

2012

ANNUAL NARRATIVE



UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF SOUTHERN DENMARK



THE LIBRARY IS
ON THE MOVE

NEW RESEARCHERS
ON FIRM GROUND

E-LEARNING: NEW
POSSIBILITIES

SECONDARY
SCHOOLS

THE LIBRARY IS ON THE MOVE

At the University Library of Southern Denmark, we are blessed with many visitors, and each day we answer lots of questions. Students come to the library to ask the questions that they may not quite want to ask their supervisors, or which occurred to them during a lecture. They may be looking for specific materials, or they may simply want to get started.

We like to think that we know the students, and that is a privilege. It gives us a chance to plan our courses and our other interaction with the students on the basis of the concrete wishes and challenges that we have had from them.

In this version of the annual narrative of the University library of Southern Denmark you can read about some of the arrangements at the library during 2012. Each term, we give many introductions to information searching, but we are also involved in courses for PhD students and instruct students on getting started on their BA or MA theses. We use Blackboard, SDU's e-learning platform, and various online teaching tools to support interactive learning.

In 2012, the University Library was incorporated into the Central Administration of the University of Southern Denmark. This consists of

all the administrative and service units which support research and teaching. The library is a natural part of this.

The University Library is constantly on the move. During 2012, a comprehensive renovation and modernisation at Campusvej in Odense started, and we expect to be able to welcome visitors to our handsome new premises in 2014. In Kolding, an entirely new university building is on the way. The new library premises are being developed with the needs of the students as a central concept. You can see pictures of our new surroundings on the middle pages.



In 2012, SDUB was once again a part of the Introduction Days. 400 new students tried our Library Quiz.

COLOPHON

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FRONT PAGE



The front page illustrates the physical movements the library is undergoing these years. Upper left: the new building in Kolding; right: one of the large cranes at the Odense campus, where the library is being renovated and modernised; bottom: a look at the future library at Campusvej.

INTERESTING NEW RESOURCES

NEW ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

A small selection of the databases that we got access to in 2012

3D anatomy – almost the real thing: *Primal Pictures Interactive Anatomy* is both a reference work and an interactive 3D learning tool on anatomy. The pictures can be clicked, and structures will be highlighted and named, so that their relations to other structures become clear.



Mainly for researchers: *Scopus* is the largest research bibliography in existence, with almost 19.000 journals and 46 million articles, book series and conference

proceedings. It is an interdisciplinary database, which will be especially valuable to researchers who need bibliometrical data. It is one of the largest abstract and citation databases.

Insider knowledge on media: *Mediawatch* – takes you into the nooks and crannies of Danish media. This database gives you media analyses, figures on readership and circulation for newspapers and magazines, numbers of visitors for webpages, and movements in the advertisement market.

Follow that fashion: *Berg Fashion Library* is a unique source of both

text and illustrations on the history of dress and fashion. Among its contents are the *Berg Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion* and a collection of ebooks.



Search Kierkegaard's works: *Past Masters Series* is the world's largest full-text collection of classic philosophical works. One of its great advantages is the possibility of searching the texts digitally, which means that you can trace e.g. how many times women are mentioned in Kierkegaard.



POPCORN AND

The new comfort zone in *Sønderborg* was opened with an "open house" arrangement where popcorn and slush ice were served. The comfort zone is a recreational area in the library, providing books from various countries and popular magazines like *Vogue*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Top Gear*, *Rolling Stone*, *Popular Mechanics*, or *Lonely Planet Traveller*.

Students were invited to mark their home towns and their names on a big world map at the library entrance. Many pointed to towns in Eastern Europe; but China, Hawaii, Brazil, the US and New Zealand are also represented with names of students who have travelled to study at SDU. The library also had a competition, in which the number of paper clips

PAPER CLIPS

in a plastic container had to be guessed. "We noticed that engineering students used mathematical methods to increase their chances, while language students used their intuition. The winner was a language student, who won a t-shirt and a free lunch at the canteen", says campus librarian Kenneth Cedersted Christiansen.

