

ANNUAL REPORT
2010
(Short version)



NATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY OF ICELAND



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National and University Library of Iceland: ANNUAL REPORT 2010.

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Cover illustration: Part of the art work *The Human Spirit: Past – Present – Future*. Stained glass window by Leifur Breiðfjörð, created for the inauguration of the National and University Library of Iceland in 1994.

Other photographs in the report were taken on various occasions by the staff of the Library's photographic unit.

FOREWORD FROM THE NATIONAL LIBRARIAN



The National and University Library of Iceland is a source of knowledge for everyone. It serves the Icelandic community in all areas of reference and academic discipline and plays a leading role in the collection, preservation and dissemination of information, thus making a vigorous contribution to culture, research and creative work.

The crisis and budget cuts following the bank crash in 2008 had serious consequences for the Library in 2009 and 2010. Its budget allocation was cut by 6.5%. Prices of all acquisitions went up at the same time, but the biggest expenditures were for The Icelandic Consortium for Electronic Subscriptions (ICES). The exchange rate of the Icelandic króna turned out to be more positive than was expected, but like last year, continuing cuts of operational outlays produced a positive operating balance for the year 2010. Vacant positions have not been filled except where strictly necessary, which reduced staffing positions (FTE's) by three. Trips abroad and in Iceland, education of staff and conferences have been cut severely. Outdated technical equipment from the early days of the building had to be renewed and maintained but the purchase of patron computers was postponed instead. The printing and copying system was completely renewed and a campaign for rethinking print-behavior of staff resulted in reduced printing costs. The Library got more grants and payments for digitization resulting in higher revenue than planned.

One of last year's main tasks involved planning and adopting a new organizational chart. The new chart was approved by the governing board in December. It came into effect 1st of January 2011. At the end of the year the Ministry of Education changed the regulation of the Library regarding organization of the institute.

TARGET AGREEMENT

Under the performance targets agreed in 2005 between the Library and the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, the main emphasis has been on the Library's role as an information provider. A meeting with the Ministry was held in March to examine the main points of the agreement. The focus is on the Library's roles as a digital national library and a digital research library. Work was done on the following tasks under these headings during the year:

DIGITAL NATIONAL LIBRARY

Digitization of Icelandic materials

The digitizing of Icelandic newspapers until the year 2000 was finished. The three year project was funded by Althingi and mostly carried out in Akureyri. Other sponsored projects secured work in Akureyri and in Reykjavík as well. The total number of digitized pages available on the web *timarit.is* at the end of the year was 3.6 million. Nearly all the pages have been scanned (OCR-read) for textual searches. *Timarit.is* was nominated for the Icelandic Web Award for the year 2009. The website *handrit.is* was released 21st of April. It is a joint portal for manuscripts in collaboration with the Árni Magnússon Institutes in Reykjavík and Copenhagen. It will host a catalog of Icelandic manuscripts and give access to digital copies. About 1200 items have been digitized, a total of 300.000 pages. The portal was awarded the First prize in the University of Iceland Innovation Contest in the year 2010. The website *baekur.is* was opened 1st of December. It will give access to digitized Icelandic books and at the end of the year 120 titles, a total of 85.000 pages, were accessible.

Harvesting of Icelandic digital materials

The Icelandic web archive, *vefsafn.is*, opened in 2009 and Icelandic websites are harvested on a regular basis. It currently contains about 1.200 million documents. At the end of the year about 30.000 URL's belonged to the .is domain. The quantity of data is 25 terabytes, with a back-up copy. The Library participates in the International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC) and has a seat on the board and participates in the working group for web harvesting.

The Library operates Skemman, an open-access repository for universities, containing dissertations and staff research papers. At the end of the year it held approximately 7000 works by 7900 authors.

Rafhladan.is is another repository that was set up 2009 for the purpose of preserving Icelandic legal deposit materials that are born digital, such as newspapers, e-journals, reports etc. The material is collected by library staff, but also received in pdf format via the e-mail rafhladan@landsbokasafn.is. The development of an e-legal deposit interface is in progress. Institutions that publish in digital format will be able to deliver as soon as materials are generated. The repository has not been opened.

A pilot project of digital music was set up in order to copy material from home-made CD's into a digital database. The quality of the disks is usually poor and preservation may be difficult in the future. A copy was also taken of promotional material that had been donated to the Library by the music festival Icelandic Airwaves.

