

NORWAY

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NORWAY

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ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2007

2006 - MAIN EFFORTS: DIGITISATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Digitisation and professional development were the areas of main efforts for the National Library in 2006. This was the first full year of operation after the previous year's reopening of the rehabilitated monumental building in Oslo and establishment of new web pages. The sum of activities of the National Library in the capital Oslo, in Mo i Rana under the Arctic Circle and the Digital National Library at nb.no have served to strengthen the Library's strategic focus in 2006.

DIGITISATION

The Minister of Culture and Church Affairs marked the opening in 2006 of the National Library's program for the digitisation of the whole collection, and the effort to make as much as possible of it available in digital form. In tandem with the launch of the large scale digitisation program the National Library entered into negotiations that were to result in pilot agreements with important rights holders concerning the publication of full text material in the Digital National Library NBdigital which was launched in spring 2007. ([Pilot Agreement](#))

The National Library also joined the European Digital Library in 2006.

PROFESSIONS AND RESEARCH

In order to further improve the National Library as an institution for professions and research, a new department was established and a new director was appointed for this area.

The process of strengthening disciplines beyond those areas where the National Library already has highly trained staff has been carried on through recruitment in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and technology.

PURCHASES AND FOCUS ON OUTWARD ACTIVITIES

The first full year of operation in the rehabilitated public facilities coincided with the marking of the centenary of the death of author and dramatist Henrik Ibsen. The National Library played an important role in the activities at home and abroad, notably through the exhibition "Ibsen's women - Nina Sundbye's sculptures meet Ibsen's manuscripts". Following a showing at the Library in Oslo the exhibition was sent in Ibsen's footsteps through Europe until it ended in the Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

During the Ibsen Year 2006 the National Library purchased important Ibsen materials in order to supplement what is already the world's largest collection on and by the author. Other purchases include materials related to Knut Hamsun, Sigrid Undset, Henrik Wergeland, Tarjei Vesaas, Edvard Munch, Edvard Grieg and other main Norwegian personalities of the arts.

A combination of exhibitions, events and talks has contributed to making the content of the collection come alive and of contemporary interest. This program has contributed to the National Library's achievement of its goal of reaching a wider audience and of strengthening its professional and pedagogical profile.

Digitisation, professional development and outward activities have also led to several positive media mentions that contribute to a focus on the National Library's main effort areas. Seen in connection with the activities that have been aimed at ensuring an optimal use of resources in all areas, the work on digitisation and professional development has further strengthened the National Library's strategic focus in 2006. Considerable resources have also been released for the strategic efforts during 2006 through rationalisation and reorganisation.

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