Renovating the Library: Creating Learning Spaces and Moving to E-Only

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Agenda

- E-only in Europe
- Considerations and choices
- Saving space
- New learning centres and the renovation of the Tilburg University Library
- Some comments

E-Only policies in European countries: Germany

➢ Most libraries have cancelled print subscriptions

➢ Parallel subscriptions are exceptional

➢ Libraries have not removed print journals from their stacks

E-Only policies in European countries: Finland

➢ Strong move to E-Only

➢ Most libraries do not buy print anymore

➢ VAT is no problem. It is covered by the government

➢ Print collections have been removed systematically from the stacks

➢ National Repository Library holds one copy of printed journal

E-Only policy: Spain

- Most (regional) consortia are focused on e-only , with print as optional addition
- Some consortia take print + electronic
- Largest universities resist an e-only policy

E-Only policies: The Netherlands

- 12 University libraries have an E-Only policy
- 1 Library is planning to have such a policy within 12-18 months
- Various libraries remove old print journals from their stacks
- Libraries are still taking print if there is no e-version
- In some areas academics request print

E-Only policies: United Kingdom

- Responses from 35 SCONUL libraries

- 12 libraries have an E-Only policy

- 22 libraries don't have an E-Only policy

- 9 libraries would consider such a policy within the next years

- One library reported that they disposed of print journals backfiles

Why not E-Only?

- Relevant E-journals are not available
- Users prefer print
- Reluctance of library management

Why libraries choose for E-Only

- With electronic journals you can provide a better service
- Users prefer electronic access
- Costs
- To save space

Caveats

- An e-version should be available

- Archiving policy

- Robust and perpetual access

- E-only should not be more expensive than print + electronic (VAT)

E-Books

- Everyone expects and waits for a real breakthrough
- Easy E-access to major book collections would change the library picture completely
- Publishers cannot continue their policy on textbooks

Saving space

- Increasing pressure on universities to provide better learning facilities

- Storage is expensive and universities are becoming more cost aware

- Budget cuts will force universities to make choices

- There is less need to keep in print what is available in electronic form at many different locations

Different choices can be made: European University Institute

- Lack of space for library material

- Lack of space for PhD students

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- Acquire expensive deposits

- Move a complete department out of the main building

- Extend the library space

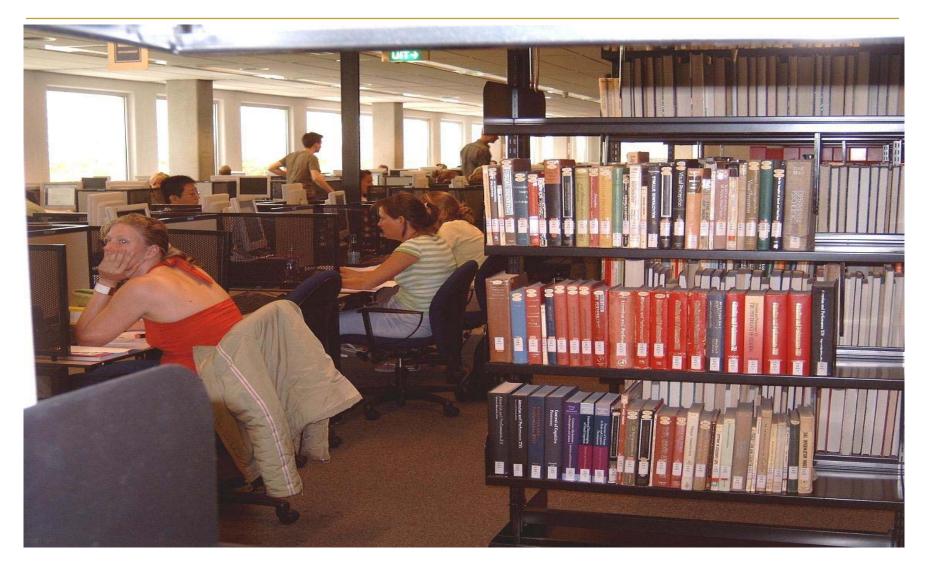# Different choices can be made: Tilburg University

- More and better study places for students and researchers are required
- Facilitate group work
- No space for more storage anymore
- Get rid of printed journal collections if long term archiving and preservation of e-journals is guaranteed
- Remove 60,000 monographs from open stacks
- Digitisation

Library & IT Services

Library & IT Services

Tilburg University Library

- In 1992 front-runner in the development of the digital library with 450 pc's for students and focus on access to E-information

- Complete renovation of the library building in 2009/2010

Why already after 18 years?

