

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY of Finland Bulletin 2010

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EDITORIAL

Kai Ekholm

Reinventing the libraries: we are ready

Recent years have been *anni horribili* for the book business. Sales have declined and CEOs have left their offices.

[read more »](#)



IN BRIEF

Libraries rate the National Library as service center

"The Passion of Argument"

In Memory of Professor Richard Stites

The Radziwill royal house's archives and the Nieswiez Palace library were approved for UNESCO's World Heritage List

Lithography and drawn journalism

FACTS AND STATISTICS

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF FINLAND
BULLETIN 2010

BULLETIN 2009

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF FINLAND

Hormia-Poutanen - Rouvari - Jansson

National Public Interface – preparing the pilot phase and launch of the service



The control of information technology is an essential part of the library sector's professional expertise and the basis for future planning. The University's Metsätalo offered suitable facilities for the ELAG's (European Library Automation Group) conferences, that are the leading information technology events in its field in Europe.

The public interface provides access to the electronic information resources and services of libraries, archives and museums.

[read more »](#)



Leena Vestala - Anne Luoto-Halvari

Structural development of higher education libraries

[read more »](#)

Päivi Jokitalo

National user survey at all Finnish libraries

Every two years, the National Library of Finland coordinates a customer survey for the users of research and special libraries, as well as public libraries.

Loida Garcia-Febo – Hermann Roesch

Freedom of expression

Thoughts on freedom of expression by two members of the FAIFE committee.

Timo Virtanen

Jean Sibelius Works and the Practical Consequencis of a Critical Edition

Esko Rahikainen

The gardens of science

HIGHLIGHTS

The use and production of electronic services increased dramatically

The Turku Academy's old dissertations

Four valuable letters by Sibelius

The future of newspapers

Partnership continues between the U.S. Embassy and the Helsinki University

Helsinki's most beautiful building

The Flag of Finland

BOOK REVIEW

Virgin milk and the Emperor's red powder

EXHIBITIONS

What could kill the book

Russian Satire Magazines

DIGITIZATION SEMINAR

International Digitization Seminar: With quality in mind

[Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

Kai Ekholm, National Librarian, Professor

Reinventing the libraries: we are ready



Recent years have been *anni horribili* for the book business. Sales have declined, CEOs have left their offices after trying to make their businesses more profitable, and even many professional writers and editors have been let go. At the same time, the media is trumpeting that the Kindle or iPad will demolish what's left of the book business in a few years.

Are we watching this safely on a glass veranda? Thankfully, scholarly publishing has been proactive when it comes to the digitization of main library services, and readers seem to be extremely satisfied. At the same time, we face many of the same dilemmas as the book sector - how can we serve our customers in an increasingly digitized world, and what should we do with the long tail we possess?

Switching our long tail to a major digital service will take a few decades. Digitizing only the core of our collections will require millions of euros. It is a pyramid, and the building will last for generations. National libraries have however made sound choices; we have built the foundation, digitizing the most used and fragile materials such as newspapers and ephemera, and heading to monographs. Most of us are proudly presenting our national treasures in *Europeana* and the *World Digital Library*.

But we all know this is not enough. Copyrights are not sufficiently supportive to put 20th century materials online. In 2017 Finland will celebrate its 100th anniversary as an independent state, and very few people realize we still cannot virtually serve them online with 20th century materials. I mentioned this to a group of Members of Parliament and they could not believe their ears. It is the very same laws they have passed that we have to follow.

I believe that the management of copyrights is even more important than solving our everyday needs for proper digitization budgets. Without the rights, there will be very little to do with the budgets.

On a more positive note, Finland now has a major project underway for a National Digital Library that will integrate all memory organizations – libraries, museums and archives – under a single user interface. It has a substantial 16 million euro budget, and the long-term preservation plan will increase that to an additional 40 million euros. At the same time we have obtained decent budgets for basic digitization tasks; the dilemma seems to be elsewhere.

Without effectively reinventing the use of copyrights the publishing business, the libraries, and ultimately the users, will all lose. The 20th century could still be considered the Digital Dark Age.

There are working solutions in Germany I admire; publishers have built their own digital library *libreka!* that freely distributes more than 120,000 digital books and sells more than 14,000 titles. Every national library can help publishers do this and turn the long tail to business. This is a major service people will use and possibly also pay for. In Germany there is also an interesting service called Subito. It began as a renegade project, but it is now accepted and controlled by publishers. It means that anyone can call a library, request a digital copy of few pages of a book, and pay a moderate fee. This is ideal for journalists, researchers and students, and a completely new source of revenue for publishers and authors. All the publishers have to do is sign the contract and the libraries do the rest for them. This puts libraries on the digital map in a totally new way.

This all might sound radical, but it is not. We are still focusing on our core business, taking very little advantage of the real possibilities offered by the Digital Age. We are painstakingly converting printed materials to digital formats, but we are still not getting digital materials directly from the publisher's workflow.

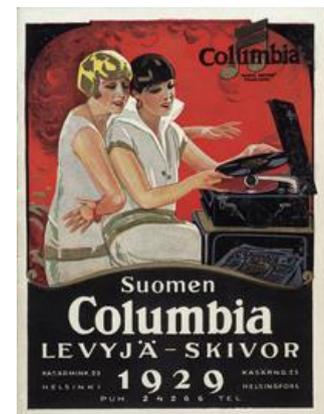
Libraries usually avoid strong statements. I think we should be more vocal in standing up for the rights of citizens and the services they deserve. In an uncertain publishing environment, libraries are more than ever the cathedrals of knowledge, as well as social and digital hubs for their nations.

We are ready to build the new book economy with publishers and copyright holders.

EDITORIAL



In 2009, the National Library of Finland's digitizing facility in Mikkelä digitized 1.6 million pages of materials, including many gems of graphic design. *Finnska Ångfartygs-Aktiebolaget* was founded in 1884 and its ships sailed to European ports and the Americas. Digitized small printing from the collection of the National Library of Finland.



The first Finnish phonograph record was released in 1901. The National Library of Finland is also the Finnish National Sound Archive. Digitized phonograph record from the Ephemera Collection.

We are ready.

P.S. Never underestimate the power of the librarian.

Photo by Heini Lehväslaiho

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[Home](#) | [▲ Top](#)

NettiAsema 4

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY of Finland Bulletin 2010

16 40

[Home](#)

Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, Ari Rouvari and Leena Jansson

The National Public Interface – preparing the pilot phase and launch of the service

The National Digital Library

The Ministry of Education and Culture launched the National Digital Library project in the summer of 2008. The aim is to improve the availability and usability of the electronic materials of libraries, archives and museums, as well as develop a long-term preservation solution for the materials (<http://www.kdk2011.fi/en/information-on-the-project>).

The National Digital Library project is a part of the development of national electronic services and infrastructures. It is one of the public administration projects defined in the Ubiquitous Information Society action plan implementing the Government Resolution on the Objectives of the National Information Society Policy 2007–2011.

The project aims at improving the prerequisites for access to information, learning and research, as well as the creation of new opportunities for art and creative activities. Improving access to the materials ensures that information about our culture and history will be actively used.

Moreover, the project aims at improving the productivity of the participating organizations; joint solutions reduce the overlapping costs of the digitization, management, and distribution of electronic materials, freeing up resources for other tasks and consequently making more effective use of public funds.

At the same time, the practical benefits gained from the creation and maintenance of library, archive and museum information resources will proliferate as the materials form a common, user-friendly national entity. The aim of digitization and the improved availability of digital materials is to achieve the positive social impacts facilitated by the use and reuse of digitized content.

“The openness and free accessibility to library institutions are valuable advantages in the modern world. With the help of free-of-charge libraries, society achieves something that would never be possible with billable services: large user volumes, the extensive proliferation of information in all directions radiating to every corner of society. And to the reach of those who never find their way to a library.”

Jari Paavonheimo
Kirjastolehti 1/2010



It has already been possible to admire paintings on the Library's computers for twenty years. Progress has been made; in a demonstration event held in the early years, the downloading of Leonardo da Vinci's fresco The Last Supper took about 20 minutes. The painting appearing on the wall of the Ateneum Art Museum in the partners' "When did you last meet" advertisement is Ferdinand von Wright's The Fighting Capercaillies, that was, thanks to numerous reproductions, the most popular painting in Finnish homes. The image can be found on the art museum's website, and will eventually be accessible from libraries, museums and archives through the public interface.

Photo by Esko Rahikainen

National Public Interface

The public interface provides access to the electronic information resources and services of libraries, archives and museums. The scope of the procurement is to find software for implementing a

web-based public interface as the primary access point to the electronic resources of libraries, museums, archives and other information suppliers.

This front end system utilizes metadata from back end systems. The system should also provide an integrated interface to the back end systems' services. These systems include library systems, archival systems, museum collection management systems, long-term preservation systems, and a metasearch service (Fig.1).

The National Library is responsible for procuring the public interface software, coordinating the pilot phase of the project, as well as for permanently maintaining the service for libraries, archives, and museums.

The decision concerning the software will be rendered in June 2010, and the pilot phase, also part of the procurement, will begin in August 2010.

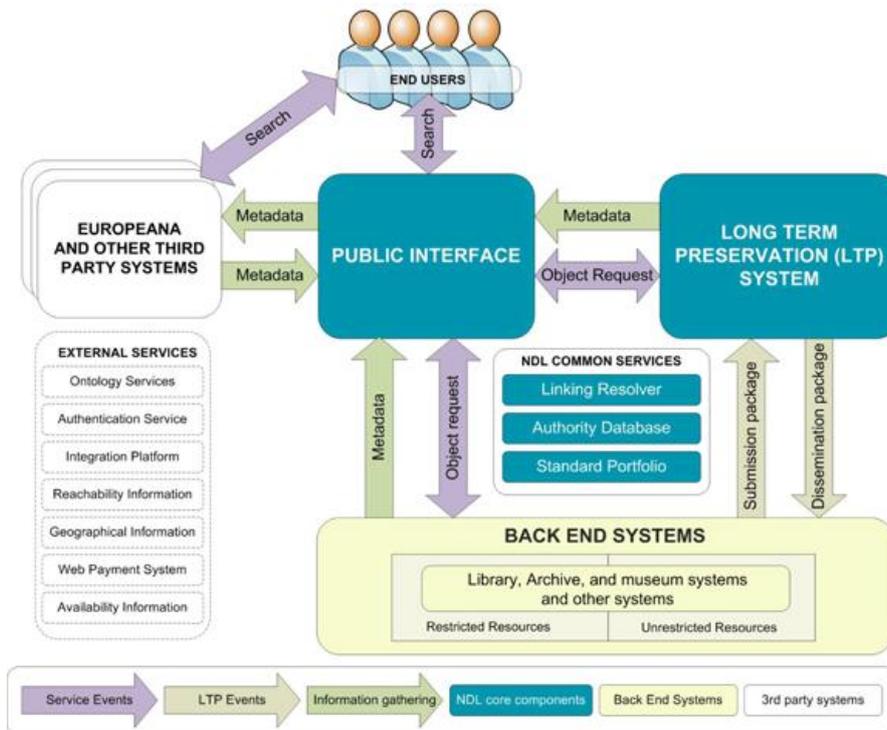


Figure 1: Enterprise architecture of the National Digital Library

Working together in the network of libraries, archives and museums to develop the service

The Public Interface project covers libraries, archives and museums in Finland, a total of approximately 600 organizations. One of the crucial issues in the project has been the intent to formulate a common vision of the service. Many methods have been used to achieve this aim, the most effective and practical of which are:

- the development of functional and technical requirements in a working group consisting of specialists from each sector advising the network regarding the draft version,
- the planning and running the pilot project with libraries, archives and museums.

Pilot phase of the Public Interface project

The taking into use of the selected public interface software will begin 6 months during the pilot phase in the autumn of 2010. The objective of the pilot phase will be to clarify the functionality of the selected software and its applicability to the stated goals. The procurement decision can be cancelled if the software fails to comply with the functionality described in the system supplier's offer.

A representative sample of museums, archives and libraries have been selected for the pilot organization, which consists of the National Library of Finland, the National Archives of Finland, the National Board of Antiquities, the University of Jyväskylä's library, the Helsinki City Library, the Turku Regional Library, the LUSTO Finnish Forest museum, the Tuusula Museum's art museum department, and the Finnish National Gallery's Muusa service. The participants' materials and service entities form an excellent sample of the operational sector. The responsibilities shared jointly between the pilot organization and the National Library will be agreed upon in writing.

