

LBUS Library Newsletter

1 No.

library, *libraries*, noun

[Bi · bli · o · té · ca]

1. Special cabinet or furniture with shelves for keeping books. 2. Room in which books are kept and read. 3. Collection of books, periodicals, flyers, printed matter, etc. - A cultural institution that collects books, periodicals, etc. to make them available to readers in an organized manner. 4. A collection of books (printed by a publishing house) that are of a unified character from a graphic and thematic point of view. 5. (Inform.) A centralised collection of programs or components thereof, stored and organised for the purpose of facilitating programming activity. [Pr.: -bli-o-] - From fr. bibliothèque, lat. Bibliotheca (DEX '09)

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Jan-Mar 2023



UNIVERSITATEA
LUCIAN BLAGA
— DIN SIBIU —

BIBLIOTECA
UNIVERSITARĂ

The Library of LBUS : Newsletter. No. 1, January-March 2023 /
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2023

Statement

No.1

Why a newsletter?

The LBUS Library Newsletter is intended to bring to the forefront the most important events and activities carried out within the library, being an additional information product that joins the other existing ones: annual reports, news published on its own and the university's website, posts on social media channels.

We also want it to become a platform to promote news in the library field, from professional events, and innovative library services to resources needed for study, as well as to highlight student activities from Sibiu cultural community.

HOME IS WHERE
THE PEOPLE CARE



1. LBUS Library - Organizational Profile

1.1 Vision / Mission / Values / Objectives

An essential structure of the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, with a fundamental role in supporting teaching and research activities, our library carries out a complex activity, in a continuous process of transformation, diversification, and adaptation, in accordance with the vision, values, and evolution of LBUS. The library's work and evolution are based on a set of core values: **Excellence**, **Accessibility**, **Social Inclusion**, and **Diversity**.

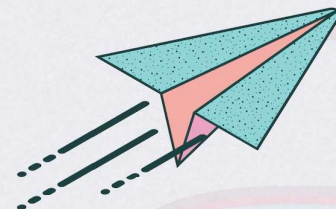
Excellence and its recognition is one of the core missions of LBUS and implicitly of the University Library. Secondly, we aim to support the process of internationalization of LBUS and its transformation into a university pole relevant at the European level and integrated into prestigious academic alliances and networks.

Through **Accessibility** we aim, first of all, to facilitate access, in the study rooms or online, to as many resources as possible in analog and digital format through the acquisition of publications and databases, as well as through the digitisation of the available book collection and their organisation into thematic corpora and digital document collections. In this way, we aim to support both students and teachers in the educational process and research activity, especially involving various forms of digital analysis. Secondly, we plan to extend access to the library's spaces, resources, and events to other categories of users than those affiliated with LBUS (students, researchers, and teachers), aiming to transform the institution into a community space relevant both culturally and in the professional and human development of the inhabitants of Sibiu in line with the concept of lifelong learning.

Through **Social Inclusion** we aim, first of all, to perpetuate and consolidate the tradition of libraries as institutions built on the principle that access to books and knowledge is essential in the development of individuals, and cannot be conditioned by income and social status. Secondly, we consider it essential to improve access to learning spaces and resources for users with disabilities, especially as technological advances provide a range of extremely useful digital solutions. Thirdly, in the context of the constant increase in the number of foreign students, as well as the recent transformation of Romania into a destination country for migrants from outside Europe, the library must support the effort to integrate them into the Sibiu community and facilitate constructive dialogue with the local community.

Based on the LBUS motto, "a thousand identities, one university", with Diversity we consider both the multiplicity of fields of study and cultures that we try to cover as well as possible through the resources, services, and events we offer, and the diversity of users, both affiliated and non-affiliated to LBUS. On the other hand, we believe that the library, as part of a European university, must remain and further develop as a space for tolerance, dialogue, and the confrontation of prejudices of all kinds, all the more so in the context of the resurgence of nationalism and fascist tendencies at a global level.

