Collaboration between French speaking university libraries of Belgium and university libraries of developing countries since 2004

Frédéric Brodkom

Catholic University of Louvain
Collaboration between French speaking university libraries of Belgium and university libraries of developing countries since 2004

Dr Frédéric Brodkom, Library Manager, Invited Lecturer, UCL - Université catholique de Louvain
BST - Library and learning center of sciences and technologies

for
ARES-CCD
Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles – Académie de recherche et d’enseignement supérieur
Commission de la coopération au développement
(before 2013: CIUF-CUD Commission Interuniversitaire Francophone – Commission universitaire pour le développement)
Université catholique de Louvain

since 1425, ... at Leuven
and since 1973, at Louvain-la-Neuve and Brussel Woluwe
more recently in other locations
Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium) : 14 faculties

(2015-2016)

> **Human Sciences** (15 773 students)
  Law and criminology  
  Economic, Social, Political Sciences and Communication  
  Louvain School of Management  
  Philosophy, Arts and Letters  
  Psychology and Educational Sciences  
  Theology

> **Health Sciences** (7 753 students)
  Medicine and Dentistry  
  Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences  
  Public Health  
  Motor Sciences  
  Veterinary Medicine

> **Science and Technology** (5 330 students)
  Sciences  
  Louvain School of Engineering  
  Architecture, Architectural Engineering and Urbanism  
  Biological, Agricultural and Environmental Engineering
Collaboration between French speaking university libraries of Belgium and university libraries of developing countries since 2004 (IATUL Seminar “Linking Up: Cooperation Strategies in Academic Libraries” Bolzano (IT) 24-26th October 2016)
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UCL Library and learning center of sciences and technologies
New buildings since sept.-2014
Collaboration between French speaking university libraries of Belgium and university libraries of developing countries since 2004 (IATUL Seminar “Linking Up: Cooperation Strategies in Academic Libraries” Bolzano (IT) 24-26th October 2016)

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UCL Library and learning center of sciences an technologies

New buildings since sept.-2014

UCL/BST Learning Center

Entries / year

Book lending / year

Works in 2009
Relocation 2014
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ARES, the Academy for Research and Higher Education (07-11-2013)

- Public interest body
- Brings together the 42 French-speaking higher education institutions of Belgium
- And 100 adult education school
- Carries out general coordination while preserving autonomy & specificities
- Organises the dialogue & promotes collaborations at national & international level
- Supports HEIs in their Teaching, Research & Community service missions
- Strengthen visibility
12 (+3) Standing committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mobility</th>
<th>Information on studies</th>
<th>Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>Student Life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable</td>
<td>Quality</td>
<td>Research Valorisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>Libraries &amp; common services</td>
<td>Lifelong Learning</td>
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</table>

- Prepare the **deliberations** on the topics they are dedicated to
- Members chosen for their **expertise**: academics, teaching & research staff, technical & administrative staff, students...
- **Students** comprise 50% of 2 of them (Success & Student Life)
- Registration refusal
- Inclusive HE
- Women & Science
The ARES-CCD mission

“ARES-CCD fosters partnerships between higher education institutions of Wallonia-Brussels and institutions in the South to strengthen them in their teaching, research and community engagement missions, and to fulfil their potential as development actors”

- Strengthen and highlight the contribution of HE & Research to sustainable human development
- Place collectively the academic expertise at the service of development
- Commit as an efficient and reliable partner of the Belgian Development Cooperation
The ARES-CCD approach

"Strengthen the capacities of our academic partners with a view to OWNERSHIP"

"Support PARTNERSHIPS to increase help EFFECTIVENESS"

"Commit in line with the principles of academic AUTONOMY and right of INITIATIVE"

"Commit in the LONG TERM to ensure the SUSTAINABILITY of our actions"
Annual budget for academic development cooperation / funding by the Belgian Federal Government

= 13.5% Belgian non-governmental Development Cooperation

31 M€
Collaboration between our university libraries and our partners in university **libraries** of developing countries since 2004

- Objectives and expected results
- The team
- The partners
- The budget

- **The activities**
- The impact

- Prerequisites and pitfalls of cooperation projects.
Objectives and expected results *(Logical framework)*

**ARES-CCD**

As a partner of the Belgian Cooperation to Development, the ARES supports *partnerships* between higher education institutions of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels, Belgium, and some institutions of developing countries to strengthen them in:
- their *missions of training missions, research and service to society*,
- and in their role as actors of development.