In the project, the main functionality of the public interface software, particularly the compatibility between the public interface software and back end systems, will be tested. The pilot phase will also be used to ascertain the hardware requirements of the public interface software's production stage, as well as the applicability of the software to the hardware environment of the CSC, the organization maintaining the servers. During the pilot phase, the division of labor between the National Library's Service Unit and the participating organizations will be clarified, facilitating the

estimates of the amount of work necessary to maintain the system.

Pilot phase:

- Construction of interfaces between the public interface and back end systems
- Harvesting of metadata from back end systems to public interface
- Reception of diversified metadata
- Metadata normalization
- Searches' functionality
- Organization and presentation of search results
- Functionality of public interface
- Functionality of public interface's customization
- Functionality of control interface
 - Testing of other services' integration
 - libraries' self-service functions (for example loans, renewals, availability, distance service)
 - museums' image and other orders (shopping cart)
 - archive institutions' materials
- electronic payments
- Authentication
- Integration of multisearch
- Utilization of outsourced services

The pilot phase will conclude with an evaluation to determine how well the system implements the functions and services detailed in the performance specification. The pilot will help clarify the kinds of expertise required for, on one hand, concentrated maintenance, and on the other hand, the participating organizations. This will also facilitate assessments of the necessary workloads, hardware capacities, and training needs.

During the pilot phase, a usability survey will be initialized to ensure a customer-driven implementation of the public interface. A usability researcher recruited for this purpose will evaluate the situation and present recommendations during the pilot phase. Usability testing will cover the actual public interface as well as the control interface. What is most important is that the pilot is implemented according to the principles of user-oriented design with respect to the entire system's operational objectives and users' needs. The formulation of questions, as well as the research plan, will be prepared in close cooperation with the pilot's implementers. A user survey will also be conducted for the pilot, based on which the objectives for the properties of the final user interface will be set, and any possibly required development work will be resourced.

With respect to the usability survey's focus on the system's localization to Finnish culture, as well as its tailorability to the special needs of all libraries, museums and archives, a commercial product will be procured as the public interface software for the project.

Piloting at the National Library

In the piloting of the public interface, the goal of the National Library will be to determine if the public interface will be capable of adequately presenting its own materials, as well as whether it will consequently facilitate the accessibility of digitized materials.

A significant number of the National Library's customers are academic researchers, university teachers and universities' post-graduate students; of the academic disciplines, many represent the humanities and political science fields. Besides researchers and students, various sectors' hobbyists, magazine and book editors, the mass media, cultural institutions and genealogical researchers also seek information from the collections. The public interface is an essential part of the National Library's Digital Library that will be primarily a scientific library serving research.

Nowadays, when searching for information, a researcher has to use several services; to be able to select the right service, he or she must know which organization is producing the information. With the public interface, the intent will be to enable the user to obtain the needed information through a single interface regardless of which organization has generated the data.

The National Library has announced the test materials for the National Digital Library's public interface: the Fennica and Viola databases, digitized materials from the Historical Newspaper Library and Raita database, as well as the DigiTool user environment for digitized monographs. The test materials include reference databases and digitized materials. Various types of materials have been selected as metadata for the pilot project. In the national databases Fennica and Viola, the descriptive metadata is in MARC format. Viola also contains sub-areas. In the Historical Newspaper Library, there is no metadata; a full-text index for the newspapers' content has been created through OCR processing.

The first pilot phase will specify which of the organization's materials will be taken from the reference databases to the public interface's indices, what information will be used in searches, and what will be shown in search results. The piloting will continue with the testing of the searches' functionality, the libraries' self-service functions (reservations, renewals), and the customization of the public interface. The National Library's testing materials do not include materials in which customers' self-service functions would be in use. Among the pilot organizations however, it has been agreed that they can also test each other's materials, thus also enabling the National Library to assess the functionality of reservations and loan renewals in the public interface. The integration of existing services with the public interface will be a formidable task. It will be interesting to see if the use of the various organizations' services through the public interface generates a pressure to harmonize practices.

In the National Library's digitization processes, digitized materials will also be structured to a fairly high degree, for example to the article level of magazines. For customers to be able to benefit from this structural work, a search in the public interface will also have to be targeted at this structured

metadata, not only bibliographical reference information.

Also being tested in the pilot project are the ways in which the public interface can be integrated in the Library's website, researchers' electronic desktops, social networking services, and other environments. Information retrieval services can thus be provided where there are already users. Through the public interface it will be possible to gain new customers, particularly younger users for whom electronic distribution routes are becoming increasingly significant.

During the pilot phase, the types of skills and work input required to maintain the public interface at libraries will also be clarified.

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[Home](#) | [▲ Top](#)

NettiAsema 4

Leena Vestala
Anne Luoto-Halvari

Structural development of higher education libraries

General background of structural development of higher education

Finnish society is experiencing many changes. Globalisation of companies, restructuring in trade and industry and changes in population structure are big challenges. The markedly large age group born after the Second World War is retiring now or in the coming years, and the younger age groups are much smaller. That is why structural development in the state administration – in ministries, civil service departments, higher education institutions and research institutions – is essential.

The aim of the structural development of higher education is to respond to the above-mentioned challenges and other changes in the operational environment, and to strengthen the impact and quality of education and research. In accordance with this development of higher education, universities and polytechnics are being enhanced into internationally competitive entities capable of responding flexibly to national and regional needs. Quality and international competitiveness are important. In practice structural development can also mean bigger common entities and units.

One big change in the Finnish university world is the new Universities Act, which came into force 1 January 2010. The university reform can also be seen as a part of the structural development of the higher education system. Under the new Universities Act, Finnish universities became independent corporations under public law (most universities) or foundations under private law (two universities). Along with the new act, the autonomy of the universities was strengthened: universities now have an independent legal status. The reform also reduces the steering of universities by state administration.



Alvar Aalto, who designed the Helsinki University of Technology at Otaniemi in Espoo, is one of the most internationally renowned Finnish architects. The new university complex has been named in his honor.

Photo by Wikipedia.



The Aalto University of Science and Technology that began its operations in 2010 is formed from three polytechnics: Helsinki School of Economics, the University of Art and Design Helsinki, and the University of Technology, whose library's reading room is shown here.

Photo by Aune Kontkanen.

Structural development of higher education libraries: committee appointed by ministry

University and polytechnic libraries are a key infrastructure in teaching and research. When the Universities Act was under construction and the structural development of higher education had begun, it was clear that the operational quality of higher education libraries had to be assured.

"As the information and communications environment is increasingly adopting electronic processes, the role of the library as a service producer is changing at a rapid pace. Changes in university legislation and higher education structures entail open-minded cooperation and development", stated the Ministry of Education when appointing a committee on the higher education libraries.

The project began in March 2008. The Ministry appointed a working group of four specialists, who represented university libraries, polytechnic libraries, the National Library and the national Repository Library. It was this group who wrote the memorandum. The Ministry also appointed a steering group for a project chaired by Director Leena Vestala from the Ministry of Education.

The task of the working group was to outline a reorganisation of the libraries in the reformed higher

education system, so that the mergers and cooperation agreements between the higher education institutions would be taken into account as a reduction in the number of libraries and as intensified cooperation. One task was to investigate changes resulting from the new Universities Act and their impact on legislation, financing and other procedures related to library operations with a view to safeguarding the service capacity of the libraries.

Another aim of the project was to explore means of cutting maintenance and other library costs by strengthening the status of the National Library as a producer of centralised services, to study the impact of the structural development of higher education libraries on the Repository Library and to explore possibilities of stepping up cooperation between the National Library and the National Repository Library. The project was to take into account the opportunities for higher education libraries to collaborate with research institute libraries and the municipal library network.

Working groups vision 2020: digital service network

The working group's memorandum *Teaching and research environment 2020 – university and polytechnic libraries into a digital service network* was published in September 2009. The working group first outlined a vision for 2020. According to that vision, *"Finnish higher education students, teachers and researchers will have access to an international digital operating environment and skills in its use. Library services will be customer-driven and produced in a network in which the Finnish higher education libraries, the National Library (as a producer of centralised services) and international cooperation partners are active operators. A service unit composed of the National Library and the Repository Library will produce centralised services to the libraries. The task of higher education libraries will be to provide services in support of teaching and research in the owner organisation and to compile a collection to this end. The service unit of the library network produces centralised digital library services and collection storage services at the national level. International cooperation is a significant part of the library operations."*

This means that in the future a significant amount of data and published materials needed for teaching and research will be or should be produced in digital format. The majority of scientific publications will be available in electronic format either under licence or through Open Access publication, and e-books are used routinely in teaching and research. In the coming years printed material will be digitised to a large extent by the international academic community, and obstacles to the use of digitised materials will be removed by means of revised copyright legislation and flexible licensing practices. Research data will be a pivotal component of the researcher's desktop services. The importance of digital material management systems will continue to grow. The long-term storage of the materials will advance and together with retrieval services will constitute an essential part of the national infrastructure. The above-mentioned are only a part of the working group's vision. The working group made numerous recommendations concerning the development of higher education libraries and their cooperation, as well as the safeguarding of the financial and administrative status of higher education libraries and access to information and knowledge materials.

All these challenges mean that we have much to do in the near future. The successful development of the library sector very much depends on the close collaboration between all the relevant actors in the various library sectors, as well as between the users of the library services.

The working group recommended that the centralised services provided by the National Library should be strengthened, and the library should develop products to serve the core mission of the higher education institutions. According to the memorandum the National Library and the Repository Library could form a service unit in the future, and in that way lower the facilities' costs by offering collection storage services. This would also safeguard the availability of less frequently used material of great research relevance. These two libraries could form an expertise cluster in digital services and printed material management, which would collaborate with national and international partners. The principles governing the transfer of materials would be agreed by the libraries collectively.

Many recommendations are directed to the Ministry of Education and Culture. These include the financing and steering of libraries, especially the National Library, and recommendations concerning the appraisal of copyright legislation and the Act on Legal Deposit of Cultural Materials.

Current and subsequent steps to realizing vision 2020

Evaluation of the National Library

An important action on the Finnish library front is an international evaluation of the National Library. In spring 2010 the Ministry of Education and Culture set up an International Evaluation Panel with three panelists to evaluate the National Library of Finland during 2010. The evaluation report will be published in winter 2011.

National Digital Library of Finland

The National Digital Library project was started in 2008 by the Ministry of Education. The aims of the National Digital Library project are the improvement of availability and usability of the key national information resources of libraries, archives and museums in the information networks, and the development of solutions for the long-term preservation of the digital cultural heritage.

The project is developing and adopting a public interface for information retrieval of the key digital information resources and network services of libraries, archives and museums. The National Library has had – and will have – an important role in developing this public interface. The National Digital Library project will also produce a report on long-term preservation solutions for the cultural heritage. It will also increase the digitisation and digital availability of information concerning culture and the cultural heritage, as well as information and competence relating to long-term preservation.

Ministry of Education and Culture in Finland
Division for Higher Education and Science
Director Leena Vestala
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[Home](#) | [▲ Top](#)

NettiAsema 4

Dorrit Gustafsson

The National Library of Finland's international assessment

This year, the National Library of Finland joined a select group of European memory organizations whose operational development is being supported by international assessments.

Within the National Library of Finland there are great expectations concerning the assessment, and preparations have also been made. The Ministry of Education and Culture is guiding the assessment, with Wim van Drimmelen heading the panel. The report will be completed in early 2011.

A service institution of the future that values culture and history

The National Library is Finland's largest and oldest scientific library. It was founded in 1640 as part of the Turku Academy. The National Library of Finland is responsible for the accumulation, description and preservation of the national published heritage, as well as its availability for use.

In particular, the Library provides unique source materials for research in the humanities and social sciences. The Library's collections have been designated as a national research infrastructure, and they also depict the history of Finnish science.

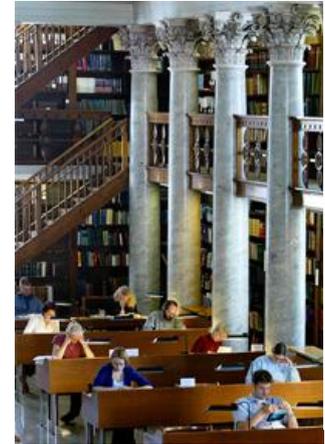
Besides functioning as a center of development for the Finnish library sector's nationwide services, the National Library promotes domestic and international cooperation. The National Library of Finland is also a vital cultural institution that engages in research, exhibition and publishing activities based on its collections.

