Reinventing the physical library
Libraries in a new context

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Why now?
- Another kind of society
- Integration of various formats - and promote a the new kind of access
- Staff demographic issues
- Change in user behaviour

A library serving
- what kind of society?
- Information Society / ICT focus
- Media explosion and convergence
- e-Europe 2005 (Barcelona etc.)
- WSIS 2003-2005
  – Towards Knowledge Societies

Overall challenges
In a few years the library may provide access to encyclopaedia, dictionaries, non fiction, articles, music, film, multimedia products on a digital basis
24/7
in your home or elsewhere
What is the core of library service? What will it mean to the (physical) library?

International shift of focus:
- From collections to communication from storage to access
- ICT where possible
- Self Service
- Marketing layout and design

Whether public or research library
We see a CHANGE in focus:
- From collections to users
- ACCESS/traditional & digital
- SPACE/ The library as a PLACE
Whether public or research library - a place stimulating:
- Meetings
- New insight, learning and understanding
- Concentration
- Contemplation
- Cultural experiences/cultural heritage
- Reading joy

Creating the new Libraries as:
- Place-maker libraries
- Iconic-landmark buildings
- Green management
- Organic flow and design
- Centres of both virtual and classic services

The library as cultural & sculptural ICON
The Black Diamond/The Royal Library 1999

With open-plan layout & Activity Zones
- Information Area – Bibliotek.dk pick-up reservations
- Lounge: wireless access, hot-spot, café, exhibition
- Professional help desk with access to collections, Classic Library, working facilities plus study room facilities
- Concentration Area
- Preservation Facilities
- Auditorium & Concert Halls

A new research & study library
- CBS Soltjørghave
- CBS Porcelaenshaven
  www.cbs.dk

Model 1:
Collections in open basement and various working and study places plus any relevant facilities all over the rest of the house

Model 2:
Non-book library with focus on face-to-face professional guidance, long opening hours and all relevant working and study facilities

With interactive learning elements and pervasive computing
Århus/Jylland Transformation Room for kids
www.aakb.dk
What kind of library concepts?

- Information & Learning Centres
- Information literacy – traditional literacy
- Study & research
- Cultural hub and meeting place in a diverse environment
- Democracy development – bridging the accelerating gap between citizens and stimulating citizenship

Revitalising core of the library – redesigning services!

Prioritising
- 24/7 - open every day all week
- Face-to-face service
- Incorporate web based services & Online-guidance
- Design line – for both physical and digital services
- Personalised services
- “Community programmes”
- Rethinking of classic services
- Pool all staff resources and competencies
- Promote New Front Service and Outgoing Activities

And reconsidering Collection Strategies via:

- Analysing requirements for new services
- Re-evaluating existing service areas
- Defining future service concepts incl.
  - shelving needs
  - securing access to e-resources
- Developing strategy for delivering information to user with a different user pattern/within a changing national library landscape

IFLA’s new building guidelines, 2007

Developments & Reflections
- Top ten qualities of good space
- Reinventing the Physical library
- Investigating the need for space
- Unlocking the library
- Investigating the need for space
- Users and public space
- Configuring Internal Staff areas
- How was it for you

Guidelines for planning the process
A couple of National Standards

Why investing in new buildings or redesigning old buildings now?

- TO REINVENT the physical library – from collections to user focus:
  - Integrating various digital formats - and promoting new ways of access
  - Meeting present user needs and behaviour
- TO PROMOTE potent libraries – and updated library services for the 21st century

Questions or study tour input?
Kindly contact me: hn@dbf.dk

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