

Werk

Titel: International Library Cooperation: 10th Anniversary Essen Symposium

Ort: Berlin

Jahr: 1988

PURL: https://resolver.sub.uni-goettingen.de/purl?514822678_0024|log11

Kontakt/Contact

Digizeitschriften e.V.
SUB Göttingen
Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1
37073 Göttingen

✉ info@digizeitschriften.de

Short Notice

International Library Cooperation.

10th Anniversary Essen Symposium, 19 October - 22 October 1987. Festschrift in honour of Prof. Dr. Günther Pflug to his 65th birthday. Edited by Ahmed H. Helal and Joachim W. Weiss. - Essen: Universitätsbibliothek Essen, 1988 (Veröffentlichungen der Universitätsbibliothek Essen / Publications of Essen University Library, 10).

xliii, 337 pp. ISBN 3-922602-11-8; ISSN 0931-7503

In recent years, the Essen Symposia have become a somewhat unique institution for the review of the latest developments in various fields of librarianship, mainly though in library automation. Previous symposia covered topics ranging from *Current Trends in Serials Automation*, the first symposium in 1978, *Future of Library Networks* (1981), *New Trends in Electronic Publishing and Electronic Libraries* (1983) to *Local Library Systems* (1984) and the *Future of Online Catalogues* (1985), to mention but a few. From the beginning, the proceedings of each symposium were published soon after the event; and it is very good to have this multi-volume documentation of progress in library automation. Following the *Impact of New Information Technology on International Library Cooperation* (1986), the 1987 Essen Symposium, in fact the 10th anniversary one, was exclusively devoted to *International Library Cooperation* and dedicated to Prof. Günther Pflug on the occasion of his 65th birthday and his retirement as librarian of the *Deutsche Bibliothek*, Frankfurt.

It would, however, be misleading to conclude that only in the 1986 and 1987 symposia the aspect of international library cooperation had been discovered and acknowledged by their organisers. Browsing through the earlier proceedings, one feels immediately that Dr Helal and Mr Weiss have always been aware of the international implications of the work progressing in library automation. All the same, the title of the anniversary symposium is very fitting for a *Festschrift* to honour an outstanding West German librarian: for Prof. Pflug not only introduced data processing to West German (and indeed European) libraries; his achievement is also characterized by

establishing very close contacts to colleagues abroad, thus supporting the development of library automation, most notably in the fields of cataloguing and national bibliography.

The anniversary volume contains 21 contributions, which divide into six main categories:

- library cooperation in Europe: the standpoint of the European Community, H.-A. Koch's review of activities within LIBER (directory of library networks in Europe, European register of microform masters, European conspectus), summary of the results of the West German part of the LIB-2 study [cf. p. 35f. of this issue of *LIBER News Sheet*];
- intercontinental cooperation between Europe and the United States: sharing of bibliographic sources, interlibrary loans;
- stand-of-the-art of library systems: Libris, Siemens, Micromarc;
- use of CD-ROM for the library's public catalogue: introducing the interactive catalogue of the University of Guelph Library, Canada, and reporting about the related project in the University Library of Bielefeld;
- decentralization of library networking in the United States;
- and, recalling the 1986 symposium, the impact of new technologies for library cooperation: networking, open systems interconnection, electronic storage and document delivery (Transdoc), serial subscription, computer conferencing.

To round up, there are articles on the restoration of the Alexandriana Library as well as on the need to pay more attention to the requirements of conservation in the curriculum of library training.

With respect to the work of LIBER, it is very interesting to learn about the present attitude of the European Community. Mme. Ariane Iljon (Commission of the European Community) commented on the hearing on libraries in the EC, which was convened in Luxembourg in February 1987 [cf. *News Sheet*, No. 19/20, pp. 16-19, and No. 22, pp. 10-13]. She sketched a plan of future action by the EC, pertaining to five action lines, namely:

- enhance machine-readable national bibliographies or union catalogues;
- increase international networking (for interlibrary loans, exchange of records, access to OPACs, OSI etc.);
- create new library services employing new technologies;