The Library's tasks as a service unit have continuously increased to keep pace with the evolution of the Information Society. In particular, the change has strengthened the Library's task as a producer of common basic services, such as library systems and the acquisition of digital materials, for the entire library sector.

As a result of the changes resulting from the new University Act and University Statute that went into effect on 1 August 2006, the Library's sphere of activities expanded. Two working groups established by the Ministry of Education and Culture prepared the changes:

Kansalliskirjastotyöryhmä 2002 muistio appeared in early 2003 and *Kansalliskirjastotyöryhmä 2002 seurantaryhmän muistio* in 2006, in which the National Library of Finland's services in the library field were specified.

In connection with the expanded field of activities, it was agreed that the National Library of Finland's operations and prerequisites will be assessed within the next few years.



Far from the hustle and bustle. Researchers and students concentrating on their work in the National Library of Finland's reading rooms.

In the end, how little luck a person needs when there isn't any luck, and how much more is needed when he has attained it.

Konstantin Paustovski



Researchers can also make discoveries and obtain ideas from the National Library of Finland's exhibitions, but for the general public, the exhibitions are an excellent way to present the Library's collections. Photo from the opening of the What Could Kill the Book? exhibition in May 2010. The

music of the kantele ensemble reminded the attendees that the National Library of Finland is also Finland's most significant repository of musical materials.

Photo by Ari Aalto

Changes in the operational environment

The rapidity of societal change makes international assessments challenging, but fascinating. The development of the Finnish university and scientific sectors explained in this publication has been implemented through the renewal of the new University Act, which went into effect 1 January 2010.

Among its ramifications, the universities have become independent institutions subject to public law, or foundations compliant with the Foundations Act. The intent of the renewal is to strengthen the universities' abilities to confront the challenges posed by the economy, an ageing population, skills and internationalization. In practice, the National Library of Finland's tasks under the new University Act are the same as previously. The most pressing current challenges are digitalization and the development of digital services.

Concurrent with the university restructuring, a working group set up by the Ministry of Education and Culture convened to consider the structural development of polytechnic libraries. In the summer of 2009, the group decided to present a focused division of responsibilities in which the libraries are responsible for local services, while all of the library network's common services would be concentrated at the National Library of Finland.

The Ministry of Education and Culture has established the National Digital Library project whose objective is the improvement of the availability and usability of libraries', museums' and archives' electronic materials and services, as well as the development of these materials' long-term preservation solutions. The National Library of Finland is playing a key role in the construction of the National Digital Library's public interface among the countries' libraries, museums and archives.

The National Digital Library is also tied to the development of state-level architectures, and is also participating in the working group handling that task. The National Digital Library project is a part of the development of national electronic services and infrastructures that is being implemented according to the Government Resolution on the Objectives of the National Information Society Policy 2007–2011 (also described elsewhere in this publication).

The future of the National Library of Finland is seen as a digital opportunity in which integrated digitized cultural heritage and content services, relying on a common architecture, will be effectively organized, distributed and exchanged globally. Here as well, libraries are in a key position.

Responding to the challenges of the future requires a strong vision, defined state of determination, and strategic guidance; their formulation can be supported with high-quality international assessments.

Implementation of international assessment

In late 2009, the Ministry of Education and Culture set up a steering group to oversee the assessment process. Director *Leena Vestala* from the Ministry is the Chair of the steering group, whose other members are Director *Kai Ekholm* from the National Library of Finland, Vice-Rector *Ulla-Maija Forsberg* from the University of Helsinki, Chief Librarian *Eeva-Liisa Lehtonen* from the Aalto University, and Councillor of Education and Culture *Hannu Sulin* from the Ministry.

The international assessment will be carried out by a panel of foreign experts in 2010. The panel's term will conclude in February 2011. The panel consists of three independent representatives of proven competence, one of whom is a Finnish expert in university operations and the research field.

The Ministry of Education and Culture has appointed *Wim van Drimmelen*, former director of the National Library of the Netherlands, as the panel's Chair. The panel's other members are *Gunnar Sahlin*, Director of the National Library of Sweden, and *Eero Vuorio*, Director of Biocenter Finland. *Anne Lehto*, Director of the University of Tampere Library's Information Services Department, is the panel's expert secretary.

Additionally, the assessment panel may, as it deems fit, request opinions from international experts outside the panel in special cases.

A secretariat is assisting the local steering group. The members of the Secretariat are Director of Administration and Development *Dorrit Gustafsson* from the National Library of Finland, Senior Adviser *Anne Luoto-Halvari* from the Ministry of Education and Culture, and Head of Administration *Tiina Äärilä* from the Helsinki University Library.

Meeting with the steering group and the National Library of Finland's representatives in May, the panelists were given an extensive presentation of the Finnish library system. The panel will return to Finland in late October for a series of interviews.

What is the assessment panel evaluating?

The panel's demanding task is to evaluate the operations and prerequisites of one of Europe's most multidisciplinary national libraries with respect to its ability to meet future challenges. The task assigned to the assessment group has been defined as follows:

1) The assessment shall consider the quality and influence of the National Library of Finland's services and operations from the standpoints of the Information Society, scientific community,

Finnish library sector and other custom.

2) The assessment shall consider the National Library of Finland's guidance, financing arrangements and managerial workability as a part of the University of Helsinki, and as a profit-directed institution of the Ministry of Education and Culture managing national tasks.

3) In the assessments, particular attention will be paid to how satisfactorily the National Library of Finland's current task entity, strategic choices, and organization will be able to cope with the challenges posed by the preservation of the cultural heritage and its availability for use, as well as the digitized and networked data environments of the future. The assessment shall also express an opinion on the structural development of the polytechnics' libraries with respect the proposals made by the National Library's working group.

The assessors will generate proposals and recommendations for the National Library of Finland's future development, particularly with respect to the above-mentioned paragraphs 1-3. Proposals shall take into account changes in the operational environment such as the expectations associated with digitized services, as well as the structural and economic changes taking place in teaching, research, and public administration.



The creation of a library's image is highly dependent on the quality of its customer services. A willingness to be of service, expertise, language proficiency and friendliness are the key factors.

The Library's own preparations

International assessment is a privilege for the National Library of Finland. The Library will obtain valuable support for its Information Society services from the assessment during this demanding period of transition.

The Library appointed an internal preparatory work group that assembled, translated and furnished an approximately 400-page volume of background materials for the assessment panel that provides an overall view of the Library's operations, status, guidance and management. The background materials also include the University of Helsinki's and Ministry of Education and Culture's materials concerning the National Library of Finland.

The National Library of Finland has updated its process chart and website. One of the major efforts in the Library's preparations entailed a wide-ranging self-assessment that carried out for the first time with the CAF (Common Assessment Framework) quality tool.

Dorrit Gustafsson is the National Library of Finland's Director of Administration and Development

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

NettiAsema 4

Päivi Jokitalo

National user survey at all Finnish libraries

Every two years, the National Library of Finland coordinates a customer survey for the users of research and special libraries, as well as public libraries. The survey was conducted for the second time in March 2010.

The contents and the structure of the survey were developed in cooperation with the various library sectors; the National Library formulated the survey and outsourced its technical implementation. The National Library also helps market the survey to end-users by offering ready-made information materials and press releases and underwriting costs.

The contents and the structure of the survey were developed in cooperation with the various library sectors; the National Library formulated the survey and outsourced its technical implementation. The National Library also helps market the survey to end-users by offering ready-made information materials and press releases and underwriting costs.

Participating libraries receive a summary report for their own sector's results, as well as a separate report detailing the responses from their own users. All libraries can access the survey application, on the basis of which they can compare and analyze the results and produce reports based on the data.

The survey measures the:

- user habits of library users
- users' degree of satisfaction with collections, the library environment, physical facilities, electronic services
- impact of library services

Especially this year, the survey generated a considerable amount of publicity in the regional press and radio stations that were in contact with the National Library as well as local libraries. The National Library organized a prize drawing among all the respondents with books donated by five publishers.



The Helsinki City Library has begun the loaning of e-readers. Customer service clerk Markku Nuottanen presented the operations of the Sony Reader. The device's memory chip contains hundreds of books, and there are ample recharging possibilities.

More responses than previously

"Library visits may have been declining over the past five years". But usage is still massive and we should not underplay the importance of great stock and the expertise of staff in the central role libraries play in both our communities and our economy."

*Lynne Brindley (The British Library)
Libraries are crucial to our digital future
The Guardian 30 March 2010*

The second national mapping of customer satisfaction with libraries was implemented as an online questionnaire during March–April in all of Finland’s university and polytechnic libraries – except for the University of Turku’s and the Aalto University’s libraries – as well as in 25 special libraries and public libraries from the Åland Islands to Lapland.

The number of responses rose by 56% compared to the previous survey conducted in 2008. A total of 34,300 library customers – 39% from public libraries, 39% from polytechnic libraries, 18% from university libraries, and 4% from special libraries – participated in the survey.

Library premises still important

As before, the questionnaire mapped library services’ user habits as well as customer satisfaction regarding materials, electronic services, and the library as an environment for relaxation or study.

Almost all respondents visit libraries regularly. Of the public libraries’ respondents, 91% visit a library at least once a month. For the respondents in university and polytechnic libraries, the corresponding figure was 87%, and for the special libraries’ respondents 55%.

The number of customers using the libraries’ physical premises fell by only a few percentage points compared to the previous survey. A long trip and the use of network services were among the most typical reasons given for not visiting libraries in person. Correspondingly, most customers visit libraries to loan, return, reserve or renew materials.



The National Library has a viewing room for its online archives, and libraries have had listening rooms for years, but the producers of commercial communications services are now offering this possibility right in the heart of Helsinki. At the Elisa Studio, a customer can retire to an alcove to listen to music or the radio on a smartphone, search for image content for viewing, or listen to audio books. One’s preferred program can be reflected on the studio’s large screen.

Photo by Esko Rahikainen

Library services important for users

Almost all library services were considered fairly or extremely important. Customers in public, university and polytechnic libraries considered a shortage of materials to be the main service-related problem.

Municipal libraries’ respondents also called attention to the suitability of opening hours. For their part, the users of special libraries and scientific libraries expressed a preference for clearer instructions regarding the use of electronic materials.

The most important impact of library services in all research library sectors was that the libraries had made it easier for the users to find the materials for which they are searching. In the public library sector, over 80% of the users agreed that the library services had supported their cultural and literary interests. Around 80% of the university and polytechnic library users thought the library had helped to improve the quality of their work and studies, the same was true for 71% of the special library respondents.

Overall, library services were assessed as being fairly successful and slightly improved. On a scale of 1 to 5, the opinions of library services’ importance fell within a range of 4.6 – 4.7, compared to the range of 4.4 – 4.6 registered in an equivalent survey conducted two years ago.

*Päivi Jokitalo
Service Coordinator
The National Library of Finland*

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [▲ Top](#)

NettiAsema4

Loida Garcia-Febo and Hermann Roesch

Freedom of expression Thoughts on freedom of expression by two members of the FAIFE committee

In November 2009, IFLA's FAIFE (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) committee convened at the National Library of Finland in Helsinki. The Library's Director Kai Ekholm is the Chair of FAIFE. Because freedom of expression is not unambiguous as a concept, the editors of the National Library of Finland bulletin obtained opinions on the subject from two members of FAIFE's executive board: Loida Garcia-Febo and Hermann Roesch.

1. What is your work?

Loida Garcia-Febo, New York: I am the Secretary of FAIFE. I am also the Assistant Coordinator of the New Americans Program and Special Services of the Queens Library in New York. I oversee services for seniors, persons with disabilities, job seekers, the incarcerated, medically underserved populations, and immigrants. I am also the President of REFORMA, The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking in the USA. In July of 2010 I will be the Chair of the Intellectual Freedom Round Table of the American Library Association.

Hermann Roesch: I am working as a professor of library and information science at the Cologne University of Applied Sciences



In November 2009, IFLA's FAIFE (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) committee convened at the National Library of Finland in Helsinki. Loida Garcia-Febo third from left, Hermann Roesch on far right, the committee's Chair Kai Ekholm fourth from the right.