NEW RESEARCHERS ON FIRM GROUND



PhD students feel the need for building good study habits. The library's course on literature reviews held at the PhD school at the faculty of Humanities attempts to provide firm ground to stand on.



Sarah Bro Pedersen is a PhD student at the Department of Language and Communication. After attending several thesis defenses and staying in the US, she found that she lacked some of the competences expected of a researcher.

"I observed that the best international assessment committees at the defenses would always point out if the search strategy was not transparent, or if it was not obvious how the student had made sure that the latest research articles were used, or if the student could not prove that the field had been sufficiently searched. I realised that I did not have the tools for that", says Sarah Bro Pedersen.

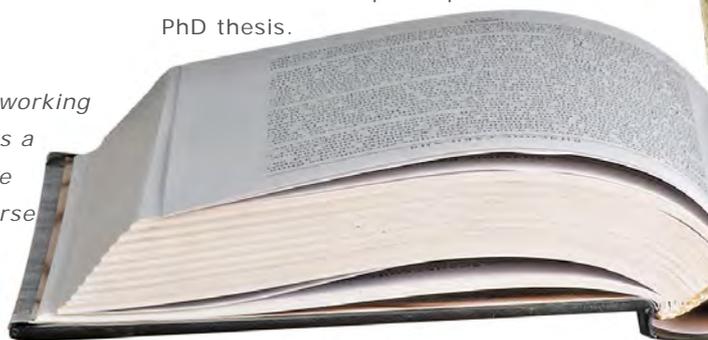
With her supervisor, Sune Vork Steffensen, her fellow student Anne Klara Bom, and the leader of the PhD school at the department

of Humanities, Carl Bache, Sarah Bro Pedersen decided to contact the library and arrange for a course of two days to be held at the PhD school.

"I have acquired tools for working in a more focussed way as a researcher. For instance, we spent some time at the course discussing the demands on various genres of literature reviews. I learned about handling references, and I have learned to search more systematically and hone my searches better. Setting up alerts, so that I will be told when new material has been published in my area, is a great advantage", says Sarah Bro Pedersen.

The main topics of the course were reference handling and information searches, aimed

specifically at providing the students with tools for producing the systematic literature reviews which are more or less a required part of a PhD thesis.



"The university library definitely met my expectations for the course. We quickly had a meeting and put a program together. My impression is that the library put much more into it than just what was necessary. Using the library's resources and expert knowledge on these topics is an obvious advantage, and it is a pity that many people don't know that they have that possibility", Sarah concludes.

ABOUT THE COURSE

The two-day course on information search and research management as a basis for writing a systematic literature review contains various elements; among them:

*** Research management:**

An introduction to tools which makes it possible for students to handle references and make notes on content and lists of literature correctly, according to international standards.

*** Information searches:** How to find relevant databases, web portals, and reference works, and do database searches. The principles of citation searches.

*** What is a good literature review:**

From result to presentation – how to shape and communicate your review of others' works. How to get updates on results within your field.

MEET THE SUPERVISERS

SUNE VORK STEFFENSEN – SENIOR LECTURER, PHD. - DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION:

Sune Vork Steffensen, Sara Bro Pedersen's PhD supervisor, thinks that there are three crucial reasons why such a course should be an integrated part of the PhD school.

"The number of interdisciplinary studies is growing, and systematic methods of acquiring knowledge of another field of study is a crucial competence for a university-researcher. On top of that, PhD students must not only learn lots of new things, they must contribute new knowledge for the research communities that they are part of. Therefore they need to know how to get a systematic overview of the research that has been done", says Sune Vork Steffensen.



He sees information searches as an independent research area:

"We need to respect the academic nature of searching and handling information. Just as we would never draw upon the results from another research field in an interdisciplinary study without a good knowledge of that field, we should not search blindly either. We need to consider the academic knowledge which lies behind handling information in a sound way", Sune Vork Steffensen says.

