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Basic steps in development of a new library in terms of acquisition policy and more

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Abstract. Building a new, modern and competitive library is a real challenge today but also a difficult task. The present paper discusses on a series of general aspects as regards scientific library acquisition policies, tasks and challenges a modern scientific library is faced to, most important information needs of a scientist today's, new directions for libraries, and steps in acquisition policy according to our vision and further steps in library development.
Key Words: new library, acquisition policy, electronic media, open access, new directions, online databases.

1. Preliminary considerations

Nowadays, we live in a constantly changing society where access to up to date and relevant information is vital, because information means answers, solutions and release. The topical interest of the information and communication phenomenon is explained by the increasingly relevant role and importance of public information in the citizens' daily life[1]. Considering the importance of public information UNESCO characterizes as "vivid information that helps people to live"[2]. In this regard, access to information may be considered as a fundamental right. Scientific communication paradigm changes as a result of digitization. In this view, open access (OA) reinventes academic publication as a democratic system open to sharing knowledge[3,4]. Consequently, a modern scientific library needs to adapt its policy and management to the market needs[5,6]. Adapting a library's policy to an open-access trend is not an easy task and this is mainly due to the fact a large part of the literature is still traditionally distributed wide world; therefore, the acquisition policy of a library must be adapted to both traditional and open-access type of acquisition.

[1] Piguet A., Dezvoltarea Colectiilor, Course Notes.
[2] Coblean O., Grama N., 2010 Biblioteca-mediu de acces la informatia publica. In: Accesul la informatie si dreptul de autor, Centrul Ed. al UASM, Chisinau, p.30.
[3] Whitworth B., Friedman R., Reinventing academic publishing online. Part I: Rigor, Relevance and Practice, In: First Monday [online]. 2009, vol. 14, nr. 8. Available at: http://firstmonday.org/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/2609/2248
[4] Petrescu-Mag I. V., Oroian I. G., 2013 Open access: the most important information needs of a scientist today's. Rabbit Gen 3(1):33-38.
[5] Petrescu-Mag I.V., Oroian I.G., 2013 Scientometrics and relevant bibliographic databases in the field of Aquaculture. Lucrari Stiintifice Seria Zootehnie (Iaşi) 56:403-407.
[6] Petrescu-Mag I. V., Covrig I., 2013 Digitization of media in scientific libraries (on social sciences and humanities) and museums: comprehensive digital information services for the user in the future. Poec Res 3(1):45-51.

2. General aspects on scientific library acquisition policies

Today, the need of narrow specialization of a library is comparable with the need of specialization of a scientist. The cutting age technology in a sub-segment branch of academic research depends on the degree of ultra-specialization of a group of scientists. A today's scientific library cannot and should not concentrate itself on coverage of all fields of academic research. The publication rate nowadays attained numbers impossible to follow: more than 1 million of new books, over 25,000 journals, a large number of audio-visual materials, print media or electronic publications. This is in conflict with the limited space of a library for storing or archiving this information. Moreover, the limited budget is also a barrier and, in consequence, defining the library's directions and subfields of research for its collections is absolutely necessary.

The special mission of a library is to focus on and complete its collections continuously according to their availability. Therefore, regional or national agreements are needed, according to user/customers needs or expectations, budget available, quality of media, up-to-dateness, according to relevance for the future or for the archiving process[7].

For media selection, several pre-conditions are necessary: a preliminary view on whole production of media, knowledge on bibliography and book market offer (including here also serials, monographs, newspapers etc), knowledge on lists of suppliers, publishers profiles etc, knowledge on state of the art in specific research fields and main universities involved, knowledge about marketing methods and sociological methods useful for evaluation of customers/users needs[8].

There are several criteria for qualitative selection of media for library acquisition: relevant subjects (topics), languages/countries, bibliographic relevance, the value of the source, event and editors, type of publication, type of media, material criteria, position in the structure of a library (central, subsidiary), level of increasing needs according to topics etc. The quantitative selection criteria refer to: existence of that product in the Legal Deposit, circulation, times accessed in case of e-media, degree of activation, time needed after pre-orders, availability etc.

