

Session 9, Friday

Bas Savenije, *Utrecht University Library*

The librarian as manager of the process towards a new library building

Abstract

In September 2004 Utrecht University will open a new building for the university library. The process towards this new library was started in 1995. This process is completely conducted under the responsibility of the university librarian.

The presentation describes:

- the new building: its functions and design, as well as its flexibility towards the future;
- the project: the project phases and the organisation in the different phases.

Special attention is given to the crucial role of the university librarian and the pitfalls of the specific way the project was organised.

Finally, some observations are made concerning the momentum towards organisational and cultural change, created by a new building.

CV

J.S.M. (Bas) Savenije (1947) studied philosophy at Utrecht University in the Netherlands; he graduated in philosophical logic. Since then, he has held a wide range of positions at Utrecht University, among which: Director of Strategic Planning, acting Director Media Institute, and Director Budgeting & Control.

Since 1994 he has been university librarian, managing the comprehensive library of Utrecht University. He has initiated an extensive innovation program in the library, including services for academic e-publishing.

Bas has published on the management of higher education, library innovation and the innovation of scientific publishing.

He is President of the Dutch Association of Librarians and Information Managers. He is chairman of the Board of SPARC Europe and member of the steering committee of SPARC US (The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition).

See also: <http://www.uu.nl/staff/savenije>