WZB

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin
für Sozialforschung

Informationslandschaft im Wandel –
Herausforderungen
für wissenschaftliche Bibliotheken

Studienreise US-amerikanischer „information professionals"
im Dezember 2012

Hintergrund und Zielsetzung

Sebastian Nix

Erstmals seit den 1970er Jahren wird derzeit in Deutschland wieder intensiv über die zukünftige Ausrichtung der Informationsinfrastrukturen diskutiert. Hintergrund dieser Debatte sind die Umwälzungen aufgrund der exponentiell zunehmenden Bedeutung des Internets für die wissenschaftliche Informationsversorgung. Studierende und Forschende erwarten heute einen umfassenden Onlinezugriff auf für ihre Arbeit relevante Informationsressourcen.

Dies wirkt sich erheblich auf die Arbeit wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken aus, denen ganz neue Aufgaben der Informationsbereitstellung und –vermittlung zufallen. Zudem gewinnen neue Akteure wie Suchmaschinenanbieter oder die Betreiber sozialer Netzwerke im Bereich der wissenschaftlichen Informationsversorgung an Bedeutung.

Besonders gut lassen sich die Konsequenzen dieser Entwicklungen am Beispiel von Informationseinrichtungen aus dem Großraum Berlin aufzeigen. Hier gibt es eine außerordentliche hohe Dichte an universitären und außeruniversitären Forschungseinrichtungen, die über jeweils eigene Infrastrukturen der wissenschaftlichen Informationsversorgung verfügen.

Die Thematisierung und Vertiefung der Frage, welche Auswirkungen die digitale Revolution auf wissenschaftliche Bibliotheken hat, ist gerade im Rahmen eines transatlantischen Dialogs sinnvoll, da viele neue Entwicklungen im wissenschaftlichen Bibliothekswesen ihren Ausgang in den USA nehmen und diesseits des Atlantiks in spezifischer Weise rezipiert und weitergeführt werden.

Vor diesem Hintergrund organisierte der Bereich „Bibliothek und wissenschaftliche Information" am Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung gGmbH (WZB) für zehn „information professionals" aus den USA eine einwöchige Studienreise zu bibliothekarischen und verwandten Einrichtungen im Großraum Berlin. Ziel der Studienreise, die vom 8. bis zum 15. Dezember 2012 (einschließlich An- und Abreisetage) dauerte, war es, aktuelle Strukturentwicklungen in der Informationslandschaft der Bundesrepublik Deutschland in einer transatlantischen Perspektive zu diskutieren.

Der US-amerikanischen Gruppe gehörten Kolleginnen und Kollegen aus unterschiedlichen Einrichtungen an:

- Cy Behroozi (Library Director; Brookings Institution);
- Elizabeth Cooper (Head of Research & Instruction; Auraria Library – University of Colorado Denver);
- Kathleen Dreyer (Head of Watson Library; Columbia University);
- Kim Dulin (Associate Director for Collection Development and Digitization; Harvard Law School Library);
- Jan Herd (Business Digital Reference Specialist; Science, Technology & Business Division – Library of Congress);
- JoAnn Jacoby (Head Reference, Research and Scholarly Services; Main Library – University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign);
- Matthew Marostica (Economics and Political Science Subject Specialist; Stanford University)
- Katherine McNeill (Social Science Data Services, Economics, and Interim Political Science Librarian; Massachusetts Institute of Technology);
- Johannes Neuer (Associate Director of Marketing; New York Public Library);
- Victoria Steele (Brooke Russell Astor Director of Collections Strategy, New York Public Library).

Der nachfolgende Reisebericht bewusst konzipiert als Collage aus den persönlichen Reiseeindrücken dieser Personen. So soll ein möglichst lebendiger Eindruck vom Verlauf der Studienreise

vermittelt werden. An einigen Stellen wurden aus Gründen des Vertraulichkeitsschutzes Kürzungen vorgenommen.

Besonderer Dank gilt Bibliothek & Information International (BI-International), der ständigen Kommission von Bibliothek & Information Deutschland (BID) für den internationalen Fachaustausch, ohne deren finanzielle Unterstützung die Organisation und Durchführung einer solchen Reise nicht möglich gewesen wäre.

Dies gilt umso mehr noch für jene Kolleginnen und Kollegen aus den besuchten Einrichtungen, deren großes Engagement diese Reise für die US-amerikanischen Gäste zu einem herausragenden Erlebnis machte.

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9. Dezember 2012
Führung durch das Jacob-und-Wilhelm-Grimm-Zentrum

JoAnn Jacoby

One of the highlights of the study tour for me was our tour of the Jacob-und-Wilhelm-Grimm-Zentrum, the new main library building at Humboldt University. As a librarian who works in a large university library with extensive collections (just over 14 million volumes, roughly half of which are housed onsite in open shelving), I was keenly interested to see how this state-of-the-art facility balanced the needs for attractive and functional user spaces where students and faculty can study, read and interact with the need to house extensive collections onsite.

