

“Library Buildings on the Agenda!”
International ERASMUS Intensive Programme IPBib 2009-2011
“Das Grimm-Zentrum –(k)ein Bibliotheksmärchen“
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The ERASMUS Intensive Programme IPBib “Das Grimm-Zentrum – (k)ein Bibliotheksmärchen” gives 25 Library and Information Science students from 5 European countries (Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany and Lithuania) the opportunity to gain the theoretical and practical skills for necessary constructional, logistical and classificatory solutions which have to be carried out when building a new library.

Within the framework of the European Union Programme for Lifelong Learning (2007-2013), the aim of this project is to support an efficient and multinational professional training that otherwise is not or can only be provided by a very limited number of universities. This is due to the situation that most project partners have to deal with the challenge of building innovative libraries nowadays or in the near future.

The IPBib has been started in Berlin in 2009 and used the historically unique situation that Humboldt-Universität was building a new university library – the Jacob-und-Wilhelm-Grimm-Zentrum. This included transforming a traditional depot library from the 19th century into a modern open access library and moving twelve branch libraries for Humanities into the new building

In 2010 the IPBib was continued in Vienna, because of the opening of the Library for Education, Linguistics and Comparative Literature. Also here the Library and Information Science students got the exclusive opportunity to experience the consolidation of several library collections in a new library building from the theoretical idea up to the practical realisation.

The project comprises a large variety of methods such as lectures, seminars, workshops and discussions which were complemented with excursions to different public and academic library buildings. Architectural and technological processes were a part of the academic programme as well as specific issues like public relations, information literacy and modern library services. Differently than the last year in Berlin the practical work at the library shelves could not be realised in Vienna.

The geographic origins of the participating partners bridge the multilateral dialogue between old and new European Union members. Comparing national concepts and experiences, it additionally supports the creation of international and interdisciplinary networks on the level

of academic studies and education. Working in international groups also gives teachers and students the opportunity to use and prove special learning conditions and teaching methods. Besides, it also enhanced the development of language and social networking skills.

Presently the ERASMUS Intensive Programme is unique in the area of the Library and Information Science. The dissemination of project results and to promote the benefits of an Intensive Programme on a professional as well as a national and transnational level is an essential aim of this project. The presentation on several conferences like IFLAs' World Library and Information Congress 2010 aroused big interest in the professional audience and moreover international ERASMUS co-ordinators.

The sustainability of the project in the future is secured by another anticipated programme in Vilnius/Lithuania in 2011 where also a new university library is in construction.

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All five are participants of the IPBib 2010 Intensive Programme in Vienna, Austria.

It would be a pleasure for us to present our project as a poster presentation in the theme area new working methods.

Keywords: new library buildings, social networking, international networking, academic education, new working methods