- Library was heavily used, refurbishment was badly needed

- Experiences and comments from researchers, students and library staff could finally be taken into account

- New working practices of staff and students

- Continuing move from print to electronic

- More learning spaces required

From one new Learning Centre to more learning centres

- Original idea to create one important and large Learning Centre could not be realised

- Various learning centres (without books) were created close to the schools but managed by Library and IT Services

- Improve and extend Learning areas in the Library (learning from pilot concept of Mel Collier: Learning Forum)

- A part of this development is 'planned', a part is improvisation and flexible attitude

Library & IT Services

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Renovation programme

- Based on consultation of professors, staff and students
- Involvement of users in the design process
- Compromises inevitable
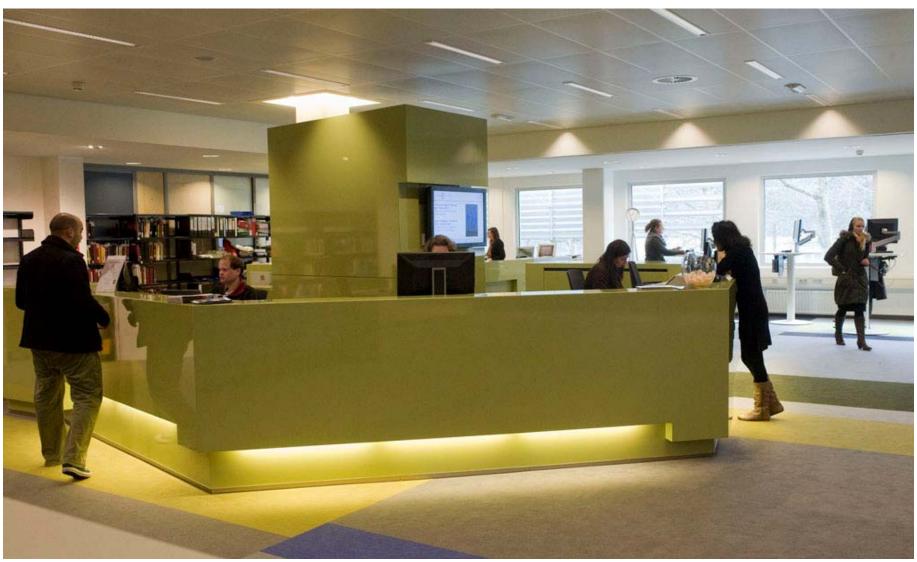- Interior designer: Merkx and Girod

Objectives

- To create an attractive, modern and inviting place
- Clear distinction of functions:
  >learning - research – heritage
  >silence - noice
- One help desk for all Library and IT issues
- Acknowledge social function of the library
- Espresso bar – eating and drinking allowed in the learning area

Distinction of functions

- **Learning**
  Individual work (with and without computers)
  Learning area for groupwork
  Dedicated rooms for Instruction and Tutorials,
  Scriptorium, E-learning projects

- **Modern Research library**
  Areas for visiting professors and PhDs, areas for research
  data, e-research project rooms

- **Access to heritage collections**

- **Flexible working area for LIS staff**

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Different learning activities, different preferences

- Various learning styles
- Working in silence with books/papers
- Working alone with a PC or laptop
- Working together on a PC
- Group work without a PC

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Some final comments

- E-access from anywhere and at anytime will continue to change the use of the physical library

- Libraries will get rid of print journals, but

- We need a limited number of trusted safe places to archive and preserve electronic resources

- Acquisition of print books will decline

- Optimal use of library space

- Serving the needs of students on site becomes our first priority

- Budgets will force us to make choices