Besides all these aspects on acquisition policy, a library needs to know the tasks and challenges a modern scientific library is faced to and also which are the most important needs of a scientist today's.

3. Tasks and challenges a modern scientific library is faced to

One major task of the library is to make the information publicly available. According to B. Conaty, libraries form the "foundation of democracy"; therefore they have the duty and also the responsibility of to "be decisively involved in all the development of society"[9].

The traditional model of scientific journals that cause users' dissatisfaction is due to the excessive costs for subscription, which was reflected in the phrase "serials crisis" that has become a key issue in addressing scientific communication system. The development of information technology represents a new challenge for libraries. Why? Because it creates preconditions for redistributing responsibilities, for example, publish scientific papers can be done not only by publishing houses, but also by the libraries or directly by the authors. Under these conditions, libraries tries to consolidate their positions by creating more accessible resources, more flexible and cheaper access to scientific information.

[7] Hotea M., Economia Informatiei si Piete de informatii, Course Notes.
[8] Hotea M., Economia Informatiei si Piete de informatii, Course Notes.
[9] Coblean O., N. Grama, *op.cit.*, p.31.

Scientists need a communication system capable to help them to publish, to have access, to reuse and to evaluate the relevance and quality of information in an efficient way. These objectives can be best achieved through an interoperable system which integrates reviewed publication, open access to scientific information, long-term digital archiving and other components of the research process[10].

Important for the future of any library is to philosophy the library. This philosophy is characterized by the statement: "We focus more on services."[11] According to this theory, the size and relevance of cultural-historical of existing funds not very interested, but it is significant measurable ability of the library to provide convenient access to information. Basically, traditional fund digitization of library and making them available through the internet is one of the most important tasks of scientific libraries. The OA system is one of the most important services libraries can offer.

4. Most important information needs of a scientist today's

A part of scientific literature in terms articles published is easy to find and open to public access for free. However, a large part of the published literature remains hidden from much of the target readers. There is a lot of taxonomic and zoological information in the close access literature which is relevant for conservation. There is a large amount of information in biomedical research which is important for both human and animal health. In the non-scholar environment, the access to primary scientific publications is actually quite limited, with costs of up to 35 US dollars per paper, or annual subscriptions to one journal often exceeding the sum of 1000 US dollars[12]. In applied fields, such as Parasitology, Aquaculture, or Biotechnology for instance, these issues concerning the access represent a very real and practical barrier to information flow and as a result, inhibit progress and development.

The most reputed journals in biomedical-agricultural fields or engineering contain useful information, case reports, treatments, ideas, and protocols that are not always available to major segments of the medical or agricultural community, both literally and figuratively. In the rare case where primary scientific literature is technically available to commercial producers, there is often a disconnection between authors and audience (Rhyne 2009). It is generally agreed that laboratory scale research is important and it is a primary source of cutting-edge technologies that it will, down the line, be appropriated for business. These lab-scale developments, however, are not always immediately applicable to commercial scale production without necessary tweaks in the process (Rhyne 2009). The understandable reluctance of scientists to give away intellectual property, coupled with the reluctance of commercial producers to adapt from of laboratory to commercial scales, create at best very slow progress that is further hampered by the logistical barriers to information access[13].

Open access journals are defined as journals that use a funding model that does not charge readers or their institutions for access to articles[14]. From the Budapest OA Initiative (2001) definition of OA, the open access represents the right of users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles. Access to information is essential when we discuss about environmental or health sciences issues

[10] Turcanu N., 2010 Accesul deschis-un nou model de comunicare stiintifica. In: Accesul la informatie si dreptul de autor, Centrul Ed. al UASM, Chisinau, p. 84
[11] Neubauer W., Viitorul bibliotecilor stiintifice, available at: http://www.bcucluj.ro/bibliorev/arhiva/nr16/biblio1.html
[12] Rhyne A. L., 2010. The importance of open access in technology transfer for marine ornamental aquaculture: The case of hobbyist-led breeding initiatives.
[13] Brown S., 1999. Information exchange and captive breeding. Proceedings of Marine Ornamentals '99: Collection, Culture, and Conservation, Waikaloa, Hawaii, November 16-19, 1999.
[14] DOAJ www.doaj.org

(mostly not-for-profit) and not about the commercial issues (e.g. patents in the field of biotechnology or IT). Moreover, many environmental issues should be regarded as related to educational ones. Having in view that free access to full text of a journal brings a higher number of citations, it can be considered beneficial to both publishers/authors, libraries and readers.

