The Concept and Realisation of Branch Libraries at the University of Frankfurt

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Topics

- Environment of the University Library
- University Library
- Concept of Branch Libraries in Frankfurt
- Branch Libraries – some impressions
- The University Library 2024 and further developments
Environment of the University Library – City of Frankfurt

Known for
- International Airport
- European Central Bank
- International Book Fair

Inhabitants: 773.000

International City:
- 56% with migration background
- 175 different nationalities
Environment of the University Library – University and Library

„Goethe-University“
- founded 1914
- 2023:
  - Students: 43,360
  - Staff: 5,817 (582 Professors)

„University Library Johann Christian Senckenberg“
- Oldest branch dates back to 1484
- 2000: 150 small and smallest libraries and 2 functional University Libraries
- 2005: fully integrated into the Goethe-University
Branch Libraries: Start of the realisation

Campus Bockenheim (old)
Campus Westend (new)
Campus Riedberg
Humanities Library

- 21 libraries => Humanities Library
- Opening: 2001 (110 Mio. EUR)
- Floor area (Lib.): 7,900 m²
Humanities Library

Students of humanities: ca. 6,000
User seats: 800
Shelf capacity: ca. 1 Mio.
Staff: 18.2 FTE
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8-22, Sat: 10-18
Humanities Library

Reading Room

„Paternoster“
Concept of Branch Libraries

- New building – new location
- Concentration of small libraries – interdisciplinary
- Improvement and stabilisation of opening hours
- Learning Centres
- Open for the public
- Reduction of stock pre-movement: 15-20%
- No place for collection increase
- Open stacks
- Staff move from faculty to University Library
- Professionalisation of library work
- Division of tasks between branch libraries and Central Library
Library of Law and Economics

Opening: 2008
Floor area: 8.200 m²

Students of law and economics: ca. 10.000
User seats: 1.000
Shelf capacity: 630.000
Staff: 15,2 FTE
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8-22, Sat-Sun 10-22
Library of Law and Economics

Ground Floor and Basement
Library of Natural Sciences

Opening: 2011
Floor area: 2,878 m²
Students: ca. 4,500
User seats: 330
Shelf capacity: 300,000
Staff: 4.4 FTE
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8-20, Sat 10-16
Library for Social Sciences and Psychology

Opening: 2013
Floor area: 3.500 m²

Students: ca. 8.000
User seats: 470
Shelf capacity: 500.000
Staff: 15,3 FTE
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8-22, Sat 10-18
Library for Social Sciences and Psychology

Groundfloor
Library for Social Sciences and Psychology

Basement
Library of Linguistics, Culture and Arts

Opening: 2022  
Floor area: 3,400 m²

Students: ca. 2,500  
User seats: 350  
Shelf capacity: 385,000  
Staff: 9,3 FTE  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8-20, Sat 10-18
Library of Linguistics, Culture and Arts
Library of Linguistics, Culture and Arts
Lessons learned and what’s about the Central Library?

Lessons learned:
• Not as flexible as we would have liked
• 7 large locations => staff is necessary for daily work

Central Library
Opening in 1964...
Summary: Branch Libraries 2001-2022

- Humanities Library 2001 – renovation
- Medical Library 2001 - renovation
- Library of Law and Economics 2008 – new faculty building
- Library of Natural Sciences 2011 – new infrastructure building
- Library for Social Sciences and Psychology 2013 – new faculty building
- Library of Linguistics, Culture and Arts 2022 – new faculty building
University Library Johann Christian Senckenberg - today

- University Library with 10 locations
- Visitors: 1,9 Mio. (2023)
- Staff: 209 FTE and about 160 student assistants

Some topics of our tasks
Acquisition, Cataloguing, Circulation, Cultural heritage, Digital Humanities, Digitization, Document Delivery, Information, IT-Services, Licensing, Metadata, National and regional services, Open Access, Preservation, Public Relations and exhibitions, Research Data Management, Special collections, Storage,…

Strategic process of transformation
- Started in 2021
- 2022: Vision => „We are a HUB for people, knowledge and services at the Goethe-University“
Further Development

- Reorganisation in 2023
  - Branch libraries are integrated into a new Department: Learning Spaces and Academic Support

- Further development of the branch libraries: New services in the fields of
  - Digital Humanities
  - Research Data management
  - Open Access

- In the next years we try to get some capacity of staff by
  - Further Automatization
  - „Come together“ in the field of aquisition and metadata
If you are interested in the branch libraries or the further development of our University Library:

Visit us in Frankfurt! - You are welcome!
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Maps:
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Layouts
• Hess. Baumanagement (p. 11-12, 14, 16-17)

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