The project: Turning an idea into a book

The Institute of Library Science has been offering undergraduate students a seminar on the aspect: “Turning an idea into a book”.

The seminar is held by Petra Hauke, M.A.

This hands-on seminar introduces students to real-world book publication from the submission an idea to the final hardcover product. In the process, students learn how to edit and prepare submitted articles for publication, how to secure financing and how to find a publisher. Students learn the basic aspects of publishing project management:

- Finding the right topic
- Acquisition of articles
- Contacting and communicating with the authors
- Professional layout
- Set-up and structure of a publication
- Possible forms of a publication
- Financing
- Editing an article
- Advertising and public relations

The goal of the seminar is to produce a comprehensive exhaustive volume on a subject relevant to library science. The articles of the volume are written by authors in their area of expertise in library science and related fields.

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A project of the
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On the basis of lectures given at the conference and further texts by well-known authors, an anthology on the topic will be created during the summer term 2005. It aims at providing new insights in the work of voluntary organisations in the civil society who devote themselves to libraries. The book wants to reach members of such organisations (and those to be!) as well as librarians and the interested public.

Contributions to the book come from members of research libraries (Berlin, Munich, Wolfenbüttel) as well as public libraries (e.g. Bremen, Halle, Solingen). Examples from foreign countries (Vienna, Friends of Libraries USA, The Library Campaign, UK) as well as more general reports on voluntary (library-) work in the civil society complete the anthology. Topics to be dealt with:

- What exactly do support organisations and 'friends' do?
- How are they organised?
- What are their goals?
- What legal problems can arise when supporting an organisation?
- What strategies, possibilities and platforms are required in order to guarantee an effective exchange of information?

The book discusses the history, current position and the future of library science, not only in Germany, but also in other European countries and the USA. It shows that the discipline of library science is not limited to the physical aspects of managing books stacked on shelves, but that in the age of the information society, libraries play a key role in the distribution, protection, management and theories of information and knowledge.

It contains 31 contributions from such internationally renowned experts as Michael Buckland, Carol Tenopir, Josef Herget and Hans Roosendaal. International readers can further refer to English abstracts that summarize the German essays.

- Library science between traditions, self-understanding and public perception
- Library science in the age of digital media
- Library science in the service of society
- Library science in the service of scientific information and communication
- Library science in the service of Public Libraries
- Library science in teaching, higher education, and profession

The aim of this publication is to make clear motivation and development of the discussion and to document the status quo by the help of exponents of combinations, professional institutions, librarian joint ventures, bibliographic services etc. At last it presents progress reports from practical experience and shows aspects which also aim to offer to the librarian public an orientation guide via this combination of matter, because it refrained from the discussion up to now as a result of working at full capacity daily.