



Newsletter 2011 No 2

Section on Library Buildings and Equipment

Rolex Center, Zurich, Switzerland



Exterieur-aherzog. Cr dit photo:   Alain Herzog

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Editorial

The conference season is upon us and your committee has been working hard to get everything in place for the satellite meeting in Atlanta, *The effect of new technologies on library design*, and for our Open Session, *Sustainability Issues in the Design of Libraries*, at the main IFLA WLIC Congress in San Juan, Puerto Rico. We have amassed an impressive range of speakers and look forward to good attendance and much stimulating discussion at both events.

The Standing Committee will meet on the Saturday before the Congress officially opens and you are very welcome to email me with any issues you would like to be addressed by the Committee. We shall be considering projects to work on and also topics for future conferences so suggestions are always helpful. As I mentioned in my last editorial we are currently working on featuring more key and inspiring library buildings on our website and also on a major project to promote post-occupancy evaluation of new buildings so we can see how they perform after some time in use.

As many of you will remember our Open Session in Milan was on the topic of designing children's libraries. We have encountered a number of difficulties pulling together the material from that conference but we are now on the brink of publishing a book based on the papers given in Milan. It will be published by Saur with the title, *Designing Library Space for Children*.

2011 is the year that we elect new officers for our Standing Committees and, as I have now served my full eight years on the committee, I shall be handing over the baton to a new chairperson. I have hugely enjoyed my years on the Library Buildings & Equipment Standing Committee; I have learnt a great deal and made many friends from all over the world. I would encourage any of you out there to get involved! I shall be working with the Liber Architecture Group in Europe as well as with UK organisations so I shall continue to collaborate and keep in touch with my IFLA colleagues I hope.

With best wishes to you all and I hope to see many of you in Atlanta and Puerto Rico.

Karen Latimer
Chair
Library Buildings & Equipment Standing Committee

The “Bibliothèque de l’EPFL” at the Rolex Learning Center

By: David Aymonin and Mirjana Rittmeyer

Total floor space: 15,000 sqm

Number of students: 7.000

Total construction costs: No official figure

Interior library costs: No official figure

Architect: Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa,
the SANAA office in Tokyo

Head librarian: David Aymonin



Source:<http://rolexlearningcenter.epfl.ch/>

About EPFL

EPFL is one of the two Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology. Like its sister institution in Zurich, EPFZ, it has three missions: education, research and technology transfer at the highest international level.

The School receives 7000 students, including 1800 doctoral students, 320 professors and 2140 collaborators on its campus located on the shores of Lake Geneva. Teaching and research disciplines are Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering Sciences, Information Technology, Management, Architecture, Civil Engineering and The Environment.

Being a traditional engineering school, it has in a little over 15 years become a world-class technological university, highly visible in international "rankings", thanks to its 300 active laboratories.

With over 110 nationalities represented within its community and over 50% of professors from abroad, EPFL is one of the world's most cosmopolitan universities.

A daring architecture for a flagship building

The Rolex Learning Center is both the symbol and gateway of EPFL.

Designed as a big open space, the building undulates, rising on either side of the main entrance. The ground waves and curved patios do not only separate the various services but also connects them in a seamless and gradual manner.



Exterieur-panorama-asliaydin. Crédit photo: © Asli Aydin.

“Compared to traditional study areas where hallways and classrooms are clearly differentiated, we hope this building will be used in many ways, so that more interactions will take place, which may give rise to new activities”, says the architects Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa, of the SANAA office in Tokyo. SANAA received the 2010 Pritzker Prize, the most prestigious global award in architecture.

A place for living and studying

Designed to offer students a workplace suited for pedagogic developments and to promote various forms of learning, the “RLC”, combines various important and complementary functions, which encourage the public to "visit the library" and promote interaction between people and disciplines. The Rolex Learning Center hosts on its 15'000 m²:

- **The Library, named officially the “Bibliothèque de l’EPFL”**
- The **Presses Polytechniques Universitaires Romandes (PPUR)**,
- The **Center for Research and Support for Training and its Technologies (CRAFT)**,
- Offices and services of the **Students Association of EPFL (AGEPoly)**, of the **Alumni Association (A3)** and of the **Career Center**,
- The **Forum Rolex**, an auditorium with 600 seats,

- **Exhibition** and animation areas,
- **Services:** 3 restaurants, 1 bookshop, 1 bank, 1 souvenir shop
- An underground **parking** for 500 cars

The building is open to the public since 22 February 2010, from 7:00 am to 12:00 pm, 7 days a week.



Interieur-tguignard-noel. Crédit photo: © T. Guignard

An “enlarged” library

The Library is a public one, specialised in EPFL’s fields of study and research. It is a place of work, study and privileged access to information, in a virtual or physical form. Its team lends support to each user and provide services necessary for success in one’s studies, research or teaching.