DIGITAL RESEARCH LIBRARY

National Access

The financing of The Icelandic Consortium for Electronic Subscriptions (ICES) in the year 2010 was secured. New contracts were signed with publishers covering 2010-2012 and minor changes were made to subscriptions. The SFX link solver and A-Z list was used for ICES and the electronic subscriptions of the universities in Iceland. The first steps were taken to make all the resources of ICES searchable in the national OPAC, Gegnir. The usage of the ICES subscriptions is constantly growing but not in the same degree as in the beginning.

The Library's websites

A review of the Library's websites is in progress in order to enhance access to resources and services. The web content management system CMS Made Simple has been in use since 2008. The review takes account of the priorities identified in a survey of webs in Icelandic public institutions and applies the WCAG 2.0 regarding access for people with disabilities and impaired vision. At the end of the year, fourteen webs were maintained but some of them are collaboration projects and have their own design. *Skemman.is* was reviewed and *handrit.is* was opened in April. The web of the Women's History Archives was re-designed and the content moved to the CMS. The webtree of *hvar.is* was revised. A new portal for books, *baekur.is*, was opened in December in the new design theme of

the Library's webs. *Timarit.is* was indexed in Google and the number of visits and traffic grew considerably. *Timarit.is* is now one of the most popular websites in Iceland. The popularity of *skemman.is* was also a pleasant surprise but there are lots of links to *skemman.is* on other websites. The Library has a page on Facebook that is used to announce events and changes in the Library operations and the Manuscript department also has a Facebook-page. The Music and film collection has a page on MySpace for the purpose of collecting new material and to be in touch with Icelandic musicians that publish their works on the Internet. A number of people are linked to these pages. The users of Uglan, the intranet of the University of Iceland, can add a Library Link to their personal pages, receive news from the Library and connect directly to e-resources.

Open Access

Nordbib, a funding programme for research and development in the area of Open Access to scholarly and scientific information at a Nordic level was extended and a possible continuation is still under examination. An information site, *openaccess.is*, was opened in March. It provides links to further materials on OA as well as articles on the subject, especially Icelandic ones. An interest group has opened a page on Facebook. In April, a symposium on OA was held in the Library, sponsored by Rannis (The Icelandic Centre for Research) and the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture. About 80-90 people attended and recordings of speeches and slides were distributed via the e-mission system of the Library. A special guest was Dr. Peter Suber, professor at the Berkman Institute for Internet and Society, Harvard University and he delivered the lecture „Open Access Policies for Icelandic Universities“. Peter Suber also met interestgroups and discussed implementation of OA in Iceland. In the Policy of the University of Iceland 2011-2016, it is stated that the University will formulate a policy of open access to research findings and student dissertations. The work has already begun in collaboration with the Library.

This report gives an account of the main projects carried out over the year at the Library, with statistics reflecting performance, key figures covering operations and the main figures from the financial statements.