Abbildung 1: Leseterrassen im Grimm-Zentrum (Foto: J. Neuer)

The Humboldt University library places user spaces at the center of the building design, literally and figuratively. The seven floors are designed around open reading terraces in the center of the building, with books stacks wrapped around the outer perimeter. The reading terraces were fully occupied during our Sunday afternoon visit, with hundreds of students working and doing research. Most students seemed to bring their own laptops, rather than use the public computers. Reading tables with outlets were full to capacity, while the public computer stations had many open seats, very much like what I see in the reading room in the main library where I work. One of the unique features was "Berliner Volksbank nursery" – an enclosed (and sound-proof!) room specially outfitted with comfortable furniture and play areas where parents with children can study while their children play or read. This inviting space was occupied by at least two families when we visited, and provides an inspiring example of how university libraries can provide for the needs of students and faculty with young children. I was also impressed by the state of the art technology, including self-check-out stations and an automated, self-service vault where students can retrieve materials on hold for them without staff assistance, providing access to these materials without the need for staff intervention during the extensive hours the building is open. All in all, I came away from the visit with many ideas to consider incorporating into our building renovation plans at my home institution.

I also appreciated the warm hospitality of our tour guide, Sebastian Dulski, who came in on the weekend to give a specially guided tour and was ready to answer our many questions our group asked during our the first library tour on our itinerary.

Abbildung 2: Abholautomat für Bücher im Grimm-Zentrum (Foto: J. Neuer)

10./11./14. Dezember 2012
Eindrücke aus dem WZB

VICTORIA STEELE

All of us relished visiting the WZB, the home institution of our charming host, Sebastian Nix. Below are a few bullet points about what stands out in my memory of our visits.

- We were taken with the postmodern architecture of the campus – complete with amphitheater, campanile, stoa, and basilica. (Striking, too, was the scaffolding that was being disassembled after lengthy repairs to the fabric of some of the buildings.) The historic building that once housed the offices of the GDR's social security administration now serves as the entrance to the campus and contains a memorably graceful double staircase.
- Sebastian's colleague Dr. Dagmar Simon said "diversity" in Germany today essentially means adding more women to the mix.

Abbildung 3: Vortrag von Dr. Dagmar Simon (WZB) zum deutschen Wissenschaftssystem (Foto: S. Nix)

- The campus's library is modern and stylish. Though the multi-floor design is perhaps not entirely efficient from a staff perspective, the library has a pleasant feel and certainly offers spectacular views.
- For the sake of economy and the environment, lights in the library automatically switch off. This ecologically and economically sensible arrangement nevertheless led to some laughs as the lights went out several times where our group was gathered. [...]
- Sebastian and his staff have, literally, an open-door policy. Whenever they are in their offices, they keep their doors open and make themselves available to users.
- We enjoyed two tasty lunches in the staff café. [...]
- We had a spectacular farewell evening at the WZB catered by Sebastian and his lovely wife. (Who can forget the homemade brownies?) Since our group did not feel ready to say goodbye, we reconvened afterwards in the bar of Motel One for a nightcap and a final hour of conviviality, reminiscing happily about all we'd learned during our stay in Berlin, the places we'd visited, and the good friends we'd made.

10. Dezember 2012

„Open Science und Bibliotheken" (Alexander von Humboldt Institut für Internet und Gesellschaft)

KIM DULIN

I was very excited to visit the Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society (HIIG) because I work closely with its U.S. counterpart, the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University (http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/). HIIG is a much younger organization than Berkman, it was only officially founded in April 2012. Though much smaller in scale than the Berkman Center, HIIG engages in a wide variety of issues affecting the interdependence between society and the Internet. I was impressed with its work and the dedication of its researchers.

We were hosted by Dr. Sascha Friesike, a researcher at the Institute, as well as Dr. Cornelius Puschmann, a postdoctoral researcher at the Berlin School of Library and Information Science who is working on a project with Dr. Friesike.

Dr. Friesike gave us a quick overview of the history of the Institute. Although there had been various institutions in Germany researching the Internet and its effect on society, there was no official center with a German focus until HIIG was created. It received its initial funding of 4.5 million € from Google. According to Dr. Friesike the funding came with no strings attached.

The Institute aims to contribute to a better understanding of the interdependence between society and the Internet and hopes to contribute to the creation of a digital, networked future open to everyone.

HIIG has four lead projects, social media governance, circulation of cultural goods, open science, and privacy and Internet. Dr. Friesike spoke to us about his work on the open science project. His research has revealed the existence of several schools of thought crossing paths in the general field of open science. This creates confusion about what open science really means. Dr. Friesike described the schools of thought and gave us a better understanding of the complexity of the world of open science.