In 2022, our library has entered into an extensive process of renewal and adaptation in the post-pandemic context of the return to offline learning and the acceleration of the digitization process, along the lines outlined above. Our team has aimed at transforming the library into a pole space of university life, a space of study, dialogue, and cultural liveliness relevant to the LBUS community and beyond (V.S.C.).



1.2 Overview / Organisation

The LBUS Library is a public law library, serving primarily LBUS students, faculty, and researchers to support the faculty and student research curriculum. In recent years the LBUS Library has undergone various transformations, the current focus being mainly on providing access to digital information and resources, virtual reference services, and research services. We have developed a new concept, the ILS - Integrated Library System concept, which conceptually and practically addresses the whole library organization and leads to an increase in the number of services for users and to better user satisfaction. The main activities carried out in the LBUS Library:

- Communication and public relations to increase visibility and attract new users by promoting events and projects carried out in the library or the services offered by the library;
- Providing the library's IT infrastructure, managing the entire IT system, and providing technical assistance;
- Developing the collections, ensuring a balanced supply of reference collections, suitable for supporting educational and research programs, on all types of media, by purchase, exchange, donation, and transfer;
- Access to high-demand electronic resources, training in the use of institutionally subscribed databases, with sustainability and sustainable development as basic principles;
- Recording and organising collections in the library management system, specifically for publications newly added to the library's holdings, for the development of info-documentary resources, their organisation, preservation, and accessibility;
- Cataloging and indexing of publications, i.e. library processing of documentary resources;
- Specific for serial publications, to provide access to collections of traditional and electronic serial publications;
- Preservation, to prevent the deterioration over time of publications held in the library's holdings;
- Conservation and organisation of collections in book and periodical repositories, while organising their circulation;
- Communicating the collections, by ensuring access to the documentary resources organised in the reading rooms with direct access;
- Public relations for informing, advising, and guiding readers in the process of searching for publications and providing home loans;
- Cultural animation, the organisation of events, projects, book launches, exhibitions;
- Bibliographical reference, for the enhancement, accessibility, and redirection of library resources to users;
- Digitisation: scanning, digitisation, development of digital repositories, creation of metadata, cataloging as well as digital preservation;
- Interlibrary loan, to facilitate access to resources outside the library;
- Interlibrary exchange of publications, through the network of partner libraries;
- Library statistics, through the collection and processing of specific information;
- Professional development, continuing education, through strategic and creative approaches to meet new challenges, roles, and skills needed by library staff;
- Administrative, to ensure the proper functioning of the institution from an administrative point of view (E.M.)



1.3 Development / Transformation / Reconfiguration

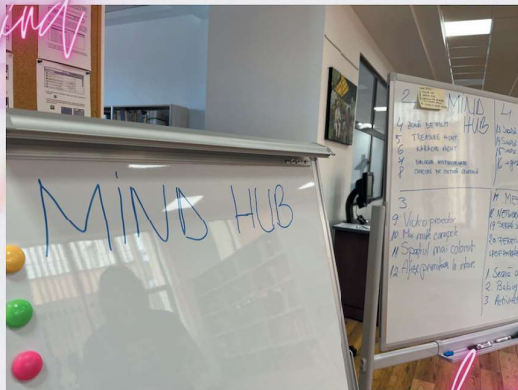
MIND HUB

The concept that we have created and implemented at the LBUS Library together with the students and teachers of the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, aims to bring students closer to the library. The project started with setting up a comfortable and accessible social space on the ground floor of the library, where students and other users of the Library of the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu can relax and carry out individual or group recreational activities, using free entertainment resources (games, puzzles, etc.) and participate in thematic events organized by the library.



SOCIAL AND TEAM-WORKING SPACES

In the same concept, the existing spaces on the levels next to the reading rooms on the three floors of the library have been refurbished with furniture to facilitate teamwork. These spaces also allow for the display of explanatory panels or thematic exhibitions, free discussions, and group meetings to complete projects or prepare for exams. (A.M.)