METTE BRUUS - RESEARCH LIBRARIAN, PHD:

Mette Bruus is one of the library employees who teach the course. She points out that the growing amount of publications and the increased accessibility of information makes it much more complicated to keep an overview of one's field than only ten years ago, when she wrote her dissertation.

"Having the tools for creating a systematic overview is becoming more and more important, and we try to give people these tools. The course has been planned to answer the wishes and needs that the students express, and we are glad that we can provide something that is useful for them", Mette Bruus says.



PHD COURSES

The library has PhD courses in various areas. At the medical PhD school, research librarian, Dr. med. Johan Wallin teaches searching medical databases, and research librarian for sports science and chiropractic, cand. scient. Majbritt U. Johansen, teaches on qualitative health research. During 2012, 51 sessions were held at the medical PhD course.

"Using the library's resources and expert knowledge on these topics is an obvious advantage, and it is a pity that many people don't know that they have that possibility".

-Sarah Bro Pedersen

THE LIBRARY ON THE MOVE #1: THE LIBRARY CENTRALLY PLACED AT THE NEW SDU CAMPUS KOLDING



THE LIBRARY ON THE MOVE #2: NEW LIBRARY AT CAMPUS ODENSE FOCUSSING ON STUDY ENVIRONMENT

Phase 1:
october 2012 - january 2014

Phase 2:
january 2014 - february 2015
Final redecoration

2.floor built



SUND



FOR YOUR TOOL-BOX



During 2012, the library has taught a course on how to get started on writing good papers four times in Sønderborg, Odense, and Slagelse. The purpose of the course is preparing students for writing the long papers that their studies require.

THE STUDENT COUNSELLOR:

At Campusvej, Odense, the course is offered every term by the Counselling Center. Student counsellor Trine Fenger from the Centre says on the course and the collaboration with the library:

"Writing an academic paper on their own is a major challenge for many students. They often see e.g. their BA project as an enormous mountain that they will never get over. At the Counselling Centre, we talk to students and refer them to the library's course, which gives them practical skills that they need for writing. Our collaboration with the library fits the students' needs well. The courses are quickly booked up, and the students feel that the course really helps them go on with their work".



THE TEACHER:

Business studies teacher Ulla Brehm has taught academic writing and other subjects for thirty years at the University of Southern Denmark, and is one of the library employees teaching the course:

"The process of writing especially BA and MA theses is very difficult for many students these days, so we try to make the practical part of the process easier to grasp. We show them examples of how to formulate a problem or write a list of contents, and talk about how to keep the main idea of the paper in view, so that you both keep the large perspective and get down into the details in your analysis".



THE STUDENTS:

Yasmin Amer (PBA in business communication, English and international marketing in Slagelse):

"I took the course because I think that it is important to get as much new knowledge as possible. I took lots of notes and got inspiration for a subject to write on, as well as many skills that will help me get started well. I would recommend the course to all students. The University library has many resources and a lot of knowledge, but unfortunately many people miss out on that, perhaps because they have to go and look for it themselves. I was glad that the course was held in Slagelse".



Sandra Lundstrøm and Marijke Notenboom (International Business Communication, Slagelse):

"We heard of the course via mails from the programme secretary and posters. It is good and also natural that the library plans the course – the library is trustworthy. We also feel more like going to the librarians and asking questions now".

"After we took the course, we have started using library resources. It is far too complex to begin on without an introduction. Courses on searching for information are very relevant, but they have to be connected to something concrete, like the BA thesis."



FACTS ABOUT THE COURSE

The course focusses on the process of writing a paper and is based on questions like, "how do I unfold my topic?", "how do I structure my paper?", "how do I formulate a problem?", "how do I shape arguments?", and "what is an analysis?". The course is three hours, and is not part of the daily lectures.

SEMINAR FOR PhD STUDENTS

**HOW TO GET YOUR ARTICLE PUBLISHED:**

The University Library of Southern Denmark held a PhD seminar in collaboration with Elsevier in November 2012

FROM IDEA TO PUBLICATION

About 150 people attended the lecture on "How to get your article published".

