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0. Background

Planning the University Library in Dresden does not mean to undertake new planning in general, but to draw up a new conception of an already existing library network.

It is an obvious fact that at Dresden University of Technology, scientists as well as undergraduates are only insufficiently provided for by the library. To a certain extent, the very poor localities and furbishment engendered a huge demand for new buildings.

These deficiencies mainly become apparent at a time when the library has to cope with the demands of the future. Among these demands, there are:

- the extension of Dresden University of Technology to an university with nearly all branches
- an increase in the number of students enrolled from 15.000 at present up to 30.000
- the setting-up and extension of modern information and communication systems
- the stockpiling of books following the recommendations of the working group between the Federal government and the individual Federal Länder financially assisted by the Federal government.

The library conception is integrated into the university's future space planning.

The library's future development does not preclude several immediate measures to be taken and some temporary arrangements (such

as the jurisprudence special library and the economic sciences special library).

1. Actual state of affairs

The University Library is a single-stage institution; all the libraries in the university form an integrated net of libraries. The University Library is composed of the main library and more than 20 specialized libraries (departmental libraries).

The main library is not placed in a building tailored for library purposes. In February 1945, the building was destroyed, with more than 80 % of all buildings of the Technical College, in the air raid on Dresden. Most of the former independent libraries of the institutes did not survive the war. In the past 40 years, a new building was projected for the main library on many occasions; however, these projects were never realized.

On the campus, the main library is located in three former villas. Spatially destributed are essential departments such as catalogues and union lists, the public reading room, book processing, and the library administration. This is very disadvantageous for the users of the library and librarians.
On the university campus, there are mediumsized and smaller specialized libraries, which are scattered among several departmental libraries. In general, they are poorly equipped and are cramped for space. Consequently, the work space and places for the readers are inadequate and only in some cases are books available on open access.

Altogether, the University Library is distributed in 65 various buildings; among them there are lofts, cellars and huts, most of which are difficult of access.

To cope with the tasks of a library in the university, it was necessary to draw up a new overall strategic plan.

2. Strategic plan of Dresden University of Technology

In February 1993, the Hochschul-Informations-System GMBH (Hannover) worked out a plan for use. According to this development plan, until 2010 the university shall be extended in three stages. A crucial point of this plan is the concentration of the special branches /faculties on adjacent locations. For some institutions, the final locations are already fixed, for others, investigations are still in progress.

3. Strategic plan of the university's library

The space planning for the library of the university is incorporated into the space planning of Dresden University of Technology.
Within this decade, it is intended to complete the library planning in the first stage of the extension.

The university library strategic plan does not change its structure, i.e. there will still be a main library and specialized (departmental) libraries. Size and location of the libraries are subject to well defined criteria and requirements.

3.1. Main library
The main library has to meet the following requirements:
- its location should be a central one. This means a location on the university campus in the vicinity of all users. At the same time, the library should be within reach of all users of Dresden and its vicinity, i.e. there should be adequate lines of communication to the city.

The main library will carry out functions for the libraries' network of Dresden University of Technology.
To mention some of them, these are:
- management of central data bases, catalogues and union lists, and of the University Library OPAC
- central inquiry and information transfer including data access

- central users divisions including public reading room, issuing of books and interlibrary lending
- the rooms for further training and other events
- administration of the library, including the financial and technical divisions
- in the main library, a definite category of literature should be located. Naturally, in the main library, interdisciplinary literature is housed and, in addition, manuals (students library), the collection of technical special literature, including the Centre for Patents Information and the DIN-Stan dardization Institution, and finally the collection of valuable books. In addition, the library is a depository or an intermediate depository for the category of older literature.
- the main library should offer to the user attractice working conditions. Furthermore, the library should be a cultural centre at Dresden University of Technology.

Among these attractive conditions, there are:

. adequate opening hours and satisfactory working conditions for the users
. information in all its forms ready for use
. lecture room, exhibition space.

3.2. Special (departmental) libraries

The site-specific arrangement and the optimal size is decisive for the effectiveness of these libraries. It is recommended that the great number of special and departmental libraries be reduced, irrespective of the unfavourable location and the material-technical standard.

The following criteria should be met when the decision is taken on the future location and size:

- close vicinity to research and instruction of the special institution/ faculty; thus, "shorter distance" for all users
- economically justifiable capacities allowing the most rational use of financial resources and workers

- quick access to literature by
  . decentralising book processing in few cases
  . extensive open access shelving (90 % of the literature)
  . reserve collection for the period of one semester
  . literature information (OPAC), remote data access
  . attractive presentation of books (open access areas, opening hours, working places)
- bringing together related special fields into close proximity (e.g. mathematics and computer technique; experimental natural sciences), taking into account the university's overall planning conception
- housing of one or two special (departmental) libraries in the main library building, i.e. in close proximity to the institution to be served.

It should be stressed that location has not yet been settled for either the special departments/faculties or for the respective departmental libraries. However, work will proceed following the principle of paying attention to the selection of a site for the departmental library in relation to the environment it is to serve.