Photo by Kari Timonen

2. Why are you in FAIFE?

Loida Garcia-Febo: As stated in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights from the United Nations, I am deeply committed to promote access to information for all in the community: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

Hermann Roesch: Information ethics is an expression that covers most of FAIFE's activities. As I am teaching information ethics, FAIFE provides an excellent opportunity to support related efforts on a worldwide level.

3. What do you expect from FAIFE and what do you expect to contribute?

Loida Garcia-Febo: Intellectual freedom is the core of FAIFE and librarianship and as such, I expect that the committee will continue to promote intellectual freedom as the right of every person. I believe we have the right to freely express our points of view and opinions. I will continue to contribute towards this goal in every way I can. During the past few years, I've participated in creating curricula and conducted workshops about the right to access information on the Internet in many countries, including Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru and the Philippines.

"Again we notice how important it is to listen; this time to those with those with whom we may disagree entirely."

Richard Holloway

The state is not a disconnected factor beyond us; it is the major factor uniting our wills.

Maria Jotuni

I've also participated in FAIFE's international meetings to strategize about effective ways of promoting intellectual freedom. I am set to continue working with IFLA and FAIFE towards our goals. To quote FAIFE Past Chair, Paul Sturges, "By promoting intellectual freedom, library and information professionals, in alliance with civil society organizations, serve not only the range of basic human needs, but the broader requirements of humanity." From his talk during a workshop in Mexico City, Why Intellectual Freedom Matters.

Hermann Roesch: In an information society and for librarians and information specialists in particular, freedom of access to information, freedom of expression and information ethics in general are core topics. Even in democratic countries, it remains a permanent task to discourage any attempts to violate or weaken these fundamental rights. FAIFE provides an excellent opportunity to support this struggle on a worldwide level. Beyond that it has to be FAIFE's mission to spread and popularize the idea of freedom of expression, freedom of access to information, and to in principle encourage the fight against censorship. It is FAIFE's mission to monitor, register and if necessary protest against violations of the above-named rights. Personally I would like to support FAIFE's efforts to draft an international code of ethics for librarians and other information professionals.



Future researchers or businessmen? As a child rearer and creator of a set of values, the online world is captivating and entertaining, but also frightening and a source of false models and goals. Freedom of expression is often cited, and quantity often displaces quality. "An insane amount of music for the price of a call. "Download 'em all", an advertisement in a shopping center says to the children shown.

Photo by Esko Rahikainen

4. How would you personally define freedom of speech?

Loida Garcia-Febo: In my words and simply put, is the liberty of every human being to express opinions and views. It is the basis of democracy.

Hermann Roesch: Freedom of speech is one of the core preconditions of democracy. Without freedom of speech the struggle of ideas is impossible. Criticism, improvement and progress strongly rely on freedom of speech. This is why freedom of speech has to be guaranteed by law. Nevertheless, there are other fundamental rights, for example protection from insult, libel and slander that limit freedom of speech in certain cases.

5. How often is free speech invoked, even when it is a question of aggravating product advertising or journalism?

Loida Garcia-Febo: This is an interesting question involving two different issues, advertising and journalism. I don't think that FAIFE has covered these before. A private company can have an ethics policy according to what they sell and have the right to follow it through. For example, a private-owned newspaper can develop its own policy on ethics in journalism. The scenario is different for public and/or taxpayer funded organizations that have to follow county, state or federal regulations.

But while libraries may avoid making statements in this area, I could say that IFLA addresses this type of issue through its Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM). Regarding the CLM's scope, its members work with copyright and intellectual property concerns which is, I believe, a good way to start looking into the matters posed by your question. Some of these concerns would include disputed claims of ownership of library materials, subscription and license agreements, as well as open source software. Those are basically the most common areas addressed by librarians/library associations regarding the freedom to sell as I understand it. As you can see, there is no simple answer. This said, it would be extremely interesting to explore these topics using a framework based on the freedom of expression.

Hermann Roesch: Of course companies and distributors need facilities to provide information about their products. Consumers need reliable information about commodities and services before they decide what to buy. There is no reason to oppose advertising in principle. In actuality, however, we find flagrantly aggressive and impertinent types of advertising that disregard privacy and data protection. And again the legal system has to find an acceptable balance. It seems there is a need to add a kind of "fair advertising law" to the existing "fair trade law".

Regarding journalism, we have to state that open societies need investigative journalism.

Journalism and mass media (as well as libraries of course) play a key role in democratic societies. They broadcast information and enable citizens to control political authorities and governments. But again, even journalists have to respect the limitations of privacy and data protection. They are not allowed to slander just anyone, and individuals as well as corporate bodies must have an appropriate opportunity to defend themselves against journalists and the mass media if they feel their rights have been violated.

6. If preventive censorship is undesirable, how would you limit the freedom of speech and the freedom to publish if they are in conflict with children's rights?

Loida Garcia-Febo: Limitation of freedom of speech is not a useful term at all. In fact, it can be very problematic and since we don't need to cause more confusion in the world, I'd suggest we don't use it either. What I can tell you is that in the USA where I live, libraries receiving federal funds to provide services must install filters on their computers used by children. That's part of the law, and the libraries comply. Filters are however ineffective; they can block vital information because they use a programmed list of terms that blocks anything and everything including those particular terms. In my opinion parents should educate their children about the different types of information available on the Internet. Librarians can also help parents educate themselves and their children.

Hermann Roesch: Of course there is no simple answer to this question. Freedom of expression, for example with respect to artists, may in some cases conflict with children's rights. Legal and social practice has to define and redefine periodically a balance between optimal freedom and adequate protection.

7. What are FAIFE's possibilities to influence the adoption of the freedom of speech in countries where the expression and publication of opinion can mean imprisonment or even the threat of death?

Loida Garcia-Febo: In my workshops, I encourage librarians to consider the laws and regulation of their countries and their institutions when developing information access policies. Yes, we do encourage librarians to advocate access to information, promote the open and free flow of information, uphold user privacy, and resist censorship. But we also ask them to balance all factors while taking their country's laws into consideration. The last thing we neither need nor want is for library workers to put their lives or jobs in jeopardy.

This said, librarians in many countries, for example Nicaragua, have joined forces with local library associations to promote access to information, and have successfully worked with local governments and elected officials on information access legislation.

Hermann Roesch: On one hand, FAIFE doesn't have the power to force any country to provide freedom of access to information and freedom of expression. But on the other hand, FAIFE can monitor and register violations and spread relevant information. There are important allies in this struggle, including such organizations as Amnesty International.

Questions by Kai Ekholm and Esko Rahikainen

The interview has also been published in the National Library of Finland's Finnish-language magazine.

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [▲ Top](#)

NettiAsema 4

Timo Virtanen

Jean Sibelius Works and the Practical Consequences of a Critical Edition

"Indeed the notes should be in order, but Sibelius himself was not at all accurate. [...] It would be absolutely important and justified to make new editions of Sibelius's works. But the job feels so impossible, and is such a difficult task, that I do not know who would do it and how."

Thus Paavo Berglund, one of the leading Finnish conductors and Sibelius specialists, expressed his concern about the "errors in the musical materials and problems in performance" of Sibelius's works in an interview in 1995 [1]. Berglund knew very well what he was talking about; as a conductor, he was intimately acquainted with Sibelius scores after editing three of Sibelius's symphonies and writing a study of the printed score and the manuscript of the Seventh Symphony [2]. Already in the following year, like an answer to Berglund's concern, two courageous and skilled scholars, Kari Kilpeläinen and Jukka Tiilikainen, "took the bull by the horns" and began editing Sibelius's challenging scores for the long-awaited complete critical edition of Sibelius's works. The work turned out to be demanding and difficult, but not however impossible. Under the direction of the senior musicologist and prominent Sibelius expert Professor Fabian Dahlström, the first Editor-in-Chief of the complete critical edition *Jean Sibelius Works* (JSW), the two first volumes of the project – containing the first opuses of solo songs with piano and the Second Symphony respectively – appeared in 1998 and 2000[3]. By the end of the fifteenth year of its activity (2010), the project will have published the seventeenth of the estimated 52-volume entity.

"The soul helps the body, and at certain moments raises it. It is the only bird that sustains its cage."

Victor Hugo

True friendship concentrates of the innermost workings of the soul, indifferent to the relationship between reputation and superficial power.

Vasili Grossman



Jean Sibelius conducting his work "Hymn of the Earth" at the opening of an industrial trade fair at Helsinki's Johannes Field on 26 June 1920. The only known photographs of Sibelius conducting an orchestra were taken at this event.

As Berglund's words imply, there was a clear need for a new edition from the standpoint of professional musicians. At least two circumstantial factors were present. First, there was the issue to which Berglund had referred, the problems – direct errors, various inaccuracies, ambiguities, and questionable details – in the scores and parts of many of Sibelius's works. This was already a well-known fact among conductors, pianists, and other musicians, and these problems were also a major hindrance for the materials' usability in performances. To mention two examples representing different genres and the chronological ends of Sibelius's creative output, the *Kullervo* Symphony, Op. 7 (1892), although acknowledged as one of the cornerstones in Sibelius's oeuvre and Finnish music in general, was rarely performed, primarily because, for decades, it was only available as an inadequate handwritten score copy and orchestral parts; the number of errors in the materials is said to have been as high as two thousand. [4]Pianists, for their part, had been "scratching their heads" when confronted by the problems encountered with the posthumously published *Five Esquisses*, Op. 114. There were obvious errors in the printed version, but how to handle them? Because the original sources were rarely available for study and comparison, each musician had to find his or her own way out of the troubles [5]. And there have been many other similar cases in the Sibelius repertoire.

There were, however, also latent problems in well-known works. Presumably only very few pianists had "smelled a rat" in the strangely dissonant harmonies of the stormy *Risolto* passage of the famous *Granen* (*The Spruce*), Op. 75 No. 5. Originally, Sibelius himself tried to correct the "ugly errors" (as he described them in a letter to his publisher) which he had noticed in the first printing of the piece, but his revisions (probably explained to the publisher in a subsequent letter that has not survived) were obviously misunderstood when correcting the plate; consequently, new types of errors appeared in the second printing of the score. Sibelius either did not bother to check the

result, or made no attempt to have the piece published in a faultless form. Whatever the truth, *The Spruce*, a perennial Sibelius favorite among pianists and music lovers, has been played during the nearly 90 years after its publication thousands of times from corrupted prints, probably without most of the musicians and listeners even knowing about the “ugly errors.” Only after all the existing sources related to the piece were compiled and carefully studied – the autograph manuscript for the final piece is lost, but preliminary versions and a copy in a different hand for it have survived – the editor could ascertain the correct reading. After the publication of the JSW volume, the harmonies indeed sound different – still bold and stark – but consistent and most importantly, as intended by the composer. [6]

Secondly, gaining an acquaintance with certain Sibelius scores was extremely difficult; some works had never been published, while others had already been out of print for years. These cases even include works that had attained a wide interest among musicians and listeners. To cite one example, the orchestral ballade *Skogsrået* (Op. 15), was first performed for the first time after Sibelius’s death in 1996 in Lahti, and this “première” was a true sensation. The ballade was acknowledged as one of Sibelius’s most impressive tone poems, and it attracted the interest of many performers. However, neither the score nor the parts had been published before this “première”, and for ten years the work had to be performed either from makeshift manuscript materials, or orchestras had to copy the parts out for themselves. [7]

The JSW has already issued 25 previously unpublished works by Sibelius. These include small-scale works, such as songs and piano pieces, but also larger orchestral works, such as *Skogsrået*, and the early versions of *Spring Song* (under the title *Improvisation/Vårsång*) and *En saga* (Op. 9/1892). Many of these were already previously known and present in Dahlström’s Sibelius works catalogue (2003), but the scholarly work undertaken within the complete edition project has also resulted in new findings and the identification of previously unknown compositions, which also have been, or are going to be, published in the JSW volumes, either as edited scores or facsimiles. Certain of these finds have also been recorded for the BIS series of Sibelius complete works.