At the end of the presentation both of our hosts talked to us about libraries. We engaged in an interesting discussion of how they each conduct their personal research and what their hopes are for the future of libraries. Dr. Friesike sees the library of the future as a place to enable people to become smarter and to provide a research center that goes beyond "googling". He also sees a need for librarians to become more involved in the upstream area of research creation. He sees librarians as experts in structuring data and researchers have a need for that expertise.

Abbildung 4: Angenehme Arbeitsatmosphäre im HIIG (Foto: K. Dulin)

One a more personal note, I was struck by how similar the workspace at HIIG is to the workspaces at the Berkman Center.

If not for the sounds of German being spoken I would have thought I was back in Cambridge. There is an open casual feel to both spaces that allows for easy collaborations and contributes to the generation of innovative ideas. I was particularly impressed with the design of kitchen area which takes up only a corner of the space but seems to be a central focus of the room. I had a sense that the people who were part of HIIG were very happy to be there.

10./11. Dezember 2012:
Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Digitalisierungsaktivitäten und architektonische Impressionen

Elizabeth Cooper

The study group visited the two Berlin State Library (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin) buildings on Unter den Linden (East) and Potsdamer Straße (West).

Abbildung 5: Digitalisierungszentrum im Haus unter den Linden (Foto: S. Nix)

On Monday, December 10, 2012, we visited the Unter den Linden building and met with Dr. Karl Werner Finger, Andreas Mälck, Renate Müller, Konstanze Rönnefahrt, Michaela Scheibe, and Kaya Tasci. They shared information about the library's digitization activities, workflows and plans and then gave us a tour of the library's digitization facilities.

Our group was very impressed with the state of the art digitization equipment and spaces, especially the size of the operation and the number of digitization machines and staff that are constantly working to scan the library's materials. The staff also gave us a tour of the library's new reading room. We were very fortunate to visit the library on the very day that the library received the key to their new beautiful reading room after six years of renovation. It was a very exciting day for the library staff and we were honored to share in this special occasion and to be some of the first people to see these new spectacular facilities.

The following day, Tuesday, December 11, 2012, we visited the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin Potsdamer Straße building for an architectural tour. Our tour guide, Uwe Schwersky, was fantastic – he shared information about the library's history and architecture in the most entertaining way. We learned how the Staatsbibliothek collections were scattered during World War II and how many of them, if they were repatriated after the war, were returned to West Germany and the new West German Staatsbibliothek on Potsdamer Straße (designed by Hans Scharoun and built in the Kulturforum from 1967–1978 as the original Unter den Linden building was in East Germany after the division of the country). It was fascinating to learn how Berlin's history, during WWII and later as a divided city, impacted libraries, library collections, and researchers. After having visited the beautiful newly renovated facilities at the Unter den Linden building the day before, it was amazing to see the equally architecturally significant and impressive facilities at the Potsdamer Straße facility. The building is a remarkable library building and public space. The architect's success at creating "landscapes" and vistas within the building space, as well as his use of light and building materials, were incredible. We were particularly fascinated to see the control area the architect created where he envisioned a staff member who would sit all day watching the light in the space and continually adjusting window shades, lighting, etc. to control this landscape's lighting.

Abbildung 6: Lesesaal im Haus Potsdamer Straße (Foto: J. Neuer)

It was also very interesting to learn the challenges of a library working in a building that has been designated an architectural national monument. There are, obviously, amazing benefits to being in such a building, but there are also difficulties related to the library's inability to make changes that would support the library's work and patron needs in the fast-changing world of libraries and information. To be in a building that cannot be changed while the work going on in that building is constantly changing and evolving would be very frustrating. Our group was also struck by how busy yet quiet this enormous space was and the fact that all the study spaces were for individual quiet study, not group study (this is very different from most academic libraries in the US which now have large portions of space devoted to noisier group study). We also learned that in a survey 80% of patrons supported the idea that no cell phones should be used in the library and that violators should be thrown out (which they are). We were also intrigued by the architect's desire to mix patron seating and stacks in his idea to bring people near the books they need instead of having a separate reading room – which was a fairly new idea at the time the library was built (though only 160,000 of the library's 5 million books are in the open stacks and the rest are in closed stacks). We were also interested to learn that the primary visitors (85%) of this state library are students. Our guide informed us that the library is famous as a meeting place for students and that they like to use this library because of its atmosphere. We also loved hearing our guide's story of how he gave a similar tour to Frank Gehry (and his staff) as Mr. Gehry considers the library one of his favorite buildings.