Ingibjörg Steinunn Sverrisdóttir
National Librarian

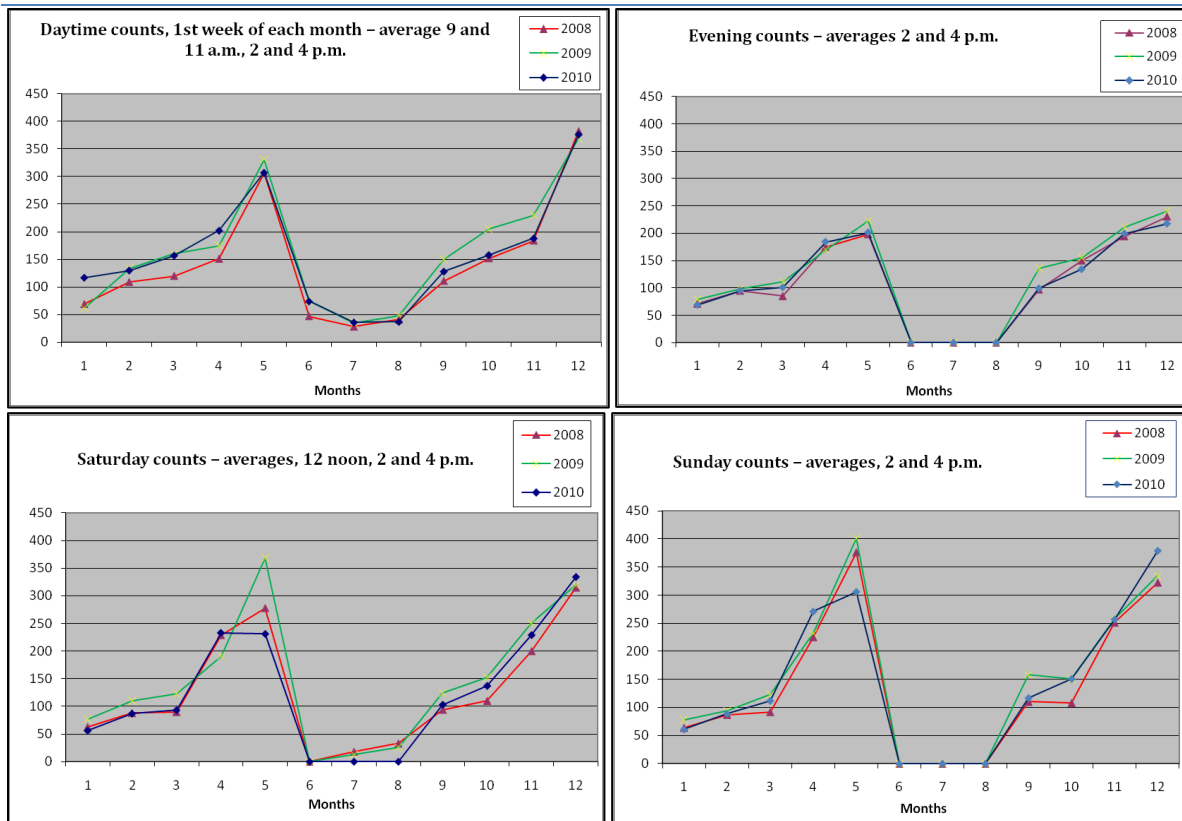
KEY STATISTICS

At the end of each year, statistics are processed covering the number of Library users and the services provided, and also the Library's holdings, acquisitions and various aspects of its operations, such as the work of the Photographic Unit and the Bookbinding Room, staffing levels and the Library's financial position. Some changes have been introduced to the presentation of these statistics, with the aim of simplifying them and bringing them into line with changes in operations.

USERS AND SERVICES

Library users include both those who visit the Library and those who make use of its websites. Guests using the Manuscript Department and National Department reading room are counted; precise counts of other users are not feasible, but surveys are made of users of the open access areas on the 3rd and 4th floors in the first week of each month. On weekdays during the university examination season, their numbers can reach up to 400.

GUESTS USING 3RD AND 4TH FLOORS, 2008-2010



WEBSITE USAGE

	Users		Pages opened	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
timarit.is (Newspapers and journals)	163.545	412.777	4.654.560	7.128.572
skemman.is (Dissertations - research papers)	67.774	133.149	673.272	1.433.196
landsbokasafn.is (Main Library website)	141.692	119.115	580.316	508.196
handrit.is (Manuscripts) – april 2010		19.438		200.199
doktor.bok.hi.is (Doctoral theses by Icelanders)	16.342	14.752	52.974	42.345
kort.bok.hi.is (Antique maps of Iceland)	8.275	12.511	76.657	88.762
vefsafn.is (Archived web pages)	17.143	9.509	205.711	121.924
utgafuskra.is (Icelandic national bibliography)	11.844	8.421	24.982	18.328
jonashallgrimsson.is (The poet Jónas H.)	11.206	7.729	44.591	33.818
sagnanet.is (Medieval Icelandic manuscripts)	8.001	5.921	18.774	15.261
hask.bok.hi.is (Cataloguers' handbook)	3.113	1.674	59.613	49.036
baekur.is (Books) – december 2010		1.321		17.153
kvennasogusafn.is (Women's history archive)	1.436	1.262	6.019	5.671
hvar.is (ICES)	93.524	59.830	299.830	261.870
Total	543.895	807.409	6.697.299	9.924.331

The total traffic on the webs has grown nearly fourfold since 2007. The number of websites maintained by the Library has changed from 8 to 14. The increase in the traffic on *timarit.is* is considerable and the web is usually counted in the top 20 Icelandic websites each month. The traffic on *timarit.is* is about 50% of the total for the Library's websites.

USE OF DIGITAL JOURNALS AND DATABASES

Articles downloaded:	2007	2008	2009	2010
via ICES ¹	850.871	837.105	892.277	907.294
from Morgunblaðið. ²	58.000	625.525	667.546	2.004.420
via subscriptions of University of Iceland ³		18.300	18.682	33.778
Articles downloaded. total	908.871	1.480.930	1.578.505	2.945.492

LIBRARY CARDS ISSUED

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Students at the University of Iceland	2.889	3.268	5.079	3.292
University and Library staff	606	933	1.005	941
Other students	799	715	843	705
Other borrowers	924	963	1.087	941
Total	5.218	5.879	8.014	5.879

¹ Further information on the use of the digitized databases can be found in the annual report of the Icelandic Consortium for Electronic Subscriptions (ICES) on the website *hvar.is*.