For certain works, the publisher Breitkopf & Härtel is producing separate conductor’s and study scores, as well as orchestral parts based on the JSW edition, and leases the orchestral materials to performers worldwide. In the future therefore, many works by Sibelius will be performed from materials based on the scholarly work carried out under the roof of the National Library of Finland. Already today, the *Kullervo* Symphony, the *First* and the *Second* Symphonies, the ballade *Skogsrået*, the tone poem *Luonnotar*, Op. 70, for soprano and orchestra, other orchestral songs, certain works for piano, such as the *Piano Sonata in F major*, Op. 12, and other opuses, are available for performers as scores and parts based on the critical edition.

As a concrete result of the complete critical edition, performances of Sibelius’s works have increased after the publication of the JSW volumes, and the practical scores and orchestral parts based on those volumes. Two examples: 1) after the publication of the JSW score in 2005, and the orchestral materials in 2006, the previously unpublished and thus rarely heard orchestral ballade *Skogsrået*, is clearly becoming part of the standard Sibelius repertoire: since 2006 it has been performed several times a year all over the world. 2) One of Sibelius’s central vocal works, *Luonnotar*, was for decades available only as a facsimile edition of a copyist’s handwritten score, and the orchestral parts were of poor quality. Probably for that reason it was seldom performed and recorded: during the seven decades after its first recording (1934), it was recorded seven times. An equal number of recordings have already been made during the seven years following the publication of the JSW edition (2003) and the new orchestral parts based on it (2006). [8]

A similar trend is also discernible in the field of Sibelius research. We can safely assert that Sibelius research is today more vital than ever, and this can be attributed to – at least partially – the JSW edition. Sibelius’s complete works for solo voice (both with piano and orchestra) were published in four volumes between 1998 and 2005. After the vocal output as a whole became easily available during the last few years, studies of that part of Sibelius’s oeuvre have increased significantly. At the upcoming Fifth International Jean Sibelius Conference, to be held in September 2010 at Oxford, five presentations (of around 30) will focus on Sibelius’s vocal works. It is self-evident that this would not have been possible without the JSW volumes that for the first time facilitate a comprehensive overview on Sibelius’s vocal output. [9] For years, the JSW has been a fruitful substrate and centre for Sibelius source studies, and it has become a generator and supporting resource for a broader field of studies on Sibelius and other Finnish composers.

Although the editorial work in the JSW project is carried out by scholars with professional training primarily in the fields of musicology and music theory, the practical dimensions of the edition, the editors’ own experiences as musicians, as well as close contacts with other musicians, conductors, instrumentalists, and singers, continue to be of critical importance. Adapting the title of a German anthology of essays on editing music, a critical edition is a “mediator between science and musical practice.” [10] Or, to quote Robert Pascall, the editor of the symphonies of Johannes Brahms, a complete edition with its various and immediate practical consequences represents “really useful musicology.” In the light of the experiences gained during the course of the JSW project, both of these characterizations are apposite and hold true. In the JSW, research and practice go symbiotically hand in hand: the scholarly editorial work serves musicians in practice, and musicians’ practical perspective serves the scholars working on the critical edition.

Timo Virtanen has worked since 2006 as the editor-in-chief in the complete critical edition of Jean Sibelius’s works (JSW). His editions of Sibelius’s First and Third Symphonies (JSW I/2 and I/4) were published in 2008 and 2009 respectively, and his edition of the two versions of Cassazione (JSW I/11) will be published in 2010.

[1] Valsta, Heikki 1995. “Paavo Berglund: Musiikissa pitää olla proteiinia!” *Rondo* 4/95, pp. 8–11.

[2] Berglund, Paavo 1970. *A Comparative Study of the Printed Score and the Manuscript of the Seventh Symphony of Sibelius*. Turku: Sibelius Museum (Åbo Akademi), 1970.

- [3] Tiilikainen, Jukka (ed.) 1998. Jean Sibelius Works, Series VIII Vol. 2; Works for Solo Voice (=JSW VIII/2). Kilpeläinen, Kari (ed.) 2000. Jean Sibelius Works, Series I Vol. 3; Symphony No. 2 (=JSW I/3). Both published in Wiesbaden (Germany) by Breitkopf & Härtel.
- [4] The critical edition of Kullervo (JSW I/1.1–4), edited by Glenda Dawn Goss and published in four volumes, appeared in 2005.
- [5] The JSW volume containing this opus (JSW V/3, edited by Anna Pulkkis) will be published in 2011.
- [6] The new edition of The Spruce appeared in 2008 in the second volume of piano works (JSW V/2, edited by Kari Kilpeläinen).
- [7] The score (JSW I/9, edited by Tuija Wicklund) and the orchestral parts of Skogsräet have been available since 2006.
- [8] Kilpeläinen, Kari and Virtanen, Timo (eds.) 2003. JSW VIII/1; Works for Solo Voice and Orchestra.
- [9] Currently, within the circle of Finnish music theorists and musicologists alone, at least six dissertations on Sibelius's music are in preparation, a remarkable number.
- [10] Lühning, Helga (ed.) 2002. Musikedition – Mittler zwischen Wissenschaft und musikalischer Praxis. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag.

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [▲ Top](#)

NettiAsema 4

Esko Rahikainen

The gardens of science

Although the millions monographs, periodicals and other materials stored in scientific libraries are an enormous pool of knowledge, they also pose a philosophical or existentialist dilemma. In April, I visited the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris, its old impressive reading room that on one hand represented – with its computers, state-of-the-art microfilm readers and young students – something vital, dynamic, purposeful, while on the other hand the interior ambience, with its reference library, structural details and furnishings, suggested something lost, beautiful and unknown. A time in which the passage of epochs was palpable, accentuated by the lampshades' green glass and tinted light, and 30 million items lived their own quiet lives in the library's storerooms.

Who reads these all?

Returning from my trip I wandered through the National Library of Finland's departments containing printed scientific journals. The selection of annual volumes is endless, ranging from the latest editions to those going back decades or even centuries. The same view – familiar but however commanding respect – confronts a visitor to the storage's book collections. Finland is at the periphery of Europe and I could not help thinking: who will read all this? And I concluded that an extremely small part of libraries' publications will be the subject of study in the coming decades. They are forgotten, and this will also happen to most of the digitized materials, but the Library never forgets. Books, articles, maps, recordings, manuscripts, and other items are catalogued, classified and appropriately stored. They are available to a customer now and in the future centuries, regardless of whether he or she decides to study the history of fire. In the early days, starting a fire was difficult, often impossible and efforts were made to keep fires going in different ways in different cultures, from one day and week to the next. But matches revolutionized everything, and someday someone will be searching the Ephemera Collection for information and advertisements about the long gone Mäntsälän Saaren match factory. Matches are no longer manufactured in Finland and the cigarette lighter would appear to be the last vestige recalling the operational principles of fire-steel and flintstone.

Another researcher will decide to write about the local history of the municipality of Suistamo, at which time seemingly "bone-dry" municipal accounts will once again be timely. According to the terms of a peace treaty, the municipality of Suistamo had to remain in an area occupied by the Soviet Union. Thanks to records preserved from the Inquisition, Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie was able to study the medieval French village of Montaillou, but in Finland, the path of the researcher generally runs into a dead end in the 1500s owing to a lack of information.

The titles on the bindings of books on storeroom shelves can be viewed as tombstones, or names on a columbarium, or a garden plant provoking curiosity, or a sleeping person that one wants to know better. As soon as the publication is opened, the author awakes like Sleeping Beauty and begins to speak; whether the author has died ages ago or is still alive is irrelevant. Often, an author is only a name to a reader – in this sense permanent honor can never be guaranteed – but the text itself, if it is competent and interesting, will be vital and timeless. In a certain sense it is eternal and yet common to all.

A time machine

A time machine has not been invented, but to wander among the shelves holding the National Library of Finland's three million works, ascending the steps of the book storages, is to take a trip in time far into history. Of course many of the same works are in other libraries around the world, but often completely forgotten. Many of these, in terms of their text and pictures, are extremely well done, fascinating and admirable representatives of their own scientific disciplines, for which we can thank now unknown contemporaries who left us long ago. In April, I visited the Père Lachaise and Montmartre cemeteries in Paris. Frederik Chopin died 150 years ago, but there was an abundance of flowers and a Polish flag at his grave. The composer lives, as does his music. The grave of Abelard and Heloise has been repaired. At the tombstone of Stendhal (Marie-Henry Beyle) there was a relief of the author, and I recalled *The Charterhouse of Parma*, *The Red and the Black*. At the grave of Alexandre Dumas the Younger I remembered *Camille*. As I sat on a bench near the black slab marking the grave of Francois Truffaut, I remembered the movies of bygone decades.

If the stones can talk thus, what would the National Library's collections say? Of course they remain silent, but we can give them a few chances to speak; we can take the reader to our garden of knowledge, where just this plant can burst open like a flower in the desert after a rare rainstorm.



Lesser crested shield fern
(*Aspidium cristatum*). J. E. Smith:
English Botany. London, 1809.

He almost felt that scents were the thoughts of plants.

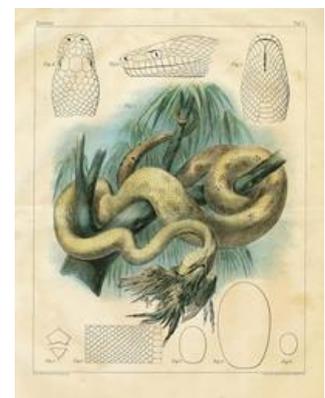
Harry Martinson

Thoughts can be purified by admiring the beauty of nature.

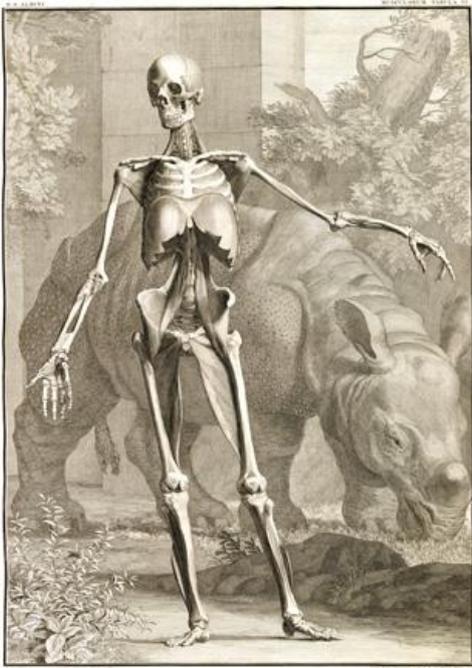
C. Jinarġadāsa

Agony is agony and pain is pain for all the living. No one has the right to define the hierarchy of suffering.

Pirjo Räsänen



A genuine rarity in zoological illustration was found in the National Library's Russica Collection – a snake that has attacked and swallowed a bird in the Philippines. Victor Lopez Seoane: Neue Boidengattung und Art von den Philippinen. Frankfurt a. M. 1881.



*Libraries can be for the most part equated with their collections. In the picture, medicine and art are represented in an exemplary fashion. Jan Wandelaar's artistic, modern, and humorous graphics for Bernardi Siegfried Albinus's anatomical work *Tabulae sceleti et musculorum corporis humani*. Ludguni Batavorum. Leiden, 1747.*

The catwalks of history and nature

The National Library of Finland's collection of foreign folios is a treasure trove of illustrated works covering history, archaeology, ethnology, medicine, botany and zoology.

Recently in a Helsinki magazine, there were photographs of the rare Java rhino, only 60 of which survive. The first depiction of a living rhino probably appeared in Jan Wandelaar's artistic drawings of the human anatomy done for Bernardi Siegfried Albinus's impressive work *Tabulae sceleti et musculorum corporis humani* (1747). Much the same could be said about the "breath of life" that P. J. Redouté brought to the previously old and roughly illustrated botanical works, and the way in which Wandelaar brought art and even humor to the scientific field of depicting the human anatomy.

Another example of the beauty of illustrations and colored lithographs in the scientific works of past times can be found in the Folio Collection, in a work where French explorers to the islands of the South Pacific documented the costumes of the local inhabitants. In the eyes of a western observer, the royal costume may appear foolish, but no more so than the more extravagant creations of Parisian fashion houses paraded along catwalks. This could give a Marimekko designer some ideas, and who knows? Perhaps the king received the suit fabric in connection with a state visit from the west.