Forschungsdateninfrastrukturen in Deutschland – Vortrag von Prof. Dr. Gert G. Wagner (DIW Berlin)

Katherine McNeill

Prof. Wagner first gave the group an overview of the German Data Forum (RatSWD). The role of the German Data Forum is to advise the Federal Government regarding research data infrastructure in Germany in order to improve access to high-quality data and thus foster empirical research. Representing the interests of both data users and data producers, it is comprised of elected representatives from the social, behavioral, and economic sciences and major data production facilities.

The Forum advises administrative and scientific institutions in Germany regarding research data infrastructure and is participating in projects to improve the European data infrastructure. One key task is that they license (i.e., accredit) research data and data service centers in Germany. In doing so, they set a standard of quality for research data infrastructure, in Germany and beyond. Germany has experienced many improvements in access to microdata, and many of these entities have secure data centers for access to sensitive data. In addition, the Forum works to enhance data access for researchers; to that end it is working on a project to create a web-based data portal to the accredited data centers. They are also helping to explore projects for geocoding of statistical data.

In addition, the German Data Forum encourages and fosters dialog among data producers, researchers, government officials, and other services providers. It sponsors conferences and other events. It also publishes a Working Paper series, for which it encourages contributions, including from librarians and other information professionals.

Prof. Wagner then went onto discuss the role that he thinks librarians should play as partners regarding research data. Research data initiatives in Germany and the EU emphasize the importance of a) replication of research findings, and b) public availability of the products of publicly-funded research.

Current technologies provide greater opportunities for sharing research data, but while researchers excel in their subjects, librarians bring expertise critical to ensuring access to data, in areas of information and data management (e.g., preservation, metadata/documentation, user services, knowledge of authors and researchers, etc.). As such, they can assist with some of the main challenges to accessing research data:

1. the lack of an infrastructure for scientific recognition for publishing research data and linking data and publications;

2. a change in research culture to value contributions of data.

Increasingly, librarians are becoming involved and having formal responsibilities in this arena. And how can librarians influence the research culture in this area? They can give talks and publications, raise awareness, talk to funders about considering data publications in grant considerations, and foster the infrastructure for data citation so that credit can be given to datasets. It is a challenge, however, because most small-scale data producers do not have incentives to document their data for public use, and funding agencies and journals do not always either enforce requirements or ensure that data, documentation, and/or associated analysis code which is shared are of high quality. In addition, libraries could continue and expand their role of bringing together information about data available from decentralized sources.

Sebastian Nix then reported on a couple of developments regarding the WZB in this area. WZB is working on a data center to collect and make available data produced by its researchers. However, their researchers work within limited contracts under time pressure, and do not have much capacity for data management. Ideally, WZB would have in place workflows for data management

that can interact with the researchers at early stages in the data collection process with little additional effort. [...]

In addition, WZB is participating in da|ra, run by GESIS and ZBW, the agency to register social and economic data with Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) via DataCite. They are working not only on DOI registration, but also on central infrastructure for storing data, a central and duplicated local data catalog, low-barrier workflows for researchers, and ways to document data in the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) XML format. To this end, WZB will be surveying its researchers regarding their needs and data sharing practices.

11. Dezember 2012:
Die Bibliothek der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik (DGAP)

Matthew Marostica

Our visit to the library of the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) was a highlight of our tour. As with all of our visits, we met with interesting librarians who are committed to serving the unique interests of their patrons. At DGAP, we were presented with librarians doing great work to support research in a specialized area of social science research that blends the acquisition of knowledge with thinking about policy. Knowing how to serve policymakers and researchers requires particular care by librarians.

Abbildung 7: Bei der DGAP (Foto: S. Nix)

Beyond the important work of the librarians, on our visit to DGAP I was struck by something else entirely – the wonderful hospitality of our hosts. We entered this beautiful old home and were immediately presented with a delightful reception which included delicious cake and a variety of hot drinks. After having spent a long day in the cold and snow, this was incredibly welcome. Similarly, on a personal level, we were warmly welcomed by the staff of the DGAP who made us feel relaxed and at home.

An important part of our experience at DGAP was the tour of the old house itself. What a beautiful and historic place! As we descended into the basement and then into the sub-basement, I was struck by how real the experience of WWII remains in Berlin. While the German people continue to move forward, they also recognize the connection that many of their buildings have to a difficult past. Obviously this is illustrated most spectacularly by the dome of the Reichstag building. However, the DGAP building also reinforces this sense of connection to the past which serves to remind all of us to push forward toward a better future.

Bibliotheks- und informationswissenschaftliche Ausbildung in Deutschland – Vortrag von Prof. Vivien Petras, Ph.D. (Institut für Bibliotheks- und Informationswissenschaft an der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

Johannes Neuer

The study tour visit to the Berlin School of Library and Information Science at Humboldt University, hosted by Professor Vivien Petras, gave participants an overview of the current landscape in library studies in Germany and the role of the Berlin School library science education.

