Building bridges: the cooperation of Polish academic libraries

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Cooperation of libraries

Common effort of two or more libraries to share their resources, experience and knowledge for providing better services to their users
[CO] - operation

philanthropist

coop·er·age (-ij) n. 1 t
cooper 2 a) the work of
price charged for such v
co·op·er·ate or co-op
ā’t) vi. --at’ed, --at’-ing [pp. of cooperari, to work
with + operari, to wor
operis), work: see OPUS]
together

colla·face /ko-luh-face/ colla·faces. In coal mining, the
coalface is the part where the coal is being
cut out of the rock.
colla·field /kuh·field/ colla·fields. A coalfield is a w
region where there is coal under the ground. The
park lies on top of a coalfield.

collaboration (-o-ra’-shun),

united labour.
colla·bor·a·tor (-lab’-o-rat),
one who assists another
in literary or scien
colla·pase

does not
way, but talks in ano
con·sort·ium /kan’sər-təm/ US: -təm/
tia /-tər/ US: -tər/
number of powers,
common purpose: i
Variety of levels and forms

Libraries collaboration may be formal and informal, local, state, and regional, national and international. It can be based on voluntary agreements among two or more libraries or it can be imposed on libraries by library law or by local or central government that finances libraries.
LIBRARY COOPERATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY
Three examples of cooperation among Polish academic libraries

- NUKAT - shared cataloging project
- BiblioWawa - borrowing program for Warsaw academic libraries
- Directors of Polish Academic Libraries’ Conference
NUKAT in numbers

Shared cataloging in NUKAT union database may be joined by any research library and in selected cases...

6514137 authority records
4216069 bibliographic records
16847551 downloaded bibliographic records
171 NUKAT member libraries
Some highlights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format of Document</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Place of Publication</th>
<th>Publication Year</th>
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<td>Books (3788642)</td>
<td>Polish (1793671)</td>
<td>Poland (1876001)</td>
<td>2000 - 2009 (798044)</td>
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<td>Serials (112303)</td>
<td>English (911803)</td>
<td>Germany (556419)</td>
<td>2010 - 2019 (700263)</td>
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<td>Articles, chapters (94017)</td>
<td>German (575159)</td>
<td>United States (372345)</td>
<td>1990 - 1999 (588511)</td>
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<td>Notated music (79241)</td>
<td>French (287124)</td>
<td>United Kingdom (296856)</td>
<td>1980 - 1989 (446877)</td>
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<td>Maps, globes, etc. (44351)</td>
<td>Russian (202364)</td>
<td>France (249524)</td>
<td>1970 - 1979 (437548)</td>
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<td>Prints, drawings, photographs, etc. (32734)</td>
<td>Italian (78227)</td>
<td>Russia (Federation) (177296)</td>
<td>1960 - 1969 (308450)</td>
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<td>Sound recordings (27553)</td>
<td>Latin (59652)</td>
<td>Italy (92563)</td>
<td>1950 - 1959 (171510)</td>
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<td>Manuscripts (incl. doctoral theses) (22350)</td>
<td>No linguistic content (61134)</td>
<td>No place / unknown (53540)</td>
<td>1930 - 1939 (117569)</td>
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<td>Movies (12088)</td>
<td>Spanish (39572)</td>
<td>Ukraine (53237)</td>
<td>1920 - 1929 (103266)</td>
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<td>Multimedia, software, etc. (2851)</td>
<td>Czech (25782)</td>
<td>Netherlands (52791)</td>
<td>1940 - 1949 (90518)</td>
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<td>Collections (650)</td>
<td>Ukrainian (19458)</td>
<td>Austria (42983)</td>
<td>1910 - 1919 (70564)</td>
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<td>Music manuscripts (104)</td>
<td>Serbian (13414)</td>
<td>Switzerland (42640)</td>
<td>1900 - 1909 (68073)</td>
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<td>Map manuscripts (2)</td>
<td>Swedish (11453)</td>
<td>Czech Republic (33234)</td>
<td>1890 - 1899 (46666)</td>
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Show less...
Collective strength and effectiveness of a group of libraries is greater than that of the sum of libraries belonging to the group.

Information needs of users have increased so much during last decades that single library is not sufficient.
• Collaboration within NUKAT helps in standardization of cataloging formats, policies, procedures and practices among cooperating libraries and in achieving better understanding of collection management and development practices.

• Exchanging of experience and best practices gives the possibility of bringing together diverse ideas and issues and discuss them.
Barriers and difficulties

Institutional: desire for autonomy in libraries can be stronger than the desire to cooperate.

Psychological: personal needs can take priority over system needs.

Resource sharing or shared cataloging can be viewed as a threat to status and job security.
BiblioWawa - reciprocal borrowing program

• The program provides the Warsaw academic community with convenient access to circulating library resources of the cooperating libraries

• Designed for full-time and extramural undergraduate and postgraduate students, students of postgraduate diploma courses and for academic staff

• The users have right to borrow library materials from all libraries cooperating in the program and have individual library accounts which entitles the user to borrow the host library materials. Borrowers are responsible for complying with all rules of the library from which they are borrowing.
Libraries cooperating in the program

- University of Warsaw Library
- Main Library of the Warsaw University of Technology
- Main Library of the Medical University of Warsaw
- Main Library of the Military University of Technology
- Main Library of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw
- Main Library of the Maria Grzegorzewska University
- Library of the Józef Piłsudski University of Physical Education
BiblioWawa as a interlibrary lending program
RESOURCE SHARING
Directors of Polish Academic Libraries’ Conference

The goals of the organisation:

- presenting opinions and positions on matters pertaining to libraries,
- undertaking activities integrating the university libraries,
- supporting initiatives to improve roles and functions of the university libraries,
- representing the interests of employees of university libraries,
- care for the social prestige of the librarian's profession and an employee of scientific information.
Let’s build bridges!
Thank you for your attention!

Katarzyna Ślaska, University of Warsaw Library