An international network, a good mentor, and thorough research. These are three important factors if you are to get an article published, Per Michael Johansen, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, pointed out. Martin Brandl, Professor of Medical Technology from the Department of Physics, Chemistry and Pharmacy was another speaker. He is also the editor

of European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics. Tove Faber, head of the Medical Research Library of OUH, gave an introduction to bibliometrics and research evaluation.

This library event was held in collaboration with the Dutch publisher Elsevier. Elsevier publishes 25.000 articles in 2000 journals every

year. The archives of the publishing house contain 7 million publications. The annual number of downloads of their products is 240 million. Elsevier was represented by Dr Jaap van Harten, Executive Publisher, and Account Development Manager Jan Albert Major, who gave practical advice on how to get from idea to finished publication.

A SCRIPT FOR YOUR THESIS

The site betterthesis.dk, which is for students doing their MA thesis, is being developed. Here, students will be guided through every aspect of the writing process, from preparing and finding out what to expect from their supervisors to formulating problems, searching for information, structuring the thesis, the writing process, and plagiarism. Betterthesis.dk will be launched in 2013.

The starting point for this project was the experiences of supervisors at the public health degrees at the Universities of Southern Denmark and Copenhagen, whose role as supervisors is being altered, because more students find the process of writing a thesis difficult. Betterthesis was created as a collaborative effort. From SDU, the participants are Gabriel Gulis, vice Head of Department of Public Health in Esbjerg, and Rita Irene Rattenborg, campus librarian in Esbjerg. From Copenhagen, supervisors from the Department of Public Health and employees from the University Library's Library Service participate. The project is funded by DEFF, Denmark's Electronic Research Library.



Interactive support
for your thesis

NEW POSSIBILITIES WITH SHAKESPEAK AND PREZI

E-LEARNING

Good communication and interactive teaching are central concepts for library instructors when they work with e-learning tools.

"When librarians teach things like information searches, the students aren't always on the edge of their seats with excitement. Including e-learning tools gives us more varied ways of getting our points across. At the same time, we can involve the students more easily, and hopefully we can address several learning styles", says Jens Dam, the coordinator of e-learning at the library.

During 2012, some of the library employees who work with user education have made their experiences with the possibilities offered by various e-learning tools. Librarian Jette Jorsal has tested SDU's student response system, Shakespeak. This is an online survey tool, which is integrated into Power Point. Students give their answers to questions asked by the teacher via sms during the session, and their (anonymous) replies will show up on the next slide of the presentation. This gives the teacher an impression of the students' understanding of the topic, and makes it possible to shape the course of the lesson.



learning processes and keep an eye on a big class during the course. I used that for planning my next session with the same class, among other things. It gave me a good idea of what the students had learned. The wiki can still be found on Blackboard, so they can use it for repetition next time they search the databases", says Majbritt Johansen.

Recently, the library started using Blackboard for distance learning at the Open University law course. Librarian Bente Krogh Hansen has introduced an "Ask the Library" blog, so that every one at the course can use the answers. Various study materials have also been added online, and Bente has used the quiz function of Blackboard for self-study introductions.

"The teachers at the library have been through SDU's training course for teachers, so that we can offer the same levels of expertise that we have always had, with the added dimension of better communication and interactive teaching. The inclusion of various e-learning and communication tools supports this excellently, and we will continue developing this during 2013", says Thomas Kaarsted, head of communication and information services.

"We used Shakespeak to break the ice and get an impression of the students' knowledge of information seeking. They were active from the start, and it was my impression that it caught on. Shakespeak is dynamic and interactive, and it's easy to use", Jette Jorsal says.

At the University Library of Southern Denmark in Slagelse, librarian Britta Toftgaard Holton uses the presentation programme Prezi. *"When using Prezi, I need to consider how to communicate my material. Several students have told me that they enjoy this new kind of teaching",* says Britta Toftgaard Holton.