We want to offer not only informational and educational materials but also cultural, recreational, entertainment, and relaxation for personal development. The materials offered thus meet various needs of LBUS Library users, such as the need to develop social skills in order to form and strengthen positive relationships, the need to develop skills in efficient time management between study, work, personal and family time and rest, the need for meaning, perspective, both in terms of academic, professional, spiritual and emotional life in relation to oneself and others.



2. LBUS Library - Focus 2022

2.1 The Library Collections

Building up, completing, and renewing the collections are some of the main objectives of the library. Through the selection, acquisition, record-keeping, and processing of library documents, the library provides reference collections that are adequate to support educational and research programs and contribute to the expansion of cooperation and document exchange relations with other libraries in the country and abroad.

During 2022, the electronic catalog of the LBUS Library was enriched with 10,628 documentary units, representing 9,264 titles, distributed as follows: 8,505 monographs, 1,552 serials, and 571 standards.

The development of the collections was done both for a fee and free of charge, with the largest share coming from donations from authors, institutions, or private individuals. It is worth noting that compared to 2021, the acquisition of documents by purchase has seen an increase of about 60%, and interlibrary exchange as a source of completing collections has seen a decrease of about 25%.

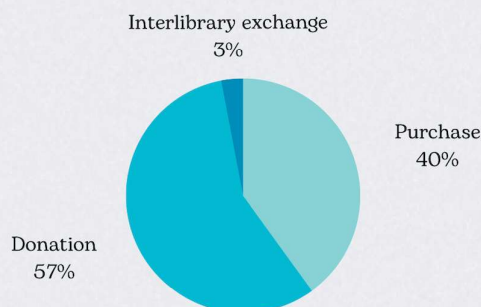


Fig.1 Situation of book acquisitions in the LBUS Library central location in the year 2022

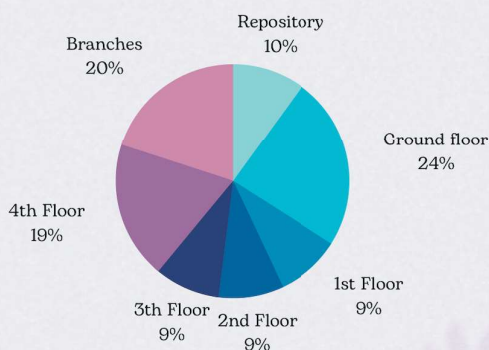


Fig.2 Status of the stock of publications received in the LBUS Library in 2022

According to the source of completion, in the library's main location, the following were acquired by purchase: 2,199 volumes of books, 44 subscriptions to external periodicals of which 22 were in an online format, 24 subscriptions to internal periodicals, the electronic subscription to the Authentic Monitor version: Parts I, III, V, VI, general subscription to Standards adopted by the translation method - 571 standards and 12-month subscription to the Digiteca Arcanum database, the time period from October 2022 to October 2023. 3,073 book volumes and 306 periodical volumes were received through donations and 178 book volumes and 306 periodical volumes through interlibrary exchange. The holdings of the branch libraries were enriched by 1,357 volumes.

The bibliographic descriptions of all the publications newly added to the library's holdings were processed in the computerized management system, thus ensuring that the library's specialized staff had access to relevant information. Subjects, keywords, content descriptions, and table of contents for books, main subjects, article descriptions, and table of contents for periodicals were assigned.

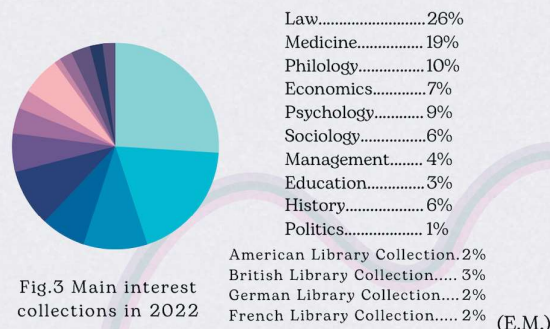


Fig.3 Main interest collections in 2022

2.2. Library Use and Users

The main activities of the Documentation Units Management Service relate to physical documentary resources and access to them, the quality of the spaces with direct access to the collections, and the relationship between users and staff (reception, information, and bibliographic guidance).