Abbildung 8: Prof. Vivien Petras, Ph.D. bei ihrem Vortrag (Foto: S. Nix)

According to Petras librarian training is offered in four distinct forms in Germany: as an apprenticeship; bachelor studies; master / research librarian studies; and doctoral studies. Each of these tracks prepare librarians for a designated level of service or pay grade that range from low-level service (einfacher Dienst), over mid-level service (mittlerer Dienst) and higher service (gehobener Dienst) to senior service (höherer Dienst).

Librarian Apprenticeship

At the most basic level, individuals interested in a career as a librarian can complete an apprenticeship that will equip him or her with the skills to work in collection maintenance and patron services. Apprenticeships in Germany are offered in what is called the dual education system (Duales System) that comprises on the job training in a company or organization and in classroom education at a vocational school over a three-year period. Graduates of the librarian apprenticeship become specialists for media and information services (Fachangestellte für Medien- und Informationsdienste) and are eligible to enter mid-level service.

Bachelor Studies in Library Science

German undergraduate library science programs are offered at several technical colleges throughout Germany and at the Berlin School at Humboldt University. These programs typically last between six and seven semesters, one of which needs to be an internship semester. Graduates of the bachelor of library science programs will enter higher service and perform duties such as cataloguing collections management, and public service.

Master Studies in Library Science

Currently, there are two ways to obtain the Master in Library Science: as a consecutive degree to the bachelor studies or a special training as a research librarian. Both degrees are equivalent of an MLIS degree in the U.S.

Master in Library Science

Master degree programs in library science are offered as consecutive programs at technical colleges and Humboldt University. The course of study ranges between three and four semesters. Graduates of these programs enter higher and senior service and are ready to take on management roles in libraries as well as perform research tasks.

The Berlin School of Library and Information Science also offers a unique part-time postgraduate Master's program that is intended for professionals with significant work-experience in the library field who are looking to advance into leadership positions. It is structured like an executive MBA and is thought on site as well as online.

Research Librarian

For graduates with a Master in library science or other subjects, research librarian programs in Bavaria and Berlin offer a way into the profession through a traineeship (Referendariat / Volontariat). Graduates of these programs enter senior service and may take on roles in library management and collection development.

PhD Programs

In Germany, the Berlin School is the only institution that offers a PhD program in library science. Students must have a Master's degree and significant experience with methodological research in order to be admitted into the program. In U.S. terms, it is an ABD (all but dissertation) program, which requires little to no coursework, thus allowing for great flexibility among professionals who want to acquire their doctorate while continuing to work. Graduates of the PhD program enter senior service and are well equipped for library leadership positions and library research.

Conclusion

As the only university in Germany offering the entire palette of degree programs from Bachelor over Master to PhD degrees, the Berlin School is setting a new standard for library science education in Germany and beyond. Its focus on both library science and information science will make it an interesting choice for students who are attracted to subject areas beyond typical library studies, such as information architecture, taxonomy, digital asset management, and more, that will equip them for leadership roles in the knowledge economy of the early 21st century.

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12. Dezember 2012

Bibliothek des Wissenschaftsparks Albert Einstein

MATTHEW MAROSTICA

Of all the places that we visited, the Albert Einstein Science Park in Potsdam was my favorite. I was completely taken with the beauty of the architecture and the Park's setting on Telegraph Hill. Equally, I awestruck by the innovative library work of Roland Bertelman.

Traveling by taxi up Telegraph Hill, I had no idea that we would be stepping out into a science park which blends remarkable 19th century architecture with 21st Century scientific rigor. The sheer size of the research park with its 1,500 scientists who are part of a 130 year tradition of continuous scientific research is amazing to me. The fact that these researchers get to go to work day in and day surrounded by those wonderful brick buildings invites the idea that the setting itself inspires their work. While the buildings are uniformly intriguing, the largest of the telescope buildings is particularly impressive. Who would have thought that a utilitarian scientific instrument could be housed in such a spectacular way? The smaller 20th century telescope building is similarly eye-catching – though for a different reason – that exquisite building is a singular work of art unlike any I have ever seen.

The interiors of the buildings are equally impressive. The reading room where we met with Roland Bertelman, with its ironic astrological signs is an absolutely beautiful space – completely enchanting.

Abbildung 9: Bibliotheksimpression Wissenschaftspark Albert Einstein (Foto: S. Nix)

Not only did we have the treat of visiting that beautiful place, we also met with an innovative librarian. I was particularly struck by two things. First, by Roland's work to closely interact with the scientists he serves. This should be the goal of any research librarian. Being very new to libraries (but not to the social science enterprise), I have sought to interact with the researchers I serve in ways that are similar to Roland's practice. Meeting with Roland gave me renewed resolve to continue my work with Stanford University Political Scientists and Economists.