*Naba-Léba, King of the Island of Solor, in his festive garb. Nicolas-Martin Petit's illustrations of folk costumes from Indonesia. C. A. Lesueur & N.-M. Petit: *Voyage de découvertes aux terres australes*. Atlas. Paris, 1800–1804.*



Industrial history in late 1700s Sweden. A typically laborious and dangerous day at the Norrmark iron mine. In winter, freezing ladders and darkness posed additional dangers at the open-cast mine. Swedish ore was also shipped to Finland for processing. Elias and J.F. Martin's elegant illustrations. Svenska vuer. S.I. 1782–1805.

Of the metals, iron has given its name to an entire historical epoch, the Iron Age, and mining activities, as well as the enrichment of ores, have formed the basis of many societies' wealth. The Finnish ironworks belonging to the Kingdom of Sweden also processed iron extracted from Swedish mines in their blast furnaces. Huge amounts of firewood were consumed. Of those illustrating this industrial field, the Swedish Martin brothers were entirely in a class of their own during the late 1700s. Particularly during the winter, the lives of miners were continuously at risk. Even during the 2000s, occasional coal mine disasters in Russia and China still continue to make the news.

Elegant illustrations can also be found works whose outward appearance could be considered extremely nondescript. One of these appears in Victor Lopez Seoane's *Neue Boidengattung und Art von den Philippinen*. Frankfurt a.M. 1881, belonging to the Library's Russica Collection. Appended is a superb picture of a snake that has ambushed a bird in a tree. The illustration is zoologically accurate, and particularly its portrayal of movement at such a dramatic moment also gives it artistic value.

According to C. Jinarajadasa, thoughts can be purified by admiring the beauty of nature. This is certainly true, but the need for taxonomy is characteristic of researchers. Elias Lönnrot, the creator of the Kalevala, Finland's national epic, often visited the Helsinki University library, nowadays the National Library of Finland, and loaned the entire set of J. E. Smith's 36-part *English Botany* when he was preparing a botanical glossary. A beautiful fern leaf, whose unknown designer must have been an artist, has been taken here to cleanse the soul. James Sowerby made and colored the drawings.

These early examples are only a peek at an immense garden of science and culture whose gates are always open at all libraries. Perhaps what one encounters when venturing into the garden is not one's past, but one's own future, because the exploration changes us as people, and as Buddha says "We are what we think".

*Esko Rahikainen
Librarian, Editor-in-Chief
The National Library of Finland*

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

NettiAsema4

Libraries rate the National Library as service center

Every two years, the National Library Network Services unit organizes a user questionnaire survey for its library customers. The aim of the survey is to chart the familiarity of library professionals with various centralized services and measure customer satisfaction. A development agenda for the following two years is drawn up on the basis of the survey results.

A regular user survey has many benefits. The results are comparable and an invaluable aid in evaluating the services. The repeated measuring of user satisfaction supports the development of services and processes, while data analyzed by library sector and the respondents' job task provides detailed information on the opinions and experiences of the different customer segments.

User satisfaction and importance of services in focus

The previous survey was carried out in 2008. A total of 664 responses were received, 293 from public libraries, 189 from university libraries, 120 from university of applied sciences libraries, and 47 from special libraries. [1] Most of the respondents worked in customer services, with a third in managerial positions.

The following issues were covered by the online questionnaire:

- How familiar are the customer libraries' staffs with the National Library's Network Services?
- How important are these services?
- How well has the National Library succeeded in providing these services to its customer libraries?
- Which information and communication channels do users prefer?
- How well have the National Library's service principles been implemented?
- How should the libraries' services, communications and training be developed?

The data showed that most services were considered either important or very important. [2] The expertise of the staff at National Library was appreciated; 87% considered the staff to be professionally skilled. An even larger percentage (91%) considered the services to be of good quality.

IN BRIEF



Walter Runeberg: History

Founded in 1640, the Turku Academy Library (nowadays the National Library of Finland) and its staff have survived wartime evacuations and the library's destruction by fire. Its professional and experienced staff is also ready to meet the challenges of the digital age.



Experts in their field. At the ELAG conference's Discovery Interfaces workshop, the characteristics of library systems' interfaces were compared. Shown are the workshop's participants. On left Markku Ojala from Kirjasto 10, and Ere Majjala, Bjarne Beckmann and Iina Peltonen from the National Library of Finland.

Photo by Jukka Pennanen

Improved user satisfaction

The latest user survey was carried out in March 2010. A total of 595 users from libraries took the survey, half of them from public libraries; 160 respondents came from university libraries, 79 from

libraries at universities of applied sciences, and 48 from special libraries.

As before, most of the respondents stated that the National Library staff are experts in their field (totally agree / agree: 72%), and the same applies to the statement on the quality of the services (71%) and their innovative development (61%).

According to the survey, the most often used service was Linda, the Union Catalogue of Finnish University Libraries, which is used daily or weekly by more than half of the respondents. The best known services were the Nelli information retrieval portal (96%), the cataloguing rules (90%) and the FinELib service unit and consortium for licensing electronic resources (89%).

The results will help guide the further development of the services. While many of the services still require refinements, the overall satisfaction with centralized services had improved from 2.9 (out of 4) two years ago to 3.

Päivi Jokitalo
Service Coordinator
The National Library of Finland

[1] The total number of man-years in public libraries was 3,536: 1,414 in university libraries and 463 in libraries at universities of applied sciences.

[2] On a scale from 1 to 4 where 1 = not at all important and 4=very important

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [▲ Top](#)

Nettiasema 4

"The Passion of Argument" In Memory of Professor Richard Stites

On August 2nd and 3rd, some forty scholars gathered in the National Library of Finland to honor the scholarly legacy of Professor Richard Stites, 1931-2010. The Washington-based historian had been a frequent visitor to Finland for over 30 years, and used the Slavonic Collection extensively in his groundbreaking historical research on Russian history and culture. He died in Helsinki on March 7th.

Organized by Professor Natalia Baschmakoff, the seminar was truly international, with scholars arriving from the US and the UK, continental Europe and Russia. The event was sponsored by The Competence Centre in Russian and Border Studies (EEWD), The University of Eastern Finland, The Aleksanteri Institute, and The Slavonic Collection of the National Library of Finland.

The seminar combined excellent scholarly presentations with personal reminiscences of Professor Stites, many by very close friends of his. Speakers included Professor Boris Gasparov of Columbia University, Professor Daniela Steila of Torino University, and Professor Simon Dixon of University College London. The topics ranged from ballet, to music, to contemporary cinema plus many aspects of historiography, all reflecting the broad range of Stites' research interests over his long career.

The seminar's title originated in a quote from Stite's last interview, in which he states memorably that "a historian must be an archeologist, a rabbi, a lawyer, and a poet... The historian, like any other writer, should compose, refine, and edit, not only with readers in mind but also in order to express the passion of an argument."

Although tinged with sadness at his recent loss, the seminar was animated by a spirit of lively discussion and humor – a true tribute to a man who was both a witty, charismatic lover of life, and a dedicated and inspiring scholar and teacher.

The seminar culminated in the unveiling of a plaque honoring the memory of Richard Stites in the Slavonic Collection of the National Library.

Brendan Humphreys

Researcher at Aleksanteri Institute, the Finnish Centre for Russian and Eastern European Studies.



The gathered international scholars who participated in the "The Passion of Argument" a seminar in memory of Professor Richard Stites, outside the National Library of Finland.

Photo by Esko Rahikainen

IN BRIEF



Professor Richard Stites

Photo by Irma Reijonen

The Radziwill library and archives

IN BRIEF

The Radziwill royal house's archives and the Nieswicz Palace library were approved for UNESCO's World Heritage List on 31 July 2009.

In 1829, the Helsinki University Library (now the National Library of Finland) received, as part of a book donation from the St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences, over 1,200 volumes that had belonged to the Polish-Lithuanian Radziwill dynasty's library at the Nieswicz Palace.

The National Library of Belarus undertook the initiative to have the Radziwill's library and archives placed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. The coordination of the project was entrusted to the Belarusian Research Centre for Electronic Records that assembled the information from the various sides of the Radziwill's dispersed cultural traditions. According to the information currently available, the Radziwill's literary cultural tradition accumulated over a period of 600 years has been distributed among ten different institutions: 1) The Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw (AGAD), 2) the National Historical Archives of Belarus in Minsk, 3) the Lithuanian State Historical Archives in Vilna, 4) the Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Kiev, 5) The National Academy of Sciences of Belarus's Central Scientific Library in Minsk, 6) The National Library of Belarus in Minsk, 7) the Presidential Library of the Republic of Belarus in Minsk, 8) the library of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg, 9) the Scientific Library of Moscow State University, and 10) the National Library of Finland in Helsinki.

The compilation of the Radziwill's archive collection began already during the 1400s, and a library was more systematically assembled in the 1570s at the family's main residence, the Nieswicz Palace. In connection with the first partitioning of Poland in 1772, the library of the Nieswicz Palace was, as ordered by Catherine II, transferred to the library of the Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg. In St. Petersburg, the Radziwill's collection was placed apart from the rest of the other Academy of Sciences library's collections as a separate entity catalogued by subject.

The library of the Finnish university in Turku had been destroyed in the Great Turku Fire of 1827. Consequently, the university was transferred to Helsinki, where the reconstruction of its library's collections began immediately, primarily through donations. The first in the group of donors was the St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences that decided to give the Helsinki library duplicates, as well as all of its judicial and theological literature. Included with the donation was the Radziwill collection's judicial and theological literature. According to a list drawn up in St. Petersburg, 1,247 volumes that had belonged to the Radziwill's were sent to Helsinki. The Radziwill's books are easily identified in the collections of the National Library of Finland (formerly the Helsinki University Library), because almost without exception, they contain the Radziwill's ex libris and coat of arms. On title pages, there is almost always the monogram of a family member or the inscription "*Inscriptus Catalogo Bibliothecae arcis Nesviziensis*". Currently, slightly less than 900 volumes belonging to the Radziwill's have been identified at the National Library of Finland; most of these materials are listed in the following catalogue:

Collections donated by the Academy of Sciences of St Petersburg to the Alexander University of Finland in 1829 : an annotated catalogue / compiled by Sirkka Havu and Irina Lebedeva Helsinki : Helsinki University Library, 1997 (Helsinki University Library Publication No. 61.)

Sirkka Havu
Special Librarian
The National Library of Finland

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)



Lithography and drawn journalism

Lithography is a lacquer printing method in which an image or text drawn on the flat surface of a lithographic stone is transferred to paper with a printing machine. The Prague-born author and printer Aloys Senefelder invented the method in 1798.

When a greasy chalk or ink is used to draw a picture on porous limestone, and the surface is then moistened with water, the greasy printing ink adheres only to the drawing on the surface of the stone, which when printed is reproduced on the paper. Ultimately, the method is based on the mutual repulsion of oil and water.

Lithography began to be used extensively in the early 1800s for the printing of non-fiction books' illustration supplements, art reproductions, posters and caricatures. At the same time, lithographic techniques proved their usefulness for the small printings – share certificates, bills or exchange, banknotes – required by business life. The speed of the printing method stamped the lithographs' artistic expression.

In his well-known *A Cultural History of the Modern Age*, Egon Friedell characterized how lithographs were "right from the beginning something improvised, in a moment cobbled, dialog-like, literary, while at the same time, as a result of its topicality and cheapness, something democratic; it was drawn journalism and expressed the fast-paced, incisive, materialistic spirit of its times as fully as a woodcut expressed the age of the Reformation and a copper engraving the spirit of the Rococo."



To avoid bankruptcy, the French government issued a huge bond load in 1920. Posters were also used to promote the campaign. The colored lithograph from Ambassador Maurice de Coppet's collection appeals to the nations of the world to save France.

A characteristic advantage of lithographs was that they enabled artists to easily replicate their distinctively personalized brushstrokes or chalk techniques. Initially, lithographs printed in black and white had to be hand-colored, but by the 1830s, multicolored lithographs were being produced.

The most elegant printed products might make use of as many as twenty lithographic stones to achieve a lithograph various color tints. As in other printing techniques various types of photography-based techniques, such a photolithography, began to be applied with increasing frequency in the lithography sector during the last half of the 1800s, and fast lithograph machines were developed for use.

IN BRIEF



"Frenchmen – save gas!" urges this poster from the First World War. Maurice de Coppet's collection. The National Library of Finland.



Parisian lithographic printing shop in the 1890s.

