

Summary



Renovating or Upcycling Instead of a New Building? / Scenarios for the Structural Development of Libraries (Olaf Eigenbrodt)

(pp. 24 – 27)

In the process of choosing the best individual option for making structural changes to a library, purely economic, urban planning and functional aspects are no longer the only factors to consider when weighing the merits of a large-scale renovation, a new building, or the remodelling of an existing building with a different prior function. In recent years, in the wake of debates on sustainability and climate protection, the topics of »embodied energy« and consumption of resources have increasingly gained in importance. What does this mean for the current and future assessment of options, and what aspects should flow into these considerations from the vantage point of the libraries involved – insofar as they can have an influence on the process?

Whether one looks at major renovation projects such as in the university libraries of Konstanz or Bielefeld and the State Library of Berlin, or at smaller measures undertaken in public and academic libraries, many buildings are in need of renovation and of adaptation to meet new challenges. In Hamburg, Utrecht and, at the moment, in Düsseldorf, libraries occupy former post office buildings in central locations; in Chemnitz, Wildau, Winterthur and Tilburg libraries occupy former industrial sites which offer flexibility in subsequent use and bring their own special flair -- as is also the case elsewhere, in former granaries, department stores or railway stations. Re-dedication of existing building structures for libraries is not a new trend in terms of upcycling or re-use, but indeed a long-standing practice in library architecture. Nevertheless, the arguments for a general overhaul or reutilisation of a building have now shifted – and for good reasons – towards ecological sustainability.

Showing Civil Courage toward Hate Speech on the Internet / The Project #dubisthier: Strong Collaboration between the Bücherhallen Hamburg and the Association »ichbinhier« (Christoph Gärtner)

(pp. 44 – 47)

Communication via the Internet and in social media is accompanied by new processes of societal negotiation and other challenges. Hate speech and fake news in the social media present dangers for our democratic society, because these lead to people withdrawing from public venues of communication and no longer expressing their opinions freely.

For this reason, Hamburg's public library system, the *Bücherhallen*, has been collaborating since 2020 with a local initiative named »ichbinhier e.V.« (engl.: I am here) on a project titled »#dubisthier – Mit Zivilcourage gegen Hass im Netz« (engl.: #youarehere – Showing civil courage toward hate speech on the Internet) in order to strengthen and support not only the culture of public debate and information competency in dealing with digital media, but also the presence of a diverse range of opinions on social media platforms as essential parts of a democratic, diverse, open-minded and informed society. The project, which will run until summer 2022, is sponsored financially by the German Federal Cultural Foundation (*Kulturstiftung des Bundes*) through a fund known as »hochdrei – Stadtbibliotheken verändern«. The goal of this fund is to support collaborations between city libraries and their local partners that encourage the use of libraries as venues for participation and social encounter in an open society.

The goal of Hamburg's project is to offer a series of events to inform citizens about this topic, to open up discussion and to encourage participants to show civil courage in digital spaces and to engage in counterspeech. In Hamburg's *Bücherhallen*, events are scheduled which take a look at the topic of hate speech from various perspectives.

How to podcast ... / A Guide for Libraires (Lia Fischer, Cornelia Vonhof)

(pp. 48 – 50)

Do libraires need further digital channels alongside of Instagram, Facebook, and the like? Are podcasts a possible course? These are questions that each library must decide for itself. This article gives some insights into the topic of podcasting and offers some guidelines to libraries which want to make a foray into this field.

In recent years podcasts have become increasingly popular and established themselves solidly in the media landscape. Hence, as part of her bachelor's thesis at the Stuttgart College of Media (HdM Stuttgart), a student investigated whether this trend has already found its way into the library world. The study, which involved research into and analysis of library podcasts, supplemented with in-depth interviews with experts, resulted in the development of a guide for libraries titled »How to podcast«.

The term »podcast« is used for a series of digital audio files which can be accessed through the Internet and made available for subscribers. Podcast is a portmanteau word: »pod« can be seen as an acronym for »play on demand« or as an allusion to Apple's iPod as an audio player, while »cast« stems from the English term »broadcast«. Podcasts are listened to primarily by young adults for entertainment, but also for continuing education and as a further source of information. There is a wide variety of styles and formats to be found on the market today, ranging from radio drama to unscripted conversations – and everything in between. Different styles of podcasts can also be found in the library world. Some of them offer media recommendations, while others engage in talks about day-to-day activities in libraries, hold interviews with staff members or with authors, and even include author readings.

Translated by Martha Baker