

ICELAND

NATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF ICELAND

INGIBJÖRG STEINUNN SVERRISDÓTTIR – NATIONAL LIBRARIAN

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2007

On 1 April 2007, Ingibjörg Steinunn Sverrisdóttir was appointed as National Librarian due to the retirement of Dr Sigrún Klara Hannesdóttir former National Librarian. A new Library Board was also appointed in October 2006. A committee is working on the revision of the laws concerning the National and University Library and laws concerning the National Archives.

In December 2005 a **Performance Management Contract** between the library and The Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports was signed. It states two main objectives, to provide digital access to Icelandic heritage in print and on manuscripts and to ensure that the academic community and the general public have good access to the world's knowledge using information technology. Other fields of emphasis are general access to the library building and finding ways to serve the blind and handicapped, employee policy, equal rights policy and IT policy.

A new **digitisation policy** was formed and the work was intensified with the purchase of a new digital camera. Now all Icelandic newspapers and periodicals up to 1920 are available on the web www.timarit.is and in the next phase all newspapers will be digitised up to 2000 and all books up to 1900.

Webharvesting started in 2005 and a new policy was also formed in that area. Now the national domain is harvested three times a year and also Icelandic related webpages on .net .com .org etc. A Special events harvest is once a year (in 2006 the parliament elections) and about 40 web sites are harvested every time they change.

A new contract between the library and the Ministry of Education, regarding **national licences to electronic journals and databases**, was signed in 2006. The library runs the project in cooperation with other libraries in the country. Some new licences have been signed and now the whole nation has access to 14,000 full-text journals and 12 databases through the web www.hvar.is.

The **Icelandic library system** Gegnir (Aleph from ExLibris) www.gegnir.is is running smoothly but it was opened in 2003. Now there are 265 libraries, library branches and institutions connected to the system. Mid-year 2006 the library system switched to version 16, and at the same time hosting was moved to a new provider. Data from several libraries were migrated to Aleph, thus finishing the third and final phase of the library system implementation. Gegnir is run by Consortium of Icelandic Libraries Inc.

A new website for the library www.landsbokasafn.is was launched in 2005 and now all electronic bibliographies and catalogues are available through that site along with digital projects and services to the academic community.

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