According to Laakso et al[15], in 2010, an estimated number of 191,000 OA articles were published in 4769 OA journals. Since 2000, the average OA yearly growth rate has been 18% for the number of journals and 30% for the number of articles. This can be contrasted to the reported 3.5% yearly volume increase in journal publishing in general. According to the same source, in 2009, the share of articles in OA journals, of all peer reviewed journal articles, reached 7.7%. Overall, the results of Laakso et al, showed a rapid growth in OA journal publishing over the last fifteen years. Based on the sampling results and qualitative data, they suggested a classification of OA history into three distinct periods: The Pioneering years (1993–1999), the Innovation years (2000–2004), and the Consolidation years (2005–2009).

In 2008, European Commission launched an OA pilot in FP7; grant recipients in seven areas were required to: 1) deposit peer reviewed research articles or final manuscripts resulting from their FP7 projects into an online repository; 2) make their best efforts to ensure OA to these articles within either 6-12 months after publication.

"In order to become an increasingly competitive knowledge-based economy, Europe must not only improve the production of knowledge but also its dissemination and application. All research builds on former work, and depends on scientists' possibilities to access and share scientific publications and research data"... "With the advent of the digital age, the scientific community sees great opportunities for the electronic dissemination of research results. Open access has emerged as a possible way of improving access to and dissemination of publicly funded scientific information, in particular peer-reviewed scientific publications"[16]. "Easy and free access to the latest knowledge in strategic areas is crucial for EU research competitiveness,' commented Janez Potocnik, the EU's Science and Research Commissioner. This open access pilot is an important step towards achieving the 'fifth freedom', the free movement of knowledge amongst Member States, researchers, industry and the public at large. Beyond, it is a fair return to the public of research that is funded by EU money"[17].

Access to information is a fundamental concept of a free society, democracy and the right of access to information is recognized in all international human rights instruments. Thus, it is necessary to develop an institutional OA policy for academic and scientific libraries because libraries are an important link in the process of scientific communication[18]. For libraries OA brings many advantages, such as: solves the problem of price crisis of scientific journals; librarians help users to find information they need, regardless of the limits set for library collections budget; university librarians help faculties and staff to increase scientific impact of the papers, thereby contributing to increase the rating of universities.

5. Directions: libraries and more

To be just a "library" in the old sense of the word, a store of books in several rooms, means next to nothing. Today, such an institution or one of its subsidiary divisions should

[15] Laakso et al 2011 The Development of Open Access Journal Publishing from 1993 to 2009.
[16] http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/scientific_information
[17] CORDIS, www.cordis.lu
[18] The US Association of Research Libraries, ARL, Framing the issue: Open access, (2004)

pay much attention to many aspects that are specific to the current digitization age[19]. In this view a library involves many functions, playing one principal and more secondary roles such as:

- Library with database functions (e.g. Lund University Library: DOAJ; Wolters Kluwer: OVID LinkSolver; SWETS etc)
- Library with scientometrics (e.g. Elsevier: Scopus Elsevier; Thomson Reuters: ISI Web of Knowledge etc)
- Library and Publisher (CAB International; PloS; EBSCO Publishing etc)
- Library and journal/book stores (libraries connected to Springer; De Gruyter and connected libraries etc)
- Library with research activities (e.g. BCU Cluj; ETH Zürich, ETH-Bibliothek)
- Library connected to education (e.g. BCU Cluj; ETH Zürich, ETH-Bibliothek).