Roland's work to establish a scientific data journal for the dissemination of researchers' datasets is the single most important idea that I took away from our study tour. I have already begun discussions with my colleagues here to look into the possibility of doing something similar. I cannot overstate how completely taken I was with Roland and his excellent work.

13. Dezember 2012

Bibliothek des Max-Planck-Instituts für Bildungsforschung

Kathleen Dreyer

Our visit to the Max Planck Institute for Human Development was hosted by Ms. Ursula Flitner, the director of Library and Scientific Information at the Institute. Because we were short on time we were not able to fit in a tour of the facility but Ms. Flitner provided us with an excellent overview of the services offered at MPI.

Library services are primarily for scientists at the Institute. However guests can use the facility if needed. In order to support the research of its main clientele the MPI library collects printed and electronic resources in the scientific fields of cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, history, science of education, and sociology. The collection currently houses about 211,000 volumes, 500 printed periodicals, and numerous electronic resources and databases.

One of the main projects of the library is the "Digitization lifecycle". This project is a joint effort of the four Max Planck Institutes of the Humanities and Social Sciences and the Max Planck Digital Library (MPDL) in Munich. The institutes involved are the MPI for European Legal History in Frankfurt (Main), the MPI for Human Development in Berlin, the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florence and the Bibliotheca Hertziana in Rome. The purpose of this project is to digitize print resources and make them available online. A sustainable and reusable software is being developed that will include many features including the ability to edit and enhance images and text. The service should be available February 2013.

The staff at the Max Planck Digital Library (MPDL) has created a virtual library which allows users to cross search nearly all Max Planck library catalogs and licensed reference databases as well as numerous external catalogs, databases, reference works, and more. This service is maintained using the SFX and Metalib software. The MPDL is supported mostly by IT staff and employs very few librarians. Its creation has resulted in the closure of several physical libraries within the Max Planck institutes.

The librarians in the study group were very interested in the digitization projects in which MPI is involved; this topic resulted in many questions and elicited useful discussion.

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13. Dezember 2012

Bibliothek des Deutschen Instituts für Wirtschaftsforschung (DIW) Berlin

KATHERINE MCNEILL

Ute Figgel-Dietrich, head of the library, presented an overview of DIW and its library. The DIW is an independent institute focusing on: applied economic research, economic policy consulting, and provision of research infrastructure. Since February 2013, they have a new director (formerly at the European Central Bank). Their research spans four major areas:

1. macroeconomic analysis and the world economy;

2. sustainability;

3. industrial economics;

4. public finances and living conditions (which includes the German Socio- Economic Panel Study (SOEP)).

The library is one of four service departments (alongside management, communication, legal/human resources), within a broader department research infrastructure. The library has several main responsibilities, and is experiencing (and adapting to) changes in the services required by researchers. It is responsible for the DIW publications web site (documenting all publications of the institute and its researchers), providing staff and the public access to information resources in the library and associated customer service, and purchasing on demand. Regarding the collections budget, the library focuses on purchase of interests to the whole institute (which are tailored to DIW research areas); researchers can request specific literature, which is then recharged to their departmental budget.

Regarding new services, the library is responsible for realizing open access to DIW output. To this end, it is supported by the Leibniz Association, which has an open access guideline. Several key members of the Leibniz Association have established a network of repositories, together which serve all of the Leibniz Institutes, linked together (metadata only) via the Leibniz Open repository. DIW is associated with the ZBW (Leibniz Information Centre for Economics) and has established a workflow for depositing its publications into its repository, EconStor. The library is refining its workflows in this area. They automatically harvest DIW publications, but for the many articles published in outside journals, library staff need to: secure a letter of permission from each researcher, check the publisher policy, discuss any publishing contract which may have been signed, and then get right version of the paper. They have been using articles published on SOEP as pilots in this project and hope the articles deposited to date will serve as examples for others.

The library is also working more in the realm of research data. This is a priority for DIW and the library is part of a new working group on research data charged with identifying, describing, and providing access to research data at DIW. The group will be collecting from DIW staff information on both acquired and produced data, and initially the catalog will be available internally via an intranet.

Initially, they will be using the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) metadata scheme and use World Bank tools to create the metadata (IHSN Metadata Editor) and an online catalog to the data (NADA (National Data Archive)). Initially, the library staff members are collecting metadata about the datasets via an Excel file and the librarians enter it into the Metadata Editor. Next they would like to work on broadening access beyond DIW staff and linking data and publications. The working group would also like to promote awareness of research data at DIW and create a research data policy for staff.