It is an area devoted to knowledge offering 860 work seats connected to IT infrastructure (wifi, multi-function copiers, electrical outlets and network). Seats are divided into silent, quiet, and group-work areas. 10 rooms for group work can be reserved for a duration of 3 hours. Arm chairs and pouffes allow one sit comfortably to read or relax.

There are no more computer stations, but only fast terminals to give access to the OPAC and the internet. Users bring their own laptops or they can borrow a computer from the reception desk. A computer repair service is offered at this same reception desk, provided by students hired and trained by the computer department of EPFL, in collaboration with the library.

This library is the fruit of the merging of teams, collections and services of 10 libraries, previously installed on the campus, and covering all disciplines of the School.

In 2011, the library's collections consisted of 500,000 volumes, 33,000 electronic books, 11,000 subscriptions to electronic scientific journals, 600 print subscriptions, 5,000 theses, all digitized.

The development of collections has been focused for several years on the electronic medium, both for monographs, reference documents, and for journals. Thanks to an extremely efficient network of Inter Library Loan and membership to the Nebis network, bringing together 90 libraries in Switzerland, the EPFL Library has access to 3 million scientific and technical volumes, but also in the humanities, available in 24 hours. The provision of articles in digitized format is also a standard service.

So in 24 hours maximum, virtually all documents which are of interest to our public can be made available, through our collections or network services.

A Student reserve collection of 10,000 volumes allow students to have works recommended by lecturers for undergraduate courses, in at least 5 copies. Research level works prior to 2001 or less frequently used ones are stored in an open store on mobile electric shelves, ensuring maximum security for free access by the public. Almost all documents are freely accessible and can be borrowed on the RFID borrowing terminals, from 7:00 am to 12:00 pm from Monday to Sunday, for all registered readers.

An exhibition area for old books was designed at the "RLC" to show our students and the general public remarkable works from our collections, about 1000 volumes, many of which have marked the history of science, and links current knowledge thought in the School to the history of mankind and the society.

The library's website library.epfl.ch is the 3rd most visited of the School and receives much attention from the team, in order to present the best information resources and services, in a consistent and simple manner, while enhancing the image of the library and its team. A virtual desk and information research tips are also available on the site.

The team of 45 collaborators, for approximately 33 FTEs, receive at the 2 desks from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm from Monday to Friday. Outside these hours, in the evenings and on weekends, 30 student assistants take turns to ensure continuity at the desk and professional reception.

Besides the development of collections, reception, providing information and educating the public, the team is responsible for developing the Infoscience institutional archive, which currently has 70,000 reported publications, and used by 70% of laboratories.

The smooth functioning, if it is at least continuous, of services and computer services of the library relies on a versatile IT team of 3 persons (2.5 ETP), who can themselves count on the support of staff of the central computer services of the School (about 85 EPT), in charge of infrastructure, professional applications and software as well as content services facilitating the dissemination of information (lists, CMS, blogs, wikis, etc.).

A flexible library

Without being revolutionary, the Bibliothèque de l'EPFL however marks a major breakthrough in the concept of academic library, by pushing a little farther, and on all

aspects, recent developments experienced in the field of library sciences. The range of services offered, the organisation and skills of the team, focus on the needs of the reader, in a versatile and inspiring place, promote continuous interaction between individuals that foster research and learning.

At the beginning of the 21st century, it renews the collective representation of the library, by becoming more open, more flexible, more open-ended, like the Internet.

For more information, go to library.epfl.ch and on rolexlearningcenter.epfl.ch



Exterieur-panorama-timelapse-amassaras. Cr dit photo:   Aristeia Massaras

The Effect of Technologies on Library Design: building the 21st century library

Sponsored by:

IFLA Standing Committee on Library Buildings and Equipment &
IFLA Standing Committee on Information Technology

Date:
10-11 August 2011

Location:
Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A

Technology provides a tool for the delivery of library service. Technology also shapes and limits how service can be delivered. The effective library building supports changing service patterns, changing modes of service delivery, and changing technological applications.

The IFLA Standing Committee on Library Buildings and Equipment, with the support of the IT Standing Committee, offers this satellite workshop in advance of the 2011 IFLA World Library and Information Congress to explore the ways technology impacts library service today, and, more specifically, how our buildings have responded to those changes in recent projects and how our buildings will have to be designed to respond to future changes.

