

Werk

Titel: The British Library Publishes its First Strategic Plan, "Advancing with Knowledge..."

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Kontakt/Contact

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SUB Göttingen
Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1
37073 Göttingen

✉ info@digizeitschriften.de

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Die vorgeschlagenen Punkte werden sicherlich noch innerhalb der verschiedenen Verbände diskutiert werden müssen. Es bleibt zu hoffen, daß schon in absehbarer Zukunft die ersten Schritte einer konkreten deutsch-britischen Zusammenarbeit zu erkennen sein werden.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY PUBLISHES ITS FIRST
STRATEGIC PLAN 'ADVANCING WITH KNOWLEDGE'¹

The British Library published its first Strategic Plan today (21 October). Sir Fred Dainton, the Chairman of the British Library Board, outlined the key strategies in the plan, which confirmed the Library's commitment to the programme for the new building at St Pancras and to the provision of the most comprehensive national research collection possible, whilst developing wider services and those which can generate revenue. Sir Fred said the strategies would help the Library to achieve its dual purpose of being the nation's greatest source of information essential for economic success and also an accessible repository of the knowledge and wisdom of the past.

¹ (From: News from the British Library, 21 October 1985)

Major features of the plan include the development of better services to important sectors such as science and technology; a commitment to new technology as a means of improving services, such as the development of advanced systems for electronic document delivery and storage, and a new on-line bibliographic system; the need to develop coherent national policies for the collection of non-book materials, such as electronic publications, films, sound recordings, slides, videos, etc, and to extend legal deposit in this area, although the Library is not intending to broaden its own collecting activities; 'heritage' items will continue to be acquired as far as resources allow; wider marketing of the Library's services, with the appointment of a Corporate Marketing Manager.

The Library aims to increase by 5% per annum the proportion of its income that is earned from sale of services, but it is critically dependent on Government maintaining the level of funding in real terms. The Library will not be charging for admission to the reading rooms, but will be rigorously examining the basis on which to charge for existing and new services. It will be looking for cost-recovery from all market-based services and as part of the policy of self-help will continue to work with the private sector in joint ventures and to attract sponsorship.

Advancing with Knowledge: the British Library Strategic Plan 1985-1990.
40pp. ISBN 0 4103 X. Price £ 2.50.

Press copies available from Press and Public Relations, The British Library,
2 Sheraton Street, London W1V 4BH: telephone 01-636 1544 ext 333.

The Plan can be ordered from the British Library Publications Sales Unit,
Boston Spa, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS23 7BQ, telephone: 0937 843434.