Then Marcel Hebing provided an overview of SOEP and its Research Data Center. Begun in 1984, the SOEP is a longitudinal study of private households, via face-to-face interviews, covering topics such as household composition, occupation, employment, earnings, health and satisfaction indicators. Challenges faced by running such a longitudinal study include participant drop-off, harmonization, and merging. They have begun other waves of samples, including the SOEP-IS (Innovation Sample), which adds additional questions not possible in the core questionnaire.

SOEP data are disseminated in different formats via various channels, including secure access to more sensitive data. SOEP microdata are available not on the Internet, but distributed via the Research Data Center, which vets all requests for using the data; limited data is available outside European Economic Area (EEA) countries. Data Center staff members undertake many activities to manage the SOEP data and are continually improving their processes. They are using the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) to better understand their processes, and DDI for exchange of metadata within their workflows where standardization is needed. They use the r2ddi tool for trying to extract DDI metadata from datasets in software formats such as Stata or SPSS. They also use the IHSN Metadata Editor.

A challenge with longitudinal data is that it is regularly updated, so when a data set version changes, they need to generate a DOI for each major and minor release. In addition, they need tools for harmonizing and merging related variables over time. They have a structural database, which links the logical and conceptual components of the survey, and use the hub and spoke architecture for software development.

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13. Dezember 2012

Fachinformationsbereich und Bibliothek der Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik – Deutsches Institut für Internationale Politik und Sicherheit (SWP)

Cy Behroozi

The Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) is among the most respected research institutes in Germany, and presents an interesting model of governance and funding, as well as internal organization and operations. Library and Information Services (LIS), one of three sections that make up the SWP, plays an integral role in furthering the mission of the institute by offering high-quality products and services.

Michael Kluck and Petra Galle, the Head and Deputy Head of LIS, began by giving us an overview of the institute. The SWP focuses on issues related to foreign policy, global security, and regional studies. It is governed by a board of directors made up of roughly equal parts government and research/academic members, and may include political party leaders as well. Its annual funding comes entirely from the federal chancellery.

Although the governance and funding structure relies heavily on the federal government, including the legislative branch, the institute remains independent and experiences no political or partisan intervention, according to our hosts. A two-year research plan helps ensure that research priorities are focused and unbiased, and that the research itself is conducted with the greatest integrity. Party leaders use the institute and governing council as an "unofficial forum" for exchanging ideas on policy issues, perhaps seeing it as a place for more rational discourse because it's removed from the political arena. As an example of its neutrality, the SWP recently published two papers with widely divergent positions on the economic crisis in Greece.

Most US think tanks which do similar policy research are equally committed to independent, unbiased research. "Independence" for a typical American think tank usually means freedom from federal government support and therefore partisan politics. American think tanks do, on the other hand, rely on support from grant-making private foundations, corporate foundations, and individual large donors, all of which could theoretically influence them with a policy agenda. It

seems to me that there is nothing less inherently "independent" about a publicly-financed research institute compared to one that's privately-financed.

SWP core staff consists of 60–70 persons, with an additional 40–50 affiliates. Even though the research program (non-LIS) staff has increased by roughly one-third during the past several years, the LIS staff has remained at the same level.

It's common to hear of staff cuts or lagging staff growth in (or even closures of) US special libraries, so I sympathized with our hosts. Interestingly, they didn't dwell on this point and only hinted at any hardship it may cause them.

The impact of exclusively public funding on the LIS section is significant in that its clientele is made up of more than just SWP staff researchers. Members of the Bundestag (German parliament) and their staffs, as well as those in federal government ministries, can and do take advantage of full access to LIS products and services. For example, a German diplomat who is transferring to a new country automatically receives a customized packet of country information from LIS. Members of the academic community have access as well. Even the general public can access certain electronic resources maintained by LIS.

LIS's focus on serving the federal legislative branch, as well as government agencies and the general public, seems in some ways like our Congressional Research Service. To my knowledge, most similar think tanks in the US have a much narrower client base, namely staff researchers only.

Because of its large and diverse client base, LIS has a robust staff of more than 30, which comprises about a third of the total SWP staff. Many have the title Information Research Specialist, subject specialists who provide in-depth library research for the scholars and attend research program meetings to keep abreast of specific research priorities. At SWP, this team of Information Research Specialists is a pooled resource for the entire institute, administered through the same department that contains the library itself.

Essentially, Information Research Specialists are embedded librarians. It's a model of efficiency, offering regular opportunities to engage scholars and provide enhanced customer service. Some special libraries in the US use this model but the numbers are limited. It may be due to the fact that many special library staffs tend to be small, and/or shrinking – they simply don't have the human resources. It may also be because research programs can be territorial, and mainly interested in maximizing control over research functions.