Via Blackboard, SDU's e-learning platform, research librarian Majbritt Johansen has used a wiki-form as a framework for student assignments. They were to answer questions and fill out the wiki. During the course, they could comment upon each other's wikis, and Majbritt added her own comments. *"The purpose was getting the students to participate actively and making them reflect upon and argue for their answers. On top of that, I had the chance of following the*

As the coordinator of e-learning for the library, Jens Dam is planning a one-day meeting on e-learning in the spring of 2013 for the teachers at the library. They meet regularly to exchange ideas and experiences. Apart from the tools mentioned above, this day will also focus on online mindmapping, smartboards, using live blogs during sessions, and researchers' use of social media.

SECONDARY SCHOOL COLLABORATION

BUILDING BRIDGES

Almost 1700 pupils from secondary schools visited SDU during 2012.

Bridges are being built to the university via relevant topics

The many pupils are from secondary high schools all over the Southern Danish region. Apart from several in Odense, schools in Fåborg, Tønder, Grindsted, West Funen, Sønderborg and Haderslev have joined. Campus Slagelse has also been visited by the Upper secondary Business School of Slagelse, and EUC West visited the campus in Esbjerg. The purpose of the visits is building bridges via relevant topics, and they always coincide with an assignment.

"The basic recipe has three elements: the pupils are introduced to various topics, which are presented by university researchers, according to the contents of the assignments. Then they get an introduction to information searches and visit the library to search on their own and get some practical instruction. And finally,



AT-days 2012 at Campus Odense

visiting a university and getting an idea of its atmosphere and size is in itself a part of the bridge-building", says Tonny Hornbæk, the library employee responsible for maintaining contact to secondary schools.

In 2013, the library is in its third year of participating in SDU's targeted work of building bridges. The recipe has been tested, and the appointments with the secondary high schools have been made, while new schools keep joining the programme. Not only have about 1700 pupils visited SDU, but Tonny Hornbæk has visited about 30 high school classes during 2012.

"We try to be as flexible as we can, so if people prefer us to come to them rather than visiting one of the campuses, that's what we do", Tonny Hornbæk says.

The purpose behind the bridge-building is motivating the pupils to take further education. A survey of 1000 pupils showed among other things that many of them found it interesting to visit a university, and the experience inspired many to want further education. Teachers are very supportive of the initiative, too. 95 % of those who participated for the first time encouraged their schools to participate again.

Cultures meeting / cultures clashing?

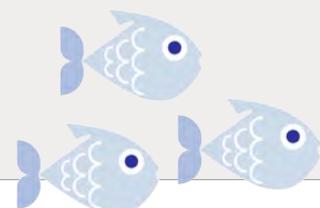
Want to get some tips on learning and teaching in a multi-ethnic environment?

This was the introduction to a talk arranged by the University Library of Southern Denmark, and held in Sønderborg and Odense during the autumn of 2012. The target group was the many foreign students and employees at SDU. Sønderborg alone has more than sixty different nations represented at its campus.