Collections Organisation

The four reading rooms with free access to the shelves are organised according to fields of knowledge, in accordance with the Universal Decimal Classification and the Dewey Decimal Classification:

1st Floor, Exact and Applied Sciences: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Botany, Zoology, Agriculture, Environment, Sport, Medicine, Engineering, Computers, Automation, Construction, Transport, Food Industry, Chemical Industry, Metallurgy, Textile Industry.

2nd Floor, Philological Sciences and Humanities: Linguistics, Literature, Art, Architecture, Theatre, Biographies, Religion, Ethnology. We also find here the collection of Doctoral Dissertations, in a separate reading room.

3rd Floor, Foreign Language Collections: British Library, American Library, German Library, French Library, Spanish Library, and smaller holdings in Chinese, Thai, and Italian.

4th Floor, Social Sciences: Sociology, Politics, Law, Public Administration, Economics, Management, Psychology, Education, Library Science, History, Philosophy.

Librarians in these areas are trained to provide bibliographic assistance and guidance to library users, to help them consult the online catalog, and to manage loan and return transactions.

Collections Communication

The quality of both the reception and the service provided is at the heart of the work carried out by the staff of this service, with the librarians constantly seeking to improve the relationship with the library users and to guide them to the most appropriate documentary resources.

Publications can be accessed in the reading room or can be borrowed for study outside the library, depending on the number of copies held.

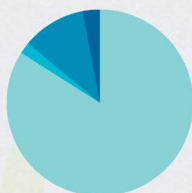


Fig.4 Active users of the LBUS Library in 2022

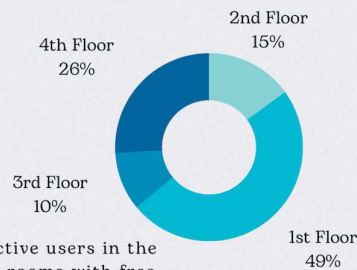


Fig.5 Active users in the reading rooms with free access to the shelf in 2022

·Collections in figures:
1st Floor, 36,535 book volumes, 10,432 periodicals
2nd Floor, 45,851 books, 2,259 doctoral theses, 4,198 periodicals
3rd Floor, 40,007 book volumes, 1,586 periodicals
4th Floor, 40,956 book volumes, 15,089 periodicals

There has been a steady increase in interest in electronic information resources, both Open Access and through subscription-based scientific databases.

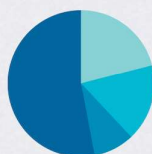


Fig.6 Circulation of publications in open access reading rooms in 2022

From a statistical point of view, in 2022 we had **15,368** user visits to the reading rooms, **9,346** monographic publications were studied in the reading room or borrowed, and **419** issues of journals were consulted.

Electronic Catalog

Cataloging is the process of standardized writing of bibliographic descriptions of documents, through which we enrich the Liberty electronic catalog, manage authority files and establish access points to resources. By indexing the content and assigning classification indices we achieve a structural synthesis of the subjects covered, and to increase the visibility of documentary resources we develop the analytical database with a table of contents or references to publishing catalogs.



In brief:

- Classification, indexing, and addition of notes/abstracts to monographic publications - 2,516 titles;
- Addition of new subjects to existing catalog descriptions - 1,937 titles;
- Adding URLs to the Catalogue for viewing in the online platform - 386 titles;
- Adding a table of contents to the attached electronic file - 5,723 scanned pages, 2,427 titles;
- Completion with content notes, fields Linguistics, Literary Criticism, Ethnology, Sociology, Medicine - 1,615 titles;
- Addition of cover image - 738 titles;
- Completion with bibliographical lists - 520 titles;
- Changing catalog and shelf locations - 359 titles;
- Library processing of monographic publications and audiovisual resources from donations - 1270 copies;
- Added diacritical marks to bibliographic description - 3,174 changes;
- Cancelling from the catalog the publications approved in the protocol for finalizing the inventory of the library collections, annexes A1, A3, D, F1, F2, G.