Wednesday 10 August

09.30 *Registration opens and coffee*

10.30-10.45 **Introductions and presentation of the agenda**

10.45-12.30 **Session 1 – *Impact of advances in technology on library operations and patron use and what that means for the library building.***

Moderator: *Karen Latimer*, Chair IFLA Library Buildings & Equipment Standing Committee, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, United Kingdom

“Not Your Dream Library – The One After That”

Jeffrey Hoover, Principal, Tappé Associates, Inc., Boston, MA USA

“Libraries are still the heart of the university with the help of a robot: the University of Missouri Kansas City experience.”

Sharon Bostick, Dean of Libraries, University of Missouri – Kansas City, Kansas City, MO and

Robert A. Simmons, Assoc. Vice Chancellor, University of Missouri Kansas City

“Breaking Down the Barriers – the No-Desk Academic Library”

Janet Fletcher, Director, Information Services, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

12.30-13.30

Lunch

13.30-15.15

Session 2 – How shifting user expectations affects the building response.

Moderator: *Olaf Eigenbrodt*, Fachbereiche Sprache Literatur Medien, Universität Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany

“Accommodating Shifting User Expectations”

Janine Schmidt, Director, Murkata Consulting, Brisbane, Australia

“Creating the 21st Century Learning Environment.”

Vicki McDonald, Associate Director, Library Services, Queensland University of Technology, Kelvin Grove, Australia

“From Basement to Garden Level: A Technology-Driven Renovation”

Corey Sue, Director of Finance and Facilities, Woodward Library, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

“Learning and working environments – what students expect. Results of a Student Design Contest”

Reinhard Altenhoener, IT Director, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

15.15-15.30

Break

15.30-17.00

Session 3 – Beyond technology: additional changes in service patterns that affect facilities requirements.

Moderator: *Sharon Bostick*, Dean of Libraries, University of Missouri – Kansas City, Kansas City, MO

“The 21st Century Library Building – Adjust or Wither”

Jeffrey Scherer, Principal, Meyer Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd., Minneapolis, MN USA

“Two Paths to Preservation: Taking Them Both”

Randy J. Olsen, Director of Libraries, Church History Libraries, Salt Lake City, UT USA

18.30

Conference dinner

Thursday 11 August

9.30-10.45

Session 4 – a new library for the 21st century library - case studies from Library Journal’s New Landmark Libraries

Moderator: *Anders Dahlgren*, President, Library Planning Associates, Inc., Normal, IL USA

“An overview of LJ’s New Landmark Libraries”

Louise Schaper, Library Consultant, Fayetteville, AR USA

“The Poplar Creek Library”

Lonn Frye, Frye Gillian Molinaro Architects, Chicago, IL USA

“Durango Public Library”

Bruce Flynn, Barker Rinker Seacat, Denver, CO USA

“Roseville Library” and “Maple Grove Library”

Jeffrey Scherer, Meyer Scherer Rockcastle, Minneapolis, MN USA

“Anythink Wright Farms”

Dennis Humphries, Humphries Poli Architects, Denver, CO USA

“Kilton Public Library”

Jeffrey Hoover, Tappé Associates, Inc., Boston, MA USA

10.45-11.00

Break

11.00-12.30

Session 5 – response and summary by 4-5 experts from the IFLA Standing Committee on Library Buildings and Equipment and the IFLA Standing Committee on IT.

Optional afternoon tours of recently completed area public and academic libraries will be available.

Life at Emory.
Source:www.emory.edu



Puerto Rico - August 2011

The World Library and Information Congress 2011, 77th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, will take place at the [Puerto Rico Convention Center](#), in San Juan, Puerto Rico, [from 13-18 August 2011](#) with the theme:

“Libraries beyond libraries: integration, innovation and information for all”



the Puerto Rico Convention Center's Exhibition Hall

The Library Buildings and Equipment Section

is holding its Open Session in San Juan, Puerto Rico 2011 on the theme:

Sustainability issues in the design of libraries: the importance of creating environmentally responsible library facilities and spaces in the 21st Century

Congress track 5: Ideas, innovations, anticipating the new.

18 August 2011 08:30 - 10:30 | Room: 104

- [**Sustainable libraries, sustainable services: a global view**](#)
PETER GENOVESE and PATRICIA ALBANESE (Global Library Consulting, Rochester, NY, USA)
- [**The second hand library building: sustainable thinking through recycling old buildings into new libraries**](#)
PETRA HAUKE (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany) and KLAUS WERNER (Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany)
- [**Energy saving and green building design of libraries: a case study of Zhengzhou Library**](#)
XUAN WANG (Library Society of China & National Library of China, Beijing, China) and HONGYAN LI (Zhengzhou Library, Zhengzhou, China)
- [**Building a "storehouse of wisdom" with an environmental conscience: a work in progress**](#)
KAREN KEALY and JENNY ELLIS (University of Melbourne, Vic., Australia)