By the mid-1800s, travel accounts, as well as botanical, zoological and geographical atlases accompanied by sets of lithographic illustrations, became consumer goods for the emerging bourgeois art community; *Skandinaviska fiskar*, *Vyer af Helsingfors*, *Pittoresk resetur från Stockholm till Neapel*, *Voyage autour du monde* are typical examples of literature whose picturesque illustrations enchanted readers.

With the approach of the 1900s, posters printed with lithographic techniques had become a public art of the streets. Particularly the French poster artists, one of the most famous of whom was Henri Toulouse-Lautrec, refined lithographic expression to an exceptionally high level of sophistication by combining the sinuously curved ornamentation of the style with the inspirations gained from Japanese woodcut art.

With their clear outlines and color surfaces, dramatic shadowing and free-flowing typefaces, the posters were well suited to the advertisement of goods as well as various types of events and functions. During the First World War, they were utilized all over Europe, also in the service of war propaganda. For many decades into the 1900s, lithographic techniques were used in the manufacturing of large-sized colored printings such as advertising placards and teaching panels. Nowadays, traditional lithography remains the sole province of graphic artists.

Jaakko Salemaa
Assistant Librarian, Research Library

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) [▲ Top](#)

NettiAsema4

Home

Use and production of electronic services increasing dramatically

In 2009, the popularity of the electronic services provided by the National Library of Finland continued to grow.

The use of digitized materials increased from 4.8 million downloaded pages in 2008 to 6.5 million in 2009 (35% increase). A total of 16.3 million articles were downloaded from the FinElib National Electronic Library, a 50% increase on the previous year.

The National Library has been unflagging in its efforts to develop electronic services. In 2009 approximately 1.6 million new digitized pages were produced for customer use, compared to 500,000 pages corresponding to the equivalent period for the previous year.

This dramatic growth is largely explained by the government subsidy granted to the National Library (in the national supplementary budget) through the Ministry of Education, which enabled the National Digitization Centre in Mikkeli to hire 21 additional employees for six months.

HIGHLIGHTS



Porcelain dishes from the Arabia factory. Digitized industrial objects from the National Library of Finland's collection.

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

Home | Top

The Turku Academy's old dissertations

The National Library of Finland has digitized an extensive collection of Latin- and Swedish-language doctoral dissertations completed at the Turku Academy during the period 1642–1828. The overall entity can be accessed freely from the Doria database containing universities' digitized collections.

The doctoral dissertation has been digitized with funds obtained from the *Ikka and Ulla Paatero Foundation*, one of the University of Helsinki's funds. At this stage the overall entity consists of 1,778 dissertations – approximately 45,000 pages – completed at the Turku Academy. It covers about 40% of the doctoral dissertations published in Finland before the year 1828. The intent will be to continue the digitization in the near future.

Most of the dissertations were written in Latin, the *lingua franca* of science. The use of the Swedish language however became more prevalent after the mid-1700s.

See also: <https://oa.doria.fi/handle/10024/50699> »

Further information: Planner Leena Jansson, National Library of Finland/ Research Library
[leena.jansson\(at\)helsinki.fi](mailto:leena.jansson(at)helsinki.fi)

HIGHLIGHTS



The Professor of Natural Sciences Petrus Hahn (1650-1718) prepared no less than 125 doctoral dissertations; beginning in 1891 he was also the Turku Academy's librarian.

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

◀ Home

Four valuable letters by Sibelius rescued for Finland

The National Library of Finland obtained a valuable addition for its manuscript collection when it acquired – at an auction held at Sotheby's on 8 December, coincidentally Sibelius's birthday – four letters written by the composer to the Danish playwright Poul Knudsen.

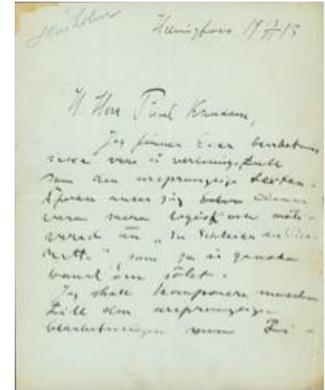
Sibelius composed the libretto for Knudsen's ballet-pantomime *Scaramouche*, and the letters written during the years 1913–1922 concern this work.

Besides their value as national property, the letters are also one piece of the mosaic forming the complete critical edition Jean Sibelius Works project, a comprehensive compilation of the composer's output currently being assembled at the National Library of Finland.

The Finnish Embassy in London, whose personnel attended the auction at Sotheby's, provided valuable assistance that facilitated the repatriation of the culturally significant materials. The letters had attracted considerable attention in the auction community, and Cultural Affairs Officer Pirjo Pellinen had to compete with other bidders before the contest was resolved in the National Library's favor.

The letters were procured with private funding.

HIGHLIGHTS



[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

Home ▶ Top

The future of newspapers

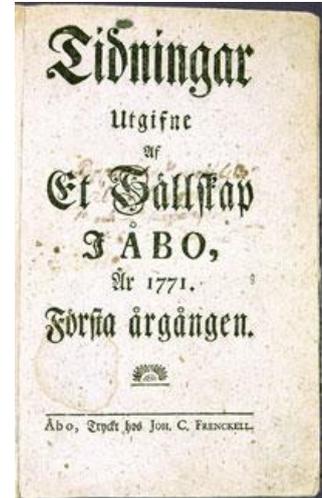
In a museum, Finland's largest daily newspaper *Helsingin Sanomat* (originally *Päivälehti*) asked visitors to help predict the future of newspapers. The following claims could be read from a rotating display on the wall: Electronic data transfer to the brain will revolutionize communications. Global newspapers will displace the locals. Media literacy will determine your position in society. Large displays and visors will proliferate. Paper will become obsolete among the working population. You will read you paper only from digital readers.

In his column of 16 June 2010 the Metro newspaper's Editor-in-Chief Janne Kaijärvi writes of his experiences with Apple's new iPad after a month, also stating that he has been interested in observing how his teenaged daughter has utilized the new reader. "The device for the most part lies around on the sofa table, from where it is occasionally grabbed by whoever passes by for whatever use. Previously the daily newspaper lay on the same table."



Foreign newspapers on sale at the Helsinki Railway Station.

HIGHLIGHTS



Finland's oldest newspaper *Tidningar utgifne af et sällskap i Åbo* appeared during the years 1771-1778 and 1782-1785. All of Finland's old newspapers have been digitized and can be utilized freely.

"It is very difficult to topple beliefs with facts. People believe what suits their opinions and prejudices, and other information is ignored."

Raili Leino

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

[Home](#)

Partnership continues between the U.S. Embassy and the Helsinki University

HIGHLIGHTS



On 4 June 2010, Rector Thomas Wilhelmsson and Ambassador Bruce Oreck signed an agreement that continues the cooperation between the American Resource Center library and the University of Helsinki.

U.S. Ambassador Bruce J. Oreck and Helsinki University Rector Thomas Wilhelmsson signed the American Resource Center Cooperative Agreement for a new 5-year period on Friday, June 4.

The agreement continues the long and close cooperation between the U.S. Embassy and Helsinki University. The American Resource Center (ARC) will continue to be housed at the National Library premises until the construction of the new University Library building in the city centre is completed in 2012. The new building will offer a new location for the ARC right in the middle of the university hub.

Photo by Tuomas Hellman

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

Helsinki's most beautiful building

HIGHLIGHTS



Photo by Sanna Järvinen

Architect Juha Leiviskä considers the National Library of Finland to be the most beautiful building in Helsinki. In Leiviskä's opinion, the row of facades along Unioninkatu, for its part, is one of the most attractive streetscapes in Helsinki. The milieu consists of a series of pavilions. A visitor entering the main space of the National Library first passes through a room where there are four Corinthian columns. Leiviskä describes the space as simultaneously intimate and monumental, recalling the Late Baroque style of large-scale libraries in Austria. The space is considered one of the most internationally significant library spaces in this style. Leiviskä explains that the architect has used the columns to organize the overall entity. The colonnade also emphasizes an affinity for the history of society. The reading rooms are the building's actual highlights; there is where buoyancy and the presence of daylight is noticed. The space is an instrument played by the light.

Ari Tuhkanen

Radio Suomi ,Ylen aikainen 20 December 2009

Photo by Sanna Järvinen

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

The Flag of Finland

Ever since I was little I've had a secret attraction for the flag of Finland, secret only because there never seemed to be the right moment to go up to someone and say, "Excuse me, I've always loved the flag of Finland." I loved it the first time I saw it, in a dictionary with a color plate showing Flags of All Nations.

Finland's was special. It was free of the symbolism that makes some flags so fussy and editorial. The flag of Finland looked like cool, clean air in a blue sky, the essence of a zero that had just disappeared. And so I always imagined that being a Finn would be very simple. You would be free of the daily gravity that weighs down so many other nationalities. You would be living six feet off the ground, approximately where your head is. You would, in fact, be in a kind of imaginary Lapland, where no one could hurt you: in your white parka, white leggings, white skis, and white eyes, you would simply flash away into the snow. No one could catch you, not even an adult, not even a truant officer, not even a government. You would glide through the air like Ariel, a cerulean vibration, an invisible paradigm of spirituality. That's what I learned from the flag of Finland.

The American poet Ron Paddgett, who held a poetry and reading evening at the National Library of Finland.

HIGHLIGHTS

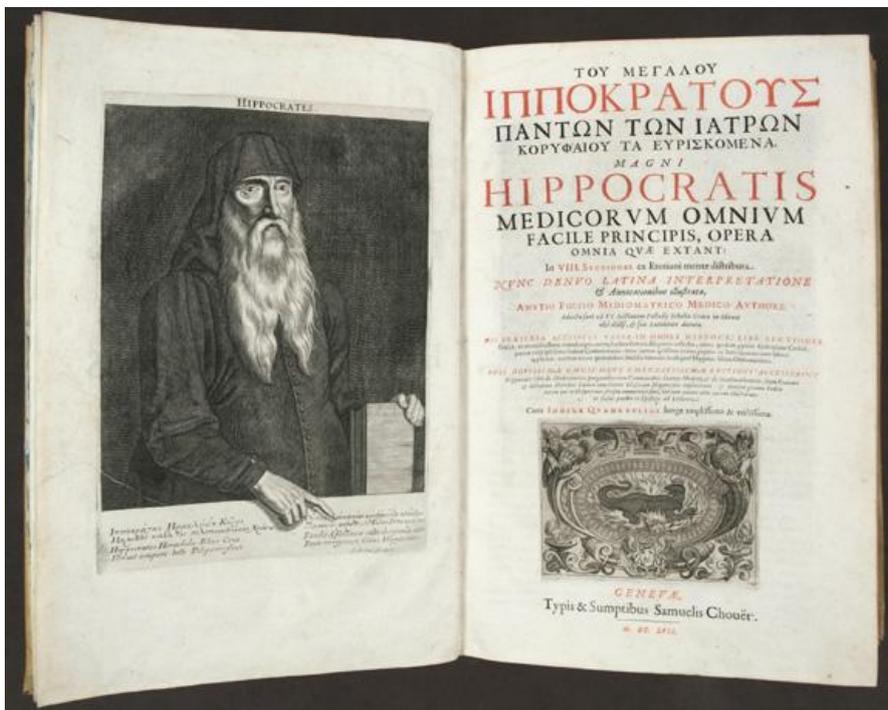


[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

Virgin milk and the Emperor's red powder *Diseases and their medical treatment in the 1600–1700s*

The National Library of Finland contains over 20,000 volumes of vintage medical literature. Besides the history of medicine, the collection also documents the history of diseases, ailments, and other suffering experienced by people before the development of vaccinations, painkillers and antibiotics. The Bulletin's editors asked MA *Outi Kaltio* to briefly present two works that were of seminal importance in their times; Hippocrates, the author of one of them, is considered the father of modern medicine.



Magni Hippocratis ... opera omnia quae extant. Anutius Foesio Mediomatrico medico authore. Genevae, Typis et Sumptibus Samuelis Chouët, MDCLVII

This is an edition containing all the writings attributed to Hippocrates, in which Greek- and Latin-language texts are placed side-by-side. Anutius Foesio's edition of 1657 is a fairly ambitious undertaking. In connection with any "Hippocratic" work, it must always be pointed out that most of the writings are of unknown origin and from different time periods; indeed, they had been associated with Hippocrates already in Antiquity.

There are dozens of writings treating various ailments and diseases ranging from teething problems to epilepsy. Based on patients' dreams, conclusions were reached concerning the state of their health and the treatment possibly required. The famous Hippocratic Oath is naturally included.