² It has proved difficult to obtain reliable information on usage from some of the suppliers of materials to the ICES. The leap in the use of the Morgunblaðið archive (material three years old and older) as compared with 2007 and again in 2010, is explained by the fact that it was discovered late in 2007 that only a fraction of these downloads had been included in the count. This was corrected, which, together with various other changes made by Árvakur (Morgunblaðið's publisher), explains the increases.

³ Figures on the use of the University's subscriptions cover only part of the webs and databases, and statistics are not available for them all. The growth in 2010 is because of better counting procedures.

READING ROOM FOR MANUSCRIPT AND NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS

Visitors	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	8.120	7.270	7.010	7.350

CIRCULATION

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Circulation department – main Library and departmental libraries				
Students at the University of Iceland	39.751	38.916	45.436	43.899
University and Library staff	8.175	8.095	8.505	8.448
Other students	5.183	4.212	5.025	3.240
Other borrowers	8.767	9.374	8.760	8.889
Total	61.876	60.597	67.729	64.476
National Department materials used in the Reading Room	8.812	9.323	9.444	9.215
Manuscripts used in the Reading Room	2.968	3.344	3.868	3.189
Audio-visual Collection				
Sound recordings - loans	213	103	48	39
Films and related materials - loans	910	904	1.170	1.237
Digital materials - loans	110	121	56	55
Printed music - loans (first counted 2008)		244	100	93
Films and related materials used <i>in situ</i>	856	312	257	210
Sound recordings used <i>in situ</i>	667	280	174	194
Total	14.536	14.631	15.117	14.232
Total loans	76.412	75.228	82.846	78.708

INTER-LIBRARY LENDING

	2007	2008	2009	2010
To the Library				
Books. films. etc.	1.093	1.062	1.237	1.367
Photocopies	1.452	1.388	1.130	1.031
From the Library				
Books. films. etc.	595	662	652	573
Photocopies	795	888	914	706
Total	3.935	3.994	3.933	3.677
To the Manuscript Department	23	20	24	71
From the Manuscript Department	154	71	90	47
Manuscript Department, total	177	91	114	118
Inter-library loans, total	4.112	4.085	4.021	3.795

PRINTING AND COPYING BY LIBRARY USERS

Number of pages	2007	2008	2009	2010
Printed	196.412	322.656	403.526	210.799
Photocopied	363.758	372.821	455.213	373.435

REFERENCE SERVICES

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of users attending training courses				
Introductory courses for UI staff/students	1.221	1.051	1.490	1.386
Advanced courses for UI staff/students	827	768	1.037	991
Others	356	195	159	241
Total	2.404	2.014	2.686	2.618
Number of training courses				
Introductory courses for UI staff/students	29	44	36	34
Advanced courses for UI staff/students	47	58	54	48
Others	21	11	17	18
Total	97	113	107	100
Pamphlets				
New	2	2	5	5
Re-issued	39	12	25	20
Total	41	14	30	25
Enquiries handled	2007	2008	2009	2010
Reference department				
By e-mail	498	423	607	467
By phone or in person	98	91	214	611
Extensive reference searches	25	25	30	28
Audio-visual Collection	53	21	29	25
National Department	31	42	32	24
Total	705	602	912	1.155



COLLECTIONS AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

ACQUISITIONS

Items received under legal deposit ⁴	2007	2008	2009	2010
Books (printed works registered as books)	6.325	7.794	7.349	6.156
Periodicals (individual issues)	9.131	8.626	8.598	6.916
Newspapers (individual issues)	9.601	7.602	5.592	4.003
Annual reports	648	580	630	719
Posters	897	583	456	224
Maps	98	77	68	99
Printed ephemera	8.660	9.560	9.000	7.552
Sound recordings ⁵	887	680	750	800
Video tapes and DVDs ⁶	52	72	72	107
Audio books	120	31	120	121
Multimedia discs/computer data		2	3	0
Digital materials (PDF-files)			2.492	491
Web archiving – documents (thousands)	2007	2008	2009	2010
The Icelandic web domain	77.495	153.540	228.886	208.744
Weekly selected archiving	42.640	49.289	93.088	95.630
Event-related collections	25.871	0	36.658	36.944
Total documents (thousands)	145.946	202.829	358.632	341.318
Other acquisitions	2007	2008	2009	2010
Books, purchased	3.085	2.923	1.837	1.456
Books, donations/exchanges	3.029	3.534	3.829	4.210
Foreign periodicals, paid by Library	758	737	624	220
Foreign periodicals, paid by UI institutions	50	56	52	50
Foreign periodicals, donations/exchanges	680	550	500	400
Periodicals, back-numbers (volumes)	387	175	129	34
Icelandic periodicals, purchased	103	124	123	106
Icelandic periodicals, donated	35	45	47	53
Sound recordings, purchased	93	58	88	54
Sound recordings, donated	30	2	12	54
Video tapes and DVDs, purchased	146	264	291	175
Video tapes and DVDs, donated	122	122	21	236
Audio books				33
Acquisitions by Manuscript Department	55	41	61	50