LIS is the lead agent of a twelve-member consortium of German research libraries, known as FIV, which maintains a suite of products offering access to literature on foreign policy, international relations, and global economic development. IREON is the portal to several databases including World Affairs Online (WAO), a vast database of journal articles, book chapters, and grey literature. Its development and maintenance is spearheaded by LIS, which also is responsible for the European Thesaurus on International Relations and Area Studies. FIV funding comes entirely from a federal government grant which is administered through SWP. It is free to all, in- and outside of Germany.

IREON is a most useful tool that has evolved during that last couple of years. In 2009, LIS made the decision to revamp IREON in part to realize cost savings but also because of uncertainty with its existing software and the company that produced it. After receiving three bids, LIS chose Sydney PLUS as the new software platform. The bulk of the system development took roughly a year, and IREON was recently re-launched with a number of new components, including the integration of 11 OPACs of FIV members. The software can now be used not only as an interface for discovery, but also for cataloging, circulation, ILL, and other ILS-related activities.

Among the most impressive aspects of FIV is that it's a cooperative venture which actually seems to run quite smoothly. Though it's not clear how big a role the 11 other research libraries play in the development and maintenance of the products, the success of IREON and its components is likely due in no small part to the leadership and hard work of LIS. IREON is a valuable tool and deserves a wide audience. Because there is the option to view the interface in English, and be-

cause much of the content is English-language, I will add it to my library's suite of electronic resources, and I hope other similar libraries will learn about it as well.

Nele Morkel, the librarian, gave a tour of the library. Housed in a two-story space in the annex building, the library is a pleasant and tidy space with a modest book collection, large journal collection, and several public access PCs. A significant number of books and journals are English-language. Even beyond the IREON portal, electronic resource offerings are extensive, in part because LIS has made it a priority to offer quality online information, but also because, like many libraries in Germany, the institute takes advantage of free access to normally fee-based subscriptions that the government purchases on their behalf.

The SWP library facility and the resources it offers are impressive. Over all, the visit to SWP was interesting and enjoyable. Our hosts were well-prepared with detailed presentations, and were willing to engage in interesting discussions about their products and services. I appreciate the time they devoted to us and I hope to meet with them again some time, in Berlin or the US.

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14. Dezember 2012
Bibliothek des Deutschen Bundestages

Jan Herd

The parliamentary information and service center includes a large library, the archives, the press documentation division and the research services. The Bundestag librarian in charge of reference services is Holger Scheerer. As a historian he appreciates the historic collections held in the new library formed in 2004 from collections previously housed in Berlin and Bonn. He and Ulrike Zeh, a member of the reference staff, provided an excellent overview of the work they perform.

The Parliament Library primarily serves parliament and staff members of the Bundestag. Journalists and scientists are allowed access for a period of three months with permission. No public access is allowed, however, the library's web site receives about eighty million page views per year. The library has 1.4 million print books. Electronic resources such as Beck-online, the primary German law database, are part of the collection of electronic resources. One fourth of the [...] acquisition budget in 2012 was spent on electronic resources. Both the print and electronic resources are fully cataloged and/or indexed to acquire maximum access to all resources. In fact, a separate group of librarians/subject experts index 10,000 articles yearly. A specialized thesaurus is used for both indexing and cataloging of books, articles and official documents searchable in the online catalog. The Web catalog also provides access to official documents made available to the public.

Other information resources are produced by two other divisions. The documentation division creates the Documentation and Information System for Parliamentary Materials (DIP), a database of Bundestag and Bundesrat materials such as plenary debates, bills, motions, etc., and the press documentation division monitors 170 daily and weekly newspapers from Germany. The press archive contains 24,000,000 articles and includes the largest collection of political caricatures in Europe.

From my perspective as a congressional reference librarian, I believe the reference works published by the Parliamentary Archives are of particular note. They include:

- a 1,500 page official manual published at the beginning of each electoral term and continually updated;
- a public list of associations registered with the Bundestag and their representatives;
- a data handbook on the history of the Bundestag.

I learned the 11 reference staff of the Parliament Library must work efficiently to provide rapid service to the Bundestag since short deadlines for queries is common. A print book is delivered to an MP office within 30 minutes. Eighty percent of the queries they receive are via telephone.

The library staff also provides customized current awareness services to MP staff. Since there are a large number of young staff in MP offices the reference librarians frequently provide support and training. Weekly orientations are offered.

Abbildung 10: Impression aus der Bibliothek des Deutschen Bundestages (Foto: J. Neuer)

The multi-level reading room is an impressive modern facility. While standing on the highest balcony I was in awe of the beauty of the reading room's form and function. Particularly meaningful to me was a quote from the German-American philosopher, Hannah Arendt, which encircles the reading room in the form of a florescent light display. It is an elegant expression of the desire for freedom of both American and German citizens, it states: "Liberty is conceivable as the possibility of action among equals / Equality is conceivable as the possibility of action for liberty."