**Expected Results**

**ER1**: Skills and capacities of partners are strengthened or mobilized by cross-cutting approaches in thematic, technical or management areas: Libraries, Governance, IT, ...

**ER2**: Cooperation networks between universities are strengthened at national or international level

**ER ...**: Reinforcement of the quality of research
- Overall management of enrollment and school career
- ...
Subresults expected for library activities

Before 2013:

1. the number of **information resources** is increased
2. the **services** to users are improved
3. the **quality** of libraries management is improved
4. the skill and **qualification** of staff are improved
5. the **user’s awareness** to digital and information literacy is improved
6. the **spaces**, infrastructures and furniture in libraries are improved
7. the computer and **IT equipment** are increased
8. the **network** and the collaborations between libraries are organized

After 2013:

1 > 8

9. specialized courses at the **methodology** of documentary research are developed
10. specific services for research are developed: **ILL**, supply of scientific papers, etc.
11. scientific staff is formed to scientific writing and **bibliographic tools** (Zotero, ...)
The team (on a volunteer basis, staff 2016)

**ARES-CCD-PERD** : *Pôle d’experts en ressources documentaires*

- **Université de Liège** (& Gembloux)  
  2 library managers  
  1 assistant

- **Université catholique de Louvain** :  
  2 library managers

- **Université de Mons** :  
  1 assistant

- **Université St-Louis Bruxelles** :  
  1 library manager

- **ARES secretariat**  
  1 manager

- **Université libre de Bruxelles** : 1 (or 2) library managers (up to 2013)

- **Université de Namur** : 1 library manager (up to 2013)

- And many **other members of our staff** for specific training courses and activities

- **Direction**
  - **Dr. Bernard Pochet** (Ulg Gembloux), coordination
  - **Dr. Frédéric Brodkom** (UCL Louvain-la-Neuve), management
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Examples of this presentation are from ...

Université d'état d'Haïti (Haïti, Port-au-Prince)
Universidad Nacional San Antonio Abad de Cusco (Peru, Cusco)
Universidad Mayor de San Simon (Bolivia, Cochabamba)

Université de Kinshasa (RD Congo, Kinshasa)
Centre de doc. de l'ens. sup., univ. et de la rech. (RD Congo, Kinshasa)
Université Abdou Moumouni (Niger, Niamey)

National University of Laos (Laos PDR, Vientiane)
The budget:

Actually, a budget for libraries and resources of ~ 40,000 EUR / year is open for each partner. Allowable expenses:

**Investment budget**
- Computers, scanner, photocopiers, ….  
- Shelves, tables, chairs, ….  
- Small infrastructures: group rooms, reception desk, ….  

**Operating budget**
- Books (included expedition if purchased in Belgium)  
- Stationery, toner cartridge, pre-payment cards for cellular, …  
- Learning sessions: lunch, location of materials, ….  
- Subscription  

**Travel & subsistence expenses**
- N/S missions (1 > 3 /year for 5 > 10 days)  
- S/N missions (2 missions/year of 1 – 2 librarians for 10 days)  

**Grant/awards** for studies and training courses
UNSAAC Peru 2016: total budget 469,177 EUR for 6 activities + coordination
Activity R5b for Libraries: 42,837 EUR (9,1 %)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>€ 1,150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
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<td>Missions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>€ 15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>€ 42,837</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Books: € 13,850
- INARI: € 5,000
- Promotion Virtual Lib: € 125
- Book edition/impr.: € 1,700
- Stationery, toner: € 900
**UAM Niger 2017**: total budget **447,727 EUR** for 4 activities + coordination

**Activity R3 for IT & Libraries**: 91,846 EUR (20,5 %)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>€ 51.375</th>
<th>€ 20.150</th>
<th>€ 20.321</th>
<th>€ 0</th>
<th>€ 91.846</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missions</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>For libraries</strong></td>
<td>€ 13.700</td>
<td>€ 11.400</td>
<td>€ 10.958</td>
<td>€ 0</td>
<td>€ 36.058</td>
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</table>