⁴ Counting of the three copies of books, newspapers, audio discs and multimedia discs that are preserved in the Library; but two copies of printed ephemera and posters are counted. The figures for ephemera are estimates.

⁵ Altogether 323 titles; in most cases three copies of each are received, one of which is preserved in the Akureyri Provincial Library (Amtsbókasafnið á Akureyri). This figure includes 138 published privately by individuals, choirs, orchestras or bands.

⁶ Titles.

PHOTOGRAPHIC UNIT

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Microfilms (newspapers) ⁷	111	0	0	0
Digital images (pages) ⁸				
Newspapers and periodicals	531.508	651.436	543.777	302.258
Books	120	4.136	7.807	57.434
Manuscripts	3.037	16.697	82.335	109.877
Total pages	533.655	672.269	633.919	469.569

BINDING SERVICES

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Units	41.030	42.908	54.865	48.226

ISSN AND ISBN

ISSN (International Standard Serial Numbers)	2007	2008	2009	2010
ISSNs assigned	78	41	41	39
ISBN (International Standard Book Numbers)				
Registrant element ranges assigned	63	74	63	66
Individual ISBNs assigned	165	178	113	180

AVERAGE FULL-TIME-EQUIVALENT STAFF PER UNIT

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Librarian's Office	6.00	7.50	8.50	7.5
Operation of Library premises	4.00	4.25	4.25	4.25
Programming and Computer Services	4.00	4.00	5.00	4.00
Manuscript Department	6.75	5.00	5.00	5.75
National Department	21.15	20.75	18.03	18.75
Book Binding and Conservation Department	4.00	4.00	4.10	3.90
Women's History Archive	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.80
Photographic Unit	5.17	4.67	4.67	4.00
Reserve Copy Collection	1.00	0.70	0.80	0.50
Circulation Department	17.20	19.16	18.17	17.60
Reference (information) Department	11.00	9.70	8.20	7.70
National Access	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Departmental Libraries	1.03	1.25	0.80	0.80
Total FTE's	82.30	82.98	79.52	76.55
Personnel by category FTE's	2007	2008	2009	2010
Qualified librarians	28.90	30.05	25.60	26.35
Librarians with university degrees	24.20	22.00	27.23	23.48
Other librarians	15.13	14.01	10.87	10.90
Assistants and office staff	7.77	8.52	7.92	7.92
Other staff	6.30	8.40	7.90	7.90
Total FTE's	82.30	82.98	79.52	76.55

⁷ The Library stopped producing microfilm copies of its holdings in 2005; the copies made in 2007 were in response to orders from abroad.

⁸ 258.425 pages were digitized in Akureyri and 211.144 pages in the Library in Reykjavík.

OPERATING EXPENSES 2010 (ISK '000)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Payroll	367.001	407.999	404.475	418.110
Purchase of acquisitions	158.247	166.322	262.153	292.795
Other expenses	190.516	224.034	267.698	269.631
Total	715.764	798.355	934.326	980.536
Percentage breakdown %	2007	2008	2009	2010
Payroll	51.3	51.1	43.3	42.7
Purchase of acquisitions	22.1	20.8	28.1	32.8
Other expenses	26.6	28.1	28.6	24.5

INCOME STATEMENT 2010 (ISK '000)

Income	2009	2010
University of Iceland's allocation for acquisitions	48.451	53.429
Fees for National Access to digital materials and periodicals	108.146	107.734
Other income	64.548	163.378
Government appropriation	725.874	657.959
Total	947.019	982.500
Expenses		
Payroll	404.475	418.110
Operation and maintenance of buildings	119.892	119.007
Purchase of acquisitions	70.344	72.380
National Access to Databases and electronic journals	191.809	220.415
Systems (Consortium of Icelandic Libraries. etc.)	19.359	21.125
Operation of computer systems and technical equipment	26.248	23.039
Other expenses	102.199	106.460
Total	934.326	980.536
Operating surplus	12.693	1.964

