

EAHIL Workshop

Implementation of quality systems and certification of biomedical libraries
Palermo, June 23-25, 2005

The Database of KMU Scientific Publications: 3 in 1

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Alongside with traditional reference services The Library of Kaunas University of Medicine (KMU) is working on the database of KMU scientific publications.

This DB is very important not only for the University community and Library users, but it serves governmental institutions as well - the State Department of Science and Education among them.

History

Our library was the first academic library in Lithuania, which decided to create a local DB of scientific publications, published by University researchers. At the beginning, the main goal was to collect all publications, published in national and international periodicals, for local history. At that time, there were no other sources to find them all filed together.

Soon University authorities realized that accurately collected data could be used more widely: for formal University reports, various statistics, generation of publications lists for accreditation purpose, etc. The appropriate software was developed by our own programmers and it was running on Soviet made mainframe computers.

Today

At present, the DB of University published works includes over 63 thousand records since 1950 when the University was established. It completely covers all university scientific publications. More than 2000 new records are added every year.

The database runs on *Aleph500* Library system as a separate Library (02) (E.catalog – 01). It has the same interface as E.catalog.

Submission of publications

At present, the Publications DB is maintained according to special University regulation. The DB administration policy is based on the fundamental rule that the University Research Department would not accept formal information on scientific publications from authors unless an appropriate data has been included into the Publications DB.

According to the regulation, researchers must submit the copy of their publication or send a link or record of their article within 5 days after it has been published.

This requirement for the authors to present their publications to the Library is obligatory. Otherwise, their articles will not be included into the DB and scored up as research work.

All formal scientific reports and documents where publication lists are included have to be countersigned by a responsible librarian.

Later on, several Lithuanian academic libraries followed our experience and started developing their own databases.

At present identical systems are used in all Lithuanian universities, since the Library system “Aleph500” has been jointly acquired by 16 Lithuanian Universities

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3in1

Users can use the University published scientific works DB in 3 ways: as a library DB, as a statistical DB for University and Ministry of Education needs, and as a personal DB for scientists.

1. Library database:

Advanced Library system *Aleph500* is a perfect software solution for libraries and information centers and it ensures good cataloguing, searching facilities and user-friendly interface.

SFX delivers powerful linking services in the scholarly information environment and full text documents. Users can search for University scientific publications and access full text articles in the national journals or access abstracts or full text by Medline or other DB links.

A few months ago the DB was integrated into the *MetaLib*® (library portal from Ex Libris) that enables users to access their institution's e-collections, obtain relevant services, and work in a personalized environment.

These 3 *ExLibris* software products enable us to create our National DB for health and medicine. It is very important for a small country to develop own national database, where researchers are publishing their scientific articles in Lithuanian, English, Russian, German and other languages worldwide.

2. Statistical database.

One of the main DB users is The Department of Science and Study at The Ministry of Education. They are mainly interested in statistical information. Statistical data is very important for evaluation of University research activities. Financing of the universities to a large extent depends on statistical indicators of scientific publications.

University authorities need statistical information on publications to build reports, to evaluate research activities of University departments, to generate publications lists for accreditation.

While bibliographical records in the LIS *Aleph* hold much statistical information concerning the authors and institutions at the moment of publication, there is no detailed information there about University departments, information from University personal registers which might be necessary for statistical reports.

Therefore, LABA was obliged to develop a system, which would enable access to information for statistical reports directly from the DB.

It was decided to merge the University administrative DB and the Library Publications DB, the data from which is automatically imported into LieMSIS PDB (Lithuanian Information System of Science and Education) for statistical reports.

Thus, the whole system is based on the LIS *Aleph* bibliographical and University information system administrative records.

The Department of Science and Study at The Ministry of Education, University authorities and Research Center can use statistical data for various kinds of reports, evaluation of scientific activities at faculties and departments, formation of Doctorate Committees, evaluation of scientists' impact factor and generation publications lists, which are used for accreditation and defence a thesis for a degree.

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Each hierarchic structure (faculty, department, laboratory, center) has access to appropriate level of their data.

While generating statistical reports the data can be sorted according to various criteria: type of publication, science branch, 3 levels of hierarchic structure (faculty, chair, laboratory), data.

Each statistical table contains number of publications, authors, contribution, and impact.

Publications lists' records can be sorted by: authors (2 Types), publication types, and 3 levels of hierarchic structure, science branch.

DB functionality includes formation of Doctorate Committees.

3. Personal DB for scientists

Scientists have access to of their publications data: they can create their statistical reports, create evaluation forms, scientist's impact factor, print lists of publications for various academic purposes and sort them by various criteria, rank them.

Conclusion:

1. Development and administration of the University PDB extended the scope of the responsibility of the Library and added some extra work. At the same time, it increased the role and importance of the Library in University activities. At present, this role is not limited only to formal function (no-one can present formal scientific report or documents for thesis defence without the signature of a responsible librarian). In fact, by supplying analytical tools, the Library contributes in better planning of the research work at the University and even getting certain financial benefits.
2. Integration of the University PDB into the Lithuanian Virtual Library makes Lithuanian researchers visible worldwide.