



**(Technical) University libraries and public libraries :
collaborate to provide access to information for all!**

Maria Heijne
Netherlands Institute for Public Libraries
The Netherlands

Coverage

Examples of existing collaboration

Why is collaboration important?

- Access to information: the university library as a resource towards the public library
- Knowledge valorisation /knowledge transfer: the public library as a resource towards the university (library)

Conclusion

Examples

- Historic perspective : Frank de Sessa
- Recent initiatives in
 - Sweden
 - The Netherlands
 - USA
 - Germany

Access to information/knowledge

Perfect example: EIFL

“access to knowledge is fundamental to education and research, but also to the improvement of lives, and the creation of human capital upon which the development of societies depends”

Open Access movement: green road > golden road

turning point in access to scientific information for all users

How effective is that already?

University and public libraries

how to extend public role and significance

- link searching mechanisms
- attract new / professional user groups
- new service: 'translation' of academic information

conditions

- open up negotiations
- UK Finch group as an example
- look for additional financial resources
public/private?



Knowledge valorisation /knowledge transfer

- Knowledge transfer
 - makes scientific knowledge available to society
 - is seen as *of major social significance*
- Meijer, 2012
 - Societal valorisation such as absorption by professionals, dissemination through education, networking platforms, ***communication to the broader public***, is equally relevant to transfer of knowledge for economic benefit
 - Valorisation as a more mutual, bi-directional learning process

Valorisation cont'd

The public library can

- be a stepping stone to reach a broader audience
- fulfil the demand in academia to create more social and economic value with their scientific results

In providing

- easy entrance to get more people interested in scientific results > could attract more students!
- direct link between (new?) professional user groups and science groups within the university

Examples:

- Delft: Ugame-Ulearn
- Amsterdam: exhibitions in public library from university collections
- Uganda: Smart phone service to combat plant pests and diseases

Conclusion

University libraries and public libraries could very well complement and support each other in providing easy access to information and be a platform for each other's' development!

IATUL: supporter of this idea?!

Thank you!
??