Bibliographies

Primary bibliographical information was provided and 85 detailed bibliographies on various subjects were compiled. Summary sheets have been prepared to support the preparation of the subjects for the English language and literature undergraduate examination of the Faculty of Arts and Letters.

Scan

41,472 pages of books were scanned from the basic bibliography recommended by teachers and for specific student requests. All these books were made available for consultation in pdf format on the library's online bibliographies platform, access being granted on the basis of the institutional email address. A further 110,186 pages of standards were scanned for archiving (C.V.).

2.3 Events / Projects

During 2022, the LBUS Library organized a series of events, conferences, presentations, book launches, and exhibitions, aimed at attracting as widely as possible the academic and local community to the library institution and highlighting its resources. Among the most important, we mention:

- events dedicated to books and reading, launches, and discussions on the books: Theory in the "Post" Era: A Vocabulary for the 21st-Century Conceptual Commons, edited by Christian Moraru, Andrei Terian-Dan and Alexandru Matei and published in 2021 by Bloomsbury Publishing in the USA; From Romanticism to National-Communism. Essay on Romanian modernity, in the presence of the author Gelu Sabău; Cultures from the countryside, edited by Valer Simion Cosma and Emanuel Modoc, the volume that inaugurates the "Rural Studies" collection of the LBUS Publishing House;
- exhibitions: Digital Museum of the Romanian Novel, organized within the framework of the ASTRA Data Mining project; Rural Guerilla Revisited, which includes a series of works by local visual artists grouped in the "Brukenthal von Studio" Association; The ornithologist from Sibiu Silvia Stein von Spiess and hunters as early amateur birders in the first part of the 20th century, organized within the framework of the Envirocitizen project;



- conferences: Digitization of content analysis in social sciences, guest Professor Cornel Ban; Nuclear Orthodoxy, organized together with Astra Film Festival, guest writer and journalist Vasile Ernu; Fragmented East: autofiction as a form of reappropriation, discussion with writer and journalist Vasile Ernu; Kris in the digital age. Resolving transnational conflicts in Romanian Roma communities in the diaspora, with guest speaker Professor Juan F. Gamella;
- important projects: Reconfiguration of the space of the "Lucian Blaga" University Library in Sibiu in accordance with the values of the New European Bauhaus, a project appreciated by the European jury for the Best Collaboration in the use of Cultural Heritage, within the Built with Bits program;
- hosted events: ULBS D-School Volunteers Gala, an experiment of co-creation of a hybrid event; Prix Goncourt - Le Choix de la Roumanie, organized by the French and Francophone Studies Collective of the Department of Romance Studies, Faculty of Letters and Arts of "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, in collaboration with the French Institute of Romania and the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie; The Chocolate House, a reading club coordinated by Prof. Ana-Karina Schneider. (C.P.)

2.4 Informatisation of the Library, Electronic Services and Resources

The work of the Informatisation Office of the LBUS Library focused mainly on the elaboration of an acquisition plan for the renewal of the existing equipment (through the PNRR project won by LBUS), the updating of the library website by adding new information, the management of digital resources accessible to users.

Also, during 2022, technical support was provided and the Liberty 5 library software version was upgraded, ensuring data backup.

