

Campus Solution: the Case of the Debrecen University Libraries

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Historical background

Debrecen, the second largest city in Hungary

- intellectual centre
- higher education from 1538(Protestant College)



History of the University

- University of Debrecen (UD) established in 1912
- The 3 former faculties (humanities, law, and science) of the Protestant College merged + faculty of medicine
- 1948-49: Higher Education Reform: self-contained universities
- 1990: 5 independent institutions of higher education
- Negotiations for reuniting and integrating the segregated universities



The University of Debrecen

Debrecen University Association founded in 1991

Objective: parity with European universities

Shared projects completed by the end of 1997:

- integrated campus telephone system and computer network
- centralised, computer-based information network for student registration and finance administration
- integrated library system for the affiliated libraries



Higher Education Act, 1998

32 state universities → 13 integrated institutions

UD established January 1, 2000: with 15 faculties

1,700 teaching/research staff, 27,000 students

Institutional Development Plan (IDP) 1998: crossutilization of staff and facilities

Construction of the Life Science Building and Library

Potential for future program development and enrollment growth for Social Sciences

History of the Library

- 1918: the University Library opens to the public
- Holdings in 1918: 10,000 volumes
- 1952: deposit library status
- 1997: national library status
- 1987: university church converted into a library building



Library Integration

January 1, 2001, University and National Library

Public Library with a national collection development policy

Centre of the National Document Delivery System in Hungary

Current holdings: 6,000,000

Periodical collection: 6,000 titles



Campus of Engeneering



Campus of Economics/Law



Campus of Agricultural Sciences





1,5 km







Campus of Teacher Training



National and General Collection

- ❖ Holdings: 4,300,000 documents
- Premises: 6,415 square meters

Library of Agriculture

- **♦** Holdings: 170,000 documents
- Premises: 865 sqaure meters



Kenézy Medical Library

- Holdings: 190,000 documents
- Premises: 750 square meters

Library of Economics

- Holdings: 15,000 documents
- Premises: 180 square meters



Library of the Faculty of Engineering

- Holdings: 65,000 documents
- Premises: 482 square meters

Library of the Teacher Training College

- Holdings: 40,000 documents
- Premises: 414 square meters



- Music Conservatory Library
- Holdings: 58,000 documents
- Premises: 200 square meters



Library organization

136 affiliated branch libraries with individual collections → uneconomical and difficult to operate

Developmental project: to improve and harmonize library structure and work flow based on a matrix-type arrangement



Library development program

Library environment: flexibility for moving and regrouping literature, open–shelf reading rooms and diverse options of study spaces

Library system: self-contained and integrated special collections (life science, agriculture, economics and law, technical sciences) should be created

New Library Projects

Social Science Library (2002-)

1760 sq. meters; holdings: 180,000;
160 seats

Life Science Library (2005-)
3600 sq. meters; holdings: 320,000;
210 seats























































































