prj/macs/>

Address : Swiss national Library, Hallwylstrasse 15, CH-3003 Bern
Telephone and fax details : T:+41 31 322 89 11; F: +41 31 322 84 63
Web address of Library : http://www.snl.ch