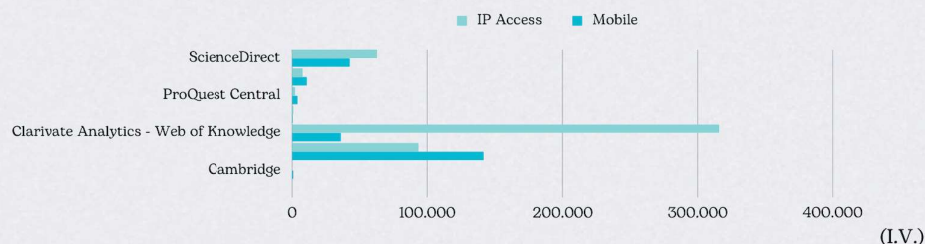
The number of bibliographic records in the online catalog reached 516,000, located at the central location as well as at the Evangelical Theology Library, the Ecumenical Research Center, and the Friedrich Teutsch Center for Cultural Dialogue.

The Online Bibliographies platform was completed with new scanned materials needed by students from all 9 faculties of the university, bringing the total to 2,610 book titles and 944,000 scanned pages by the end of 2022.

New document entries have also been added to the Digital Library - DSpace ver.6.3, which currently contains over 2,400 records, and 9,000 media files (pdf, jpg).

The statistics of access to scientific databases for the year 2022 have been tracked and technical support has been provided for access from the library or from home. The number of accesses for each database:

Database	IP Access	Mobile	Total
ScienceDirect	62,551	42,476	105,027
Springerlink	7,590	10,656	18,246
ProQuest Central	2,033	3,755	5,788
MathSciNet	591	276	867
Clarivate Analytics - Web of Knowledge	315,663	36,106	351,769
Scopus	93,297	141,460	234,757
Cambridge		294	294
EBSCO (IP +mobile)			4,368



2023

Instead of Conclusions

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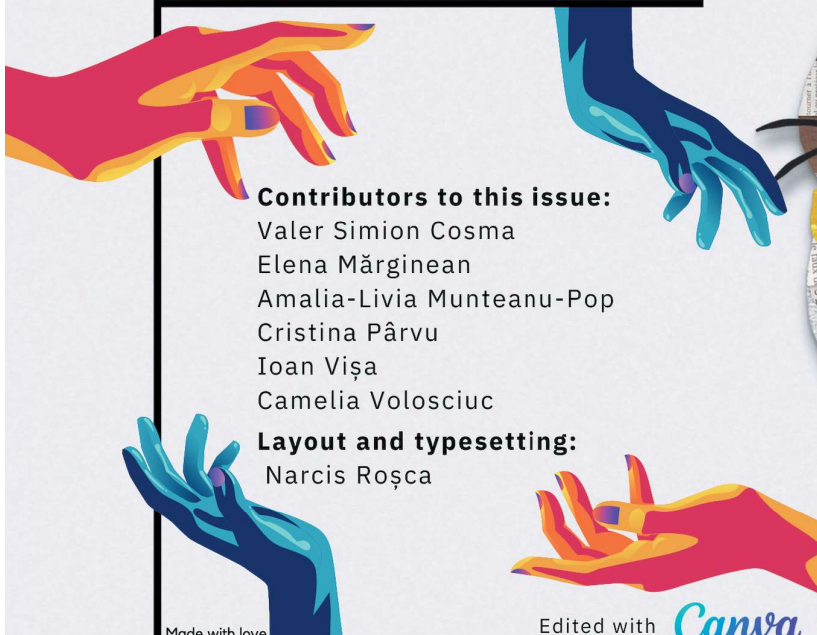
The library is a nodal institution of the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, offering access to a variety of print and electronic resources and spaces for both individual and team study.

We are in the process of digital transformation of our collections and promoting open access to documentary resources, thus supporting the academic community of Sibiu.

The values promoted by the LBUS Library are non-discriminatory access to resources, support for excellence in the research process through the continuous renewal of the publications collection, social inclusion, and diversity.

The library is at the heart of student life through the events and activities it offers to the community and is constantly adapting to the needs, requests, and suggestions of its users.

We welcome proposals for columns and articles at biblioteca@ulbsibiu.ro.



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