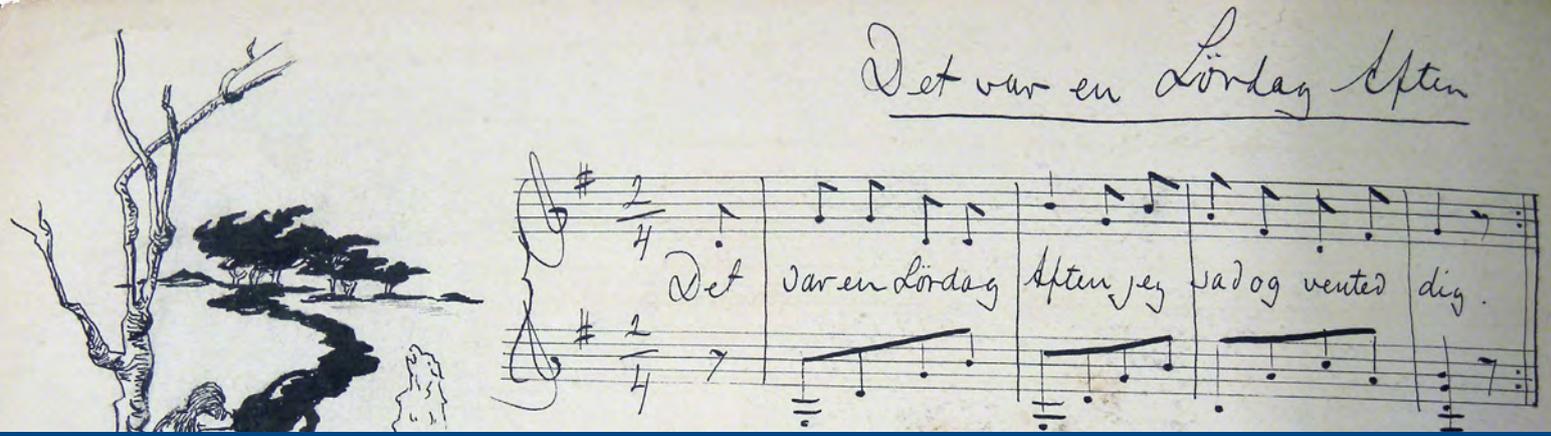
For students who are new to Danish culture, it is relevant to know that analysis and discussion are central parts of the study tradition, and that a final answer may not always emerge.

Lecturers who are new to the country should be prepared for students who ask many questions and may not believe readily in authorities.

The talk was by Claus Adam Jarløv, who is the founder and CEO of the firm GlobalDenmark. He has an MA in English and psychology, as well as more than thirty years of experience as a consultant on intercultural business communication.



Det var en Lørdag Aften



THE BALLAD DETECTIVES

The Center for Songs and Ballads in Southern Denmark may be a quiet presence at the University of Southern Denmark. But those students, researchers and others who go there get access to a unique collection.

"The other day a man contacted me to ask for the lyrics of a drinking song. He only remembered the last line, which ran "... said the nineteenth beer to the twentieth". That took a bit of detective work, but we found it", says Anne Helle Jespersen, research librarian and head of the Music Department at the University Library of Southern Denmark, which includes the Center for Songs and Ballads. The material found at the centre is often unique and hard to replace, so much of it can only be used at the reading room.

One example of unique material is more than 400 hours of singing, recorded on cassettes in the late 1970s. The then head of the centre visited farms and villages in Funen and parts of Jutland, where local traditional songs were still remembered by older citizens. The tape recordings have preserved this knowledge for later generations. "These old songs contain lots of information on culture and traditions, and they can never be replaced. One of the next projects for the Center for Songs and Ballads will be to digitalise the many cassette tapes. Sound files will make it easier for us to secure and preserve this treasure that we have at the centre", says Anne Helle Jespersen.

Among the Centre's many treasures are also ballad recordings, manuscripts, musical scores, leaflets, editions of songs and ballads, song books from folk high schools and societies, hymn books and a comprehensive collection of literature on historical backgrounds.

"The Center for Songs and Ballads works on both research and presentations of our collections. We strive to make the materials visible and

provide a framework for research and presentation projects on ballads and songs", says Anne Helle Jespersen.

In collecting material, special emphasis has been placed on living folk ballads, newer printed sheet ballads (street ballads), newer manuscripts and local oral and written or printed ballad traditions. "The Center for Songs and Ballads meets with great support when we collect material, and we also inherit or receive written materials which are followed up by songs and recollections. This is an important factor for research in folk tradition", says departmental librarian Elisabeth Jansen.

An example of the Danish occasional song is the still popular 19th century Christmas song "Højt fra træets grønne top", which describes a family gathering around the Christmas tree. In one of the lines, the boy Peter is described as fascinated by a branch with a drum hanging from it. At that time, presents were not wrapped and placed beneath the tree, but hung on strings from the branches, next to the sweets which were eaten during the evening. A song which is still a part of our Christmas traditions tells us about a very different tradition from the old days.

Visit the Center for Songs and Ballads at www.sdu.dk/sangogvisecenter



Some of the Center for Songs and Ballads many song-postcards, that were popular in the post-World War I period.