Traditions and Innovations in the Scientific Library of Riga Technical University

Sarmite Krauze
*Riga Technical University*

Aija Janbicka
*Riga Technical University*


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Traditions and Innovations in the Scientific Library of Riga Technical University

A. JANBICKA, S. KRAUZE

IATUL 2011, Warsaw

The Riga Technical University was established on 14 October 1862 as Riga Polytechnic. Now it is the only Technical University in Latvia. The Scientific Library of the Riga Technical University (RTU SL) was founded in 1862, too. The RTU Scientific Library is the only library in Latvia having so rich collection of documents on engineering and architecture. Currently our task is to contribute to the compatibility of traditional services and innovations in the library. This is the problem and the new challenge for most of the old libraries.

Information Literacy

First steps.
Project DEDICATE: 1998–1999 – the EU funded project. The aim of project – to develop distance education courses in information literacy.

In the course of project were designed:
- Information literacy course in Electronics (ILcE) - course for the 2nd year undergraduate students of Faculty of Electronics and Telecommunications
- Chemistry Information Literacy Course (CILC) - web-based course for the 3rd year undergraduate students of Faculty of Materials Science and Applied Chemistry

2011. Information Literacy courses, including lectures and practical workshops. Courses are designed to meet the requirements of the following groups:
- new students, undergraduates and postgraduates;
- academic staff.

Every library user can get individual consultation on searching for the information in the Electronic catalog and databases in each service point. The situation demands new methods, such as e-learning, and the overall system should be structured in a step by step way, so that it can easily serve either a schoolchild or a professor.

2018 books in 1962. Now the collection is 1.8 mil. items. RTU SL is an essential element in the National Library Stock of the libraries of national signification. There are many rare publications in the SL collection. Most of them are kept in the Chemistry Branch Library.

Local databases
1996 – Publications of RTU Teaching Staff and Researches
2008 – Scientific Publications database „SCIENCE“ (in collaboration with RTU)
2009 – Publications from serials of the Civil Engineering and Architecture
2010 – RTU dissertations (thesis) and master papers (in preparation)
2011 – E-resources database

Subscribed databases (2011)
EBSCO Science Direct
Springer Link
EBRARY
World Scientific
Rubricom
EBSCO A-to-Z

Trial databases
Latvian Academic Network project (2011-2013)

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