**UAM NIGER 2017**

Join activities IT and Libraries

- Missions: 22%
- Operating: 22%
- Investment: 56%

**UAM NIGER 2017 Libraries only**

- Missions Lib.: 30%
- Operating Lib.: 32%
- Invest Lib.: 38%
Library activities

1. The number of information resources is increased (printed or digital, IR, etc.)
Library activities

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Library activities
2. the services to users are improved (reception desk, support in libraries, e-resources)

- Catalogs in open sources: KOHA, PMB
- Development of web site and e-resources
Results for Library activities

2. the services to users are improved (reception desk, support in libraries, e-resources)

- Learning sessions for staff: how to be (really) welcoming at the reception desk
- Open access to libraries and free circulation in the collections
Library activities

3. The quality of libraries management is improved

Communication between librarians and authorities and librarians
Leaning sessions about Excel, (biblio)metrics, ...
Advanced courses in people management
Management of projects (Logical framework, Outcome Mapping)
Long stay sessions all librarian managers in Belgium
Accounting and inventory, managing surveys
Library activities
5. the skill and qualification of staff are improved

- English courses for librarians (front-desk and back-office)
- Workshops for binding and reparation of books
- Cataloguing, indexing
- First steps … in the Internet
- Documentary research

...
Results for Library activities
6. the spaces, infrastructures and furniture in libraries are improved

After commitment of good practices!
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Library activities
6. the spaces, infrastructures and furniture in libraries are improved

- Desk chair, tables, … for librarians
- Shelves
- Tables/chairs for lecture room
- Air conditioning splits
- Reception desk
- Rooms for working in groups

Technical support after disaster (Port-au-Prince 2010)
Library activities

7. the computer and IT equipment are increased

PC’s, printers (and electric inverter) for librarians
PC’s for consulting catalog in libraries
Photocopying equipment and scanner
Equipment for sans-blind students
Library Card printers
IT rooms for students
Data projection, ....
Library activities

8. the network and the collaborations between libraries are organized

Central services of libraries (including the Digital library team)
Defining and finding a University Librarians
Merger of libraries that are closer (ex. Nursery, Medicine, Odontontology ...)

Creating Working/Focus Groups with employees and managers from different libraries to manage projects or activities:

- ex. Communication & Marketing
- Library Management system: PMB, KOHA (settings, norms, ...)
- Basic preservation & disaster (prevention, preparedness, response)
- Regulation (single rulebook)

......
International collaboration
- To avoid duplications
- To pool budgets
- To complete learning sessions in French
- To share projects
- ...

- Universidades Carlos III & Complutense de Madrid, ... and AECID)
- Bibliothèque sans frontières (France)
- Université du Québec à Montréal
- SIDA Sweden
- Agence universitaire de la Francophonie
The impact:

On research > services to society
500 PhD completed in the partner universities during the last 10 years with our support (methodology of doc. research, access to new resources, …)
250 completed & ongoing collaborative research and training projects for development

On education > quality of knowledges and diplomas
Alternatives resources to academic courses and syllabi
New spaces for studying and working in groups, access to IT equipment
Better bibliographies in thesis, increasing autonomy of students

On governance >
New good practices of team and library management
New skills for librarians and increasing of the personal motivation
New place for libraries in the universities/faculties

An the impact on our own skills
Prerequisites and pitfalls of our cooperation projects

internet connections
misappropriation (custom difficulties)

In the university!
a reliable institutional long-term support
conflicts between local faculties which manage libraries and the university authorities in charge of the cooperation projects
lengthy administrative and accounting procedure

And the people
difficulties of ownership by some local teams (partners)
difficulties in finding volunteers (in Belgium)
a strong IT support with a team dedicated to libraries
Collaboration between our libraries and libraries of developing countries allows to building **bridges** connecting ... peoples, cultures, education and research practices, our visions of development, ...
Thank you for your attention

Frédéric Brodkom
Library manager

UCL Université catholique de Louvain
BST - Bibliothèque et learning center des sciences et technologies
Place L. Pasteur 2 Bte L4.02.01
1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgique
Tél. +32(0)10 47 21 84

frederic.brodkom@uclouvain.be
www.uclouvain.be/bst