Central managing of serials collection in Wrocław University of Technology as a factor of effectiveness in delivering resources to users.

In Wrocław University of Technology operates library information system consisted of main library, 9 faculty libraries, 6 institute libraries, 3 study libraries and 3 libraries of Regional Branches. Main Library is the only library centralized in acquisition, cataloguing and providing the serials collection, in comparison with other university libraries in Poland. This kind of management is unique and it is the result of many year’s efforts. It allows to complete control and coordinate print and electronic journals and continuing resources (including periodical databases), yet it requires good cooperation between Main Library and other libraries of the library information system, on level of communication. Understanding that compliance with the rules designated by Main Library has a positive effect in terms of user’s satisfaction, is the key of success.

Serials Department is one of the 11 departments in Main Library and performs the following tasks: acquisition, selection, processing of print and electronics serials and other periodicals (including periodical databases): as a part of national and international subscription, gifts, exchange, purchase. Important task is making financial estimates to prepare and conduct a tender procedure for the supply of journals and databases and to participate in national library consortia. Serials Department is also responsible for updating in computer serials database and for creating and coordinating Regional Catalog of Foreign Journals in Wroclaw and Opole libraries. Significant activities are: administrating of electronic journals services and providing the access.

The paper shows the process of central coordinating by Serials Department in various stages. Realization of Department goals with respect to each of the above mentioned stages is connected with reaching academic’s needs.

The figures a in a paper are given on the basis of official yearly reports and process of serials management is strictly based on experience and practice.

For comparison, reference is made to examples in other Polish university libraries with decentralized workflow.

Central management and control has significant influence on economic policy in whole library information system. Gathering the data about serials collection in one hand allows the Main Library to efficiently manage the finances allocated to the library system units and to control real use of serials collection.
OUTLINE OF THE PAPER

1. Description of the Main Library and Scientific Information Centre and library information system operates in Wroclaw University of Technology. Short history, structure, main tasks, collection, figures.


3. Examples of decentralized university libraries in Poland, presenting different kind of organization.

4. Central management of serials collections as a factor of effectiveness to satisfy user’s needs. What means central management for users in practice?


Biographical information

Agnieszka Wolańska – graduate from Wroclaw University in fields Library Science and Information Science (2003) and works as a Science Librarian at Serials Department in Main Library and Scientific Information Centre in Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland.

Contact details:

Agnieszka Wolańska
E-mail: agnieszka.wolanska@pwr.wroc.pl, tulka@poczta.onet.pl

Work adress:
Wroclaw University of Technology
Main Library and Scientific Information Centre
Ul.Wybrzeże Wyspiańskiego 27
50-370 Wrocław

Fax: 048 71 328-29-60
Tel. 048 71 320-34-12
Mobile number: 048 71 606-425-013