6. Steps in acquisition policy according to our vision and further steps in library development

The speed of a new library on its way to a high ranking level depends on a large extent on money investments in: media, human resources, post services and related, physical and virtual space for stocking information, archiving etc. However, a large part of the electronic resources can be imported free of charge (as pdf, metadata etc) from other libraries: OA Libraries (for instance: CEPIEC: Socolar; Lund University Library: DOAJ, Versita: Versita Open etc). In our vision, the basic steps from a new to a high ranking scientific library should be the following:

- o Creating conditions (space) for stocking physical publications (hardcopies/paperback), e-resources (including space, but also programs/softs), archive documents, reports and other media (audio, video, audio-video, films etc);
- o Defining the library's media selection criteria - first stage (open access) – according to field, relevance, topics, titles, authors etc (see Chapter 2; see also Hotea 2012[20]);
- o Starting the process of OA information import: collecting all OA materials available from OA databases (free of charge; e.g. CEPIEC: Socolar; Lund University Library: DOAJ, Versita: Versita Open; Mendeley etc);
- o Defining the library's media selection criteria - second stage (donations, close access or traditional acquisition) – according to field, relevance, topics, titles, authors etc (see Chapter 2 for details);
- o Starting the traditional type media acquisition campaign: Selection, Acquisition (pre-acquisition, order catalogation, order, administering the ordered items), Processing (acquisition, catalogation, indexing, quotation);
- o Starting the "promotion program for donations" inviting authors and editors to donate in exchange with their book or serial promotion (indexing/abstracting in databases; promoting indexing in well known libraries wide world by international exchanges etc);
- o Starting the international exchange activities;
- o Starting an incipient "Conspectus" for the library's collections;
- o Remains (books and serials) are directed to local, regional and small scale exchange;
- o Joining the library's database to international book Catalogs such as: World Cat, Karlsruhe Virtual Catalog (KVK), Amazon etc. This fact will increase the visibility of the library and consequently of its publications, attracting new donations and new international exchanges;

[19] Hull D., Pettifer S.R., Kell D.B., 2008. Defrosting the Digital Library: Bibliographic Tools for the Next Generation Web. PLoS Comput Biol 4(10): e1000204.
[20] Hotea M., Economia Informatiei si Piete de informatii, Course Notes.

- Joining the library to consortia for educational or research projects. This will bring funds for sustainable development of the library, using best qualified human resources and a well equipped and organized infrastructure;
- Creating at least of minimum sector of print publications repair to safe money and old publications or archive documents from donations; this department can be used also for multiplication of OA resources when needed;
- Surpassing the international exchange and starting international cooperation (possible/viable solutions in cooperation): satellite departments of journal metrics, publishing, printing or book/serial store;
- Conspectus. Permanent calculation of its collections' indicators, such as: CL (current collection level = ECS, Existing Collection Strength), AC (acquisition commitment = CCI, Current Collecting Intensity), GL (collection goal = DCI, Desired Collecting Intensity), and PC (preservation commitment). The customer should be aware of the real level of its library.

7. Discussion and conclusions

The speed of a new library on its way to a high ranking level depends on a large extent on money investments in: media, human resources, post services and related, physical and virtual space for stocking information etc.

However, a large part of the electronic resources can be imported free of charge from OA Libraries libraries: CEPIEC: Socolar; Lund University Library: DOAJ, Versita: Versita Open etc. Further development of a library goes hand-in-hand with its management: donation and exchange services are keys to free information other than OA, while international cooperation, educational and research projects play important roles in attracting major funding sources for other services, resources and close access products.

In terms of traditional acquisition, pre-selection of media seems from far the most important step. For this step, an acquisition responsible manager/librarian should use a wide range of catalogs (from publishers, other libraries and antique book stores etc), offers, national bibliographies, recent Journal Citation Reports (at least master journal list for journals, conference proceedings or book series), Scopus or Scimago Journal metrics, Medline catalogs (in case of biomedical libraries), CABI catalogs (in case of agricultural libraries), Zoological Record catalog (for zoological libraries), critical reviews on books or monographs, prospects from publishers, statistics from its users, customers, or target audience.

When we sign international or national agreements for cooperation, it is important not only the media, but also the source (the budget of the partner per annum, impact metrics of its serials or download factors when the future partner is a publisher etc), the terms and conditions according to international license agreements legal aspects.

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