

The Interactive Library as a Virtual Working Space

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Where we are starting from?



The logistic of printed books and journals is influencing all the processes and structures of libraries since the age of Gutenberg → Our core processes are linear: Acquisition, Cataloging, Short- and Long Term availability and usage

Implementating IT driven library systems as well as providing e-books and e-journals (PDF) we transfer and transform the analogue processes of printed materials in digital environments. This "emulation" is part of the transformation process, but not the end of the development.

Components of the logistic of digital materials are: Interaction, Collaboration, Multimedia and global Networking – do we identify these items in libraries, which we call or define as digital libraries?



The organisation of libraries are oriented to the traditional patterns further → networked structures?

The roles of librarians and users don't change since many many years → collaborative approaches?

Print oriented E-Books und E-Journals (as emulations) are focusing the library collections and services → multimedia objects?



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Yes, changes are happening



Patron Driven Acquisition Models: User choose the materials, that they demand and need.

Digital resources like e-books must not be recorded by librarians in a traditional way. Moreover the related metadata can be loaded in the index of the discovery system.

Scholarly materials and objects outside the familiar scope of books and journals are permantly increasing → "enhanced publications"

User and researcher are providing repositories or information hubs by themselves. These resources could and should be harvested and indexed by the "search engine" of the library.

Multi-Users – Multi-Taskers



We should exploit increasingly the digital potential of the internet and the new media.

We should allow and enable more interaction and collaboration between the librarians and the users. We should reshape the roles of the librarians and the users in a collaborative way.

→ We better talk about "multi-users": "multi-user driven acquisition", "multi-user driven collection building", "multi-user driven indexing", "multi-user driven funding", "multi-user driven availability" → That's pushing us forward!

New policies ...



- Acquiring and Collecting: Beyond the librarians every user is allowed to acquire or to transmit informations materials and objects in the libraries' collection - by different rights and on different hubs or repositories. The scope of materials and material types covers everything related to scholarly communication: books, journals, digitised items, research data, software tools, audios, pictures, videos, simulations etc.
- **Cataloging and Enriching:** Beyond the librarians every user is allowed to create and/or to enrich the metadata of scholarly materials and objects for loading them in the index of the (central) search engine by different competencies and rights. Enrichments may be done by name authorities, classifications, subject headings until to semantic relationships. In this way more customer oriented access and search facilites can be established.

... and new rules



- Usage and Availability: Beyond the librarians every user is allowed to define operation and usage of acquired/collected materials and objects until to *"time limits"* of its availability. The overhanded rights and roles have to apply the governance rules of the library policy. The principles of open access are regarded generally.
- Funding and Sourcing: Librarians and users are "owner" of different funds for paying acquisitions and licences of contents or materials. In the opposit to the practises until today these sources have to cover the materials" "maintenance" too – that means: cataloging, indexing, availability, operation, preservation etc., unless this will be done by the users themselves. Long term archiving is a basic option, which is free to a certain extent.

Scholarly Makerspaces



For creating interactive, virtual working spaces libraries are in the situation to take up the approach of the scholarly makerspaces.

Following the idea of the internationally known approach of "makerspaces" in public libraries scholarly makerspaces are digital working environments, where digital resources and tools are combined and made available.

The service portfolios of scholarly makerspaces are provided and supported by academic libraries collaborating and interacting with researcher and third party providers of digital data, materials and tools according to the disciplinary needs.

Libraries are providing and supporting virtual scholarly makerspaces as open, dynamic and interactive infrastructure oriented to the disciplinary demands.

New Services - New Shapes



- To meet the demands and requirements of digital scholars and students by services providing expertise, infrastructures, resources, training and tools,
- To enable researchers an enhanced access and overview of existing methods and resources concerning digital scholarship and e-research,
- To share digital procedures and tools with students and the young researcher generation,
- To complete and to gain expertise about new technologies as well as what the disciplines are demanding and claiming for,

➔ To establish the library as an active broker or intermediary between researchers and local, national and international providers of content and services.

Purposes of the pilot study



The pilot study aims a valid concept of an organization and process model including cost calculations for realizing scholarly makerspaces.

From the impact of this new working environment and the related services the aimed business model will influence the entire library as well. The study should prepare the development of the virtual scholarly makerspaces, but not the prototype itself.

This will be done, if the study can demonstrate a viable implementation for reasonable costs. The study will outline the financial and organisational framework for the implementation of the makerspaces.

Interactive library → VWE "light" UE

The interactive library is proving to be a virtual working space as a result of the collaboration of librarians and users – making materials of data hubs, information platforms or portals, media archives and networks available.

Examples: The German Digital Library, Europeana, HathiTrust, Internet Archive and many other hubs or platforms like Google Scholar, Mendely, Wikipedia are not digital libraries, but show approaches, components and procedures of the new paradigm.

Facing the challenges of the internet and the new digital media the shapes of libraries have to be re-designed and re-organized → Taking up the approaches of integrating users in the libraries' development **libraries will be created and established as scholarly makerspaces and virtual users' working environments.**

Questions



- What is the future role of libraries primarely information provider, virtual working space, enabler of digital scholarship?
- Do we replace the traditional services by interactive patterns and shapes of the scholarly makerspaces?
- What about the role of collection management and service provisioning for local users and user communites worldwide?
- How can we imagine cooperations and relationships between international data and information hubs, provider of infrastructure and tools and the local libraries?



Thank you for your attention!

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