Foesio's *De aere, locis e aquis* (Air, Waters and Places) treats the effects of environmental factors on the existence and health of people living in different regions. These are influenced by an area's location, the time of year, the rising and setting of stars, the terrain, and winds. People in certain areas had typical physical attributes and typical ailments.

For example, those living in southern cities are frail, women have frequent miscarriages, and the men are prone to, among other afflictions, fever attacks. For their part, those living in northern cities are robust and long-lived, but suffer from severe eye diseases and epileptic fits. In every respect, Asia Minor was ranked above Europe, most likely because a well-balanced and temperate climate prevails in Asia Minor.

Pharmacopoeia Augustana renovata, Augustae Vindelicorum, Typis & Sumtibus Joannis Jacobi Lotteri, MDCCXXXIV

Printed in Augsburg in 1734, the pharmaceutical work *Pharmacopoeia Augustana renovata* contains prescriptions for numerous medicines and the preparation of vaccines. The introduction includes instructions for the gathering and storage of various medicines, as well as a description of measurement units and chemical symbols.

The work is divided into 22 chapters treating different types of medical preparations such as powders, pills and herbs. The ailment for which the medicine in question is intended is mentioned in connection with each prescription. "The Emperor's red powder against the plague" contains, among other substances, myrrh, crocus, anise and antler powder.

In connection with the prescription, it is mentioned that this medicine was used extensively during the plague of 1572. Besides antler powder, other bone meals – for example, the teeth of wild pigs, elephant tusk, and even the human skull – were used in medicines. The skull powder was prepared by mixing purified and fine-ground skull powder into water containing lilies-of-the-valley and then drying.

The "virgin milk" intended for skin ailments consisted of aluminum, lead and vinegar. These ingredients were cooked, and then mixed with water, giving the mixture its characteristic milk-white color. Owing to its peeling and smoothing effects, it was promised as a remedy for freckles, rashes, ringworm and impetigo.

Outi Kaltio is currently preparing a doctoral thesis on Constantinus Africanus's Theorica Pantegni, a medieval medical textbook belonging to the National Library of Finland's collection.

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

NettiAsema 4

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY of Finland Bulletin 2010

16 40

[Home](#)

Inkeri Pitkäranta

The most important books in my life:
Well-known persons' favorite books throughout their lives.

The book as an experience.

The diverse forms of books – from paper books to electronic books and "vooks". What will the future bring?

The *What Could Kill the Book* exhibition ponders the future of the book. The electronic book is here to stay. Apple sold over a million iPads in the USA during the first month of its launch. The first readers for Finnish electronic books are almost ready. Book publishers are reducing their personnel. Is the book dying? Will it continue to be read in paper form? Will bookshelves and school bags empty? The *What Could Kill the Book* exhibition shows that the book has survived through the ages. Books have been threatened previously by wars, censorship and fire. Even Socrates himself considered the art of writing a threat to the human memory.

It is unlikely that anything could better convey the *What Could Kill the Book* theme than our literature's oldest documents, the medieval parchments that have survived centuries of wear and tear. These parchments are presented with ultramodern technology – a digitally programmed touchscreen where visitors can examine treasures of the Middle Ages with the flick of a finger. The exhibition starts with the story. In the beginning there were folktales and storytellers. The tales spread throughout the world, generating new stories in the process. Then the arts of writing and printing were invented; books proliferated worldwide.



Finnish Councillor of State Riitta Uosukainen opened the What Could Kill the Book exhibition on 26 May in the Library's Cupola Hall. Director Kai Ekholm and caretaker Ricardo Parada held the silk ribbon. Uosukainen is also a sponsor of the National Library.

The exhibition also starts with the authors – how are books created? The authors responses: writing is a passion, one cannot live without writing, writing is a healing process. The author is also a storyteller who needs a listener. The readers wait, and the writer captivates their imaginations.

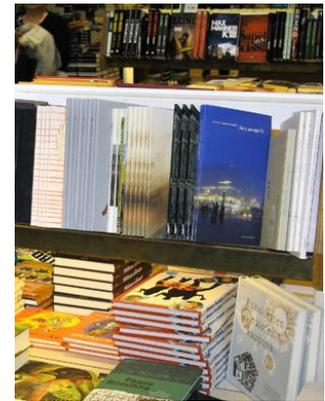
The exhibition also depicts the Finns' love of books. A questionnaire asking a group of well-known Finns to name the most important books in their lives was organized jointly between the students of the Vaskivuori and Herttoniemi Upper Secondary Schools and their Finnish teachers. The respondents' favorite books, along with their explanations, are part of the exhibition. The age of the respondents ranged from 12 to 86, and many professions were represented: chef, composer, singer, video game producer, piercing artist, TV journalist, comic strip artist, nature photographer, top athlete, executive, cosmologist. The responses demonstrate how important – even life-changing – books are in the lives of today's Finns: "Consolation during my life's turning points." "After I read this it was clear that the world would never look the same."

One of the exhibition's main purposes is to spark an interest in reading and interactivity among adults and young people. Available are readers for electronic books and two new touchscreens, one of which focuses on parchments and the other on a selection from the *Save a Book* project. Students from the Vaskivuori and Herttoniemi Upper Secondary Schools have also made a video presentation for the exhibition in which they read excerpts from their own favorite books. In the autumn, the exhibition will expand to the National Library's Agricola Room where there will be a bookcrossing shelf; a visitor to the exhibition can take a book and replace it with one of his or her own. Upper secondary school students will also assemble an exhibition of their own favorite books in

EXHIBITIONS

WHAT COULD KILL THE BOOK

The Book Now and in the Future
27.5.-31.12.2010
The National Library of Finland
Cupola Hall



For the time being the Academic Bookstore in Helsinki carries only "real" books, but e-books and readers will go on sale later this year.

Don't explain anything. Appear. Say. Vanish.

Elias Canetti

the Library's Café.

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[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

NettiAsema 4

Russian Satire Magazines Exhibition at the National Library of Finland's Slavonic Library



EXHIBITIONS

What an overestimation of intelligence and absolute governmental power have in common is that the individual becomes pauperized in the administration of both.

C. G. Jung

Russia's first revolution took place during the years 1905–1907. Appearing at that time were magazines whose pages treated events in the country's government and political life, but through satirical means. The magazines' abundant amount of information and graphically innovative satirical art have attracted the attention of researchers – historians, literature researchers, scientific researchers, art researchers, political science researchers, and sociologists – from many disciplines. Most of the Slavonic Library's magazines were printed in St. Petersburg. The writers participating in their production included Ivan Bunin, Leonid Andrejev, Aleksandr Blok and Maksim Gorki; the artists involved included Valentin Serov, Boris Kustodiev, and Ivan Bilibin, who was arrested for drawing a satirical cartoon of Nicholas II.

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) [Top](#)

International Digitization Seminar With quality in mind

The National Centre for Preservation and Digitization/Centre for Microfilming and Conservation of the National Library of Finland will organize an international digitization seminar together with the DigitalMikkeli Consortium in Mikkeli, Finland, on 23 September 2010. The theme will be the quality of digitization from the user's perspective.

The seminar is geared towards experts in digitization and others working in the field.

The speakers will include people from all over the world who are in charge of digitizing and preserving collections: *Deborah Novotny* from the British Library, *Cathy Pilgrim* from the National Library of Australia and *Claes Gejrot* from the National Archives of Sweden. Presentations will also be given by digitization experts from the National Library of Finland.

Seminar programme and registration: www.digitalmikkeli.fi

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

Home ▶ Top





THE NATIONAL LIBRARY
of Finland Bulletin 2010

16340

[Home](#)

The National Library of Finland Bulletin 2010

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[Home](#) | [▲ Top](#)

NettiAsema4

International Cooperation Organisations and the role of the National Library of Finland

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Library cooperation and central organisation

Bibliotheca Baltica
Board member

CDNL Conference of Directors of National Libraries
Member

CENL Conference of European National Libraries
Member

CERL Consortium of European Research Libraries
Member

The European Library
Full participant

Europeana
National representative and contributor

FAIFE Committee of Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression
Chair

IFLA International Federation of Library Associations
Active in several sectors and working groups

IIPC International Internet Preservation Consortium
Member

LIBER The Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche
Chair, Digitisation and Resource Discovery

MINERVA/MI NERVA Plus
Participant

Nordbib - WP3 Development of Information Environment Architecture for Nordic Countries

NORON Directors of Nordic State and National Libraries
Member

OCLC Online Computer Library Center
Member

PersID Persistent identifiers project
Member

SVUC Scandinavian Virtual Union Catalogue
Full participant

Other Library related organizations

ELAG, European Library Automation Group
Member

National Libraries Ex Libris Advisory Board
Member

European ICOLC International Coalition of Library Consortia
Programme group, member

IAML International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres
Member

IASA, The International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives



Member

IGELU, International Group of Ex Libris Users
Product Working Group for Metalib/SFX, board member
Consortia Special Interest Working Group, Deputy chair
IGeLU Voyager Product Working Group, member

Publishers' Advisory Boards

Active member in the advisory boards of Elsevier, Blackwell, Springer

Standardisation

Dublin Core Metadata Initiative

National affiliate and a member in the Board of Trustees and Advisory Board

ISBN, International Standard Book Number

ISBN Panel meeting for the delegates of ISBN agencies

ISSN, The International Standard Serial Number

ISSN Governing Board

Meeting of Directors of ISSN Centres, member

ISMN, International Standard Music Number

ISMN Panel meeting for the delegates of ISMN agencies

ISO, International Organisation for Standardization

ISO TC 46, board member

Active in several working groups creating and revising individual information and documentation standards, including International Standard Collection Identifier (co-ordinator), International Standard Name Identifier and Digital Object Identifier.

NISO, US National Information Standards Organization

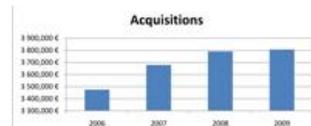
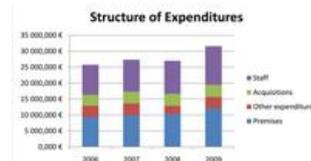
The first non-American affiliate

[Print this article \(PDF\)](#) [Print entire issue \(PDF\)](#)

[Home](#) | [Top](#)

Facts and Statistics 2009

- Visitors: 176,390 (2007: 190,480)
- Local loans: 499,600
- Interlibrary loans to other libraries: 1,730 and from other libraries: 1,760
- Use of digitized material: 6,5 million downloaded pages
- Use of FinELib materials: 16,3 million downloaded articles
- Information service requests: 1,950; information retrieval advice was given to 305 persons, and guided tours of the library were conducted for 1,170 persons
- The accession of collections was approximately 1,000 meters of shelving; at the end of the year the collection totaled 108,000 meters of shelving
- The accession of the National Collection was 157,100 units; of those 63,500 are uncatalogued publications
- The accession of monographs and series in other collections was 9,300 volumes
- The sound recording collection grew by 3,400 legal deposit copies and purchases, the sheet music collection by 285 publications
- The collections totaled 3 million books and serials, 680,000 microfilms and microfiches, and over 4 million units of other items
- The online archive contains 297 million units
- The number of digitized printed products' pages exceeded 1.6 million items; there were 2,139 microfilm rolls; the number of conserved units was 12,668
- Databases of the library's own collections contain almost 2.6 million references, a growth of 79,900
- Fennica, the National Bibliography database, contains 868,100 (0.9 million) bibliographic entries
- Viola, the National Discography database, contains 839,100 (0,8 million) discographer entries
- Linda, the Union Catalogue of the Finnish University Libraries, contains 5.2 million references
- Staff: 334 full-time employees
- The Library has four service points, two in Helsinki, one in Mikkeli and one in Urajärvi



Loan services

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Local loans	526,800	553,000	538,000	512,700	499,700
Interlibrary services	3,900	4,000	4,200	4,400	3,490
Total	530,700	557,100	542,200	521,500	503,190

Databases of the Library's own collections, number of titles

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
National Bibliography Fennica	788,800	808,100	827,100	848,000	868,100
National Discography Viola	671,886	715,759	759,764	794,100	839,100
Other collections	812,300	840,000	877,700	852,400	867,000

Premises 2009

Total	25 500 m ²
User service areas	4 600 m ²
Collection areas	19 600 m ²
Other areas	700 m ²

