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Who will Take Over the Libraries of the New Europe?

HOLLENDER, Henryk
Lublin University of Technology

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EUROPEAN INTEGRATION: CONDITIONS
AND CHALLENGES FOR LIBRARIES

LIBER 36th Annual Conference 2007

Who will Take Over the Libraries of the New Europe?

Henryk Hollender

Lublin University of Technology



Collegium
Civitas

Outline

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LIS Graduates in the Profession: Second Thoughts

Women's Work

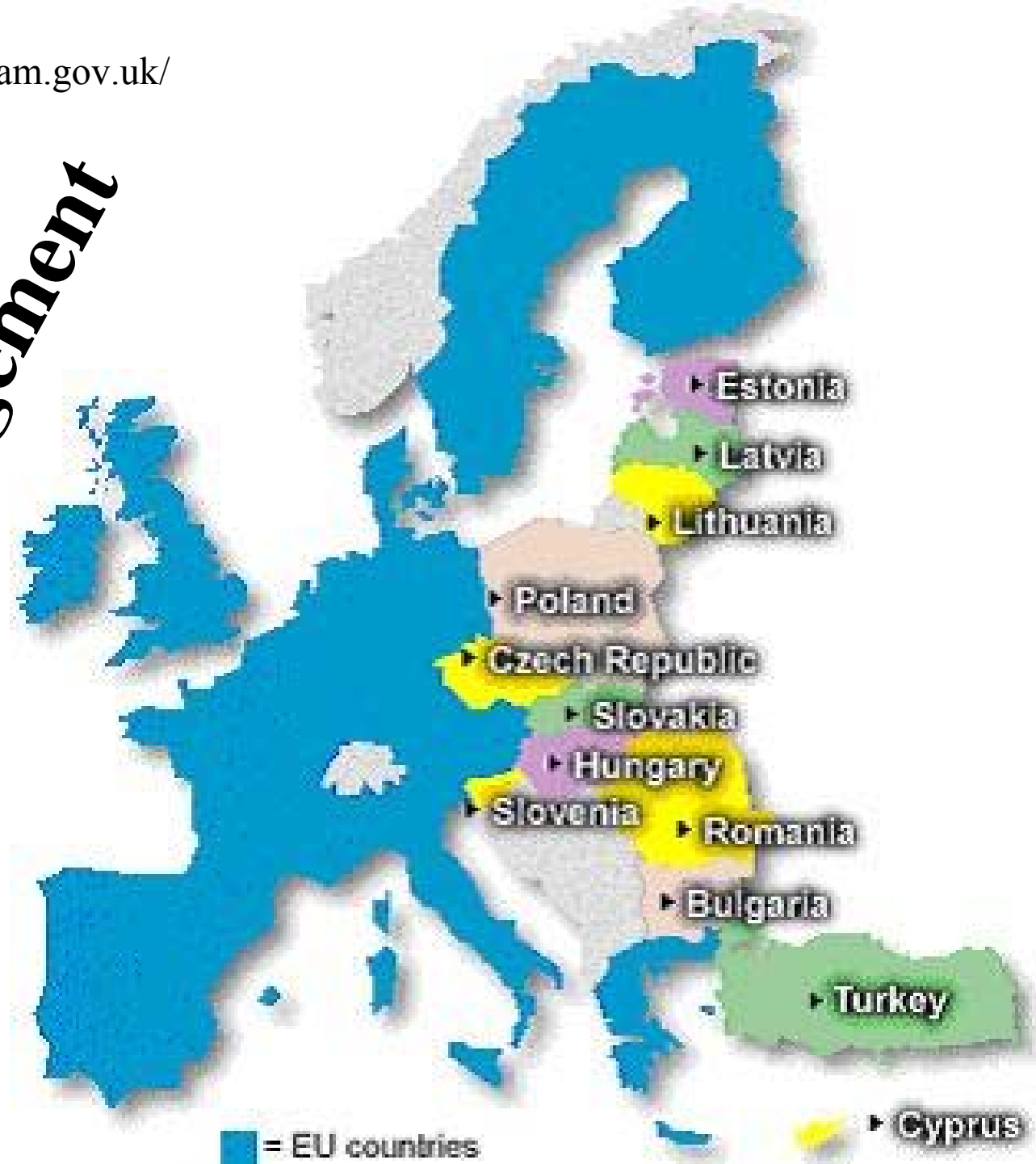
Managerial Models: Beliefs, Folklore, Reality

The Leader for the Action

What Can be Started Anew

Source: <http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/>

European Enlargement




The New Europe and its Importance

- „The enlargement...” of what?
- Economies, migration, markets
- Intelligentsia and middle class
- Common goods: town, printing shop, public library
- Indicators of scientific output going down
- Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, and the consequences of common history

Welcome to the Library Scene

- This is where the East of Eden is (Androvič 2002)
- „Przegląd Biblioteczny” paper (2007)
- The cult of books and libraries
- Children as the only reading public? (Poland)
- Information technologies:
 - Late coming, avoiding some errors?
 - „Automation is the answer, but what is the question?” (Borgman 1996)
- Imports and repetition: trends, services, products, complaints
- Similar or different? The case of digital repositories (see next slide)

Institutional Repositories Indexed by Scientific Commons...

<u>Austria</u> [6]	<u>Hungary</u> [4]	CEU Academic Archive CEU Business School Electronic Archive Policy Documentation Center Research Support Scheme
<u>Belgium</u> [10]	<u>Lithuania</u> [1]	Lithuanian Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Archive
<u>Czech Republic</u> [2]	<u>Netherlands</u> [25]	Bulletin of Applied Mechanics National Library of Czech Republic - Digitized documents
<u>Denmark</u> [11]	<u>Norway</u> [2]	
<u>Finland</u> [7]	<u>Poland</u> [13], but not...	 BIBLIOTEK@ CYFROWA POLITECHNIKI KRAKOWSKIEJ (68 doctoral diss.)
<u>France</u> [31]	<u>Portugal</u> [6]	
<u>Germany</u> [76]	<u>Slovenia</u> [1]	<u>ePrints.FRI</u> (Faculty of Computer and Information Science)
<u>Greece</u> [2]	<u>Spain</u> [45]	
<u>Ireland</u> [3]	<u>Sweden</u> [13]	
<u>Italy</u> [29]	<u>United Kingdom</u> [92]	

Popular Library Cultures

- The town, the gown, and the stereotypes:
 - Librarians: What do you do out there?
 - Honourable Curator and Madame la Bibliothécaire
 - Student wisdom: order, check out, copy, return...
 - Managers, Money, Mother Brussels
- Public libraries: civilisational competence vs literary salon
- Academic libraries: every student her own book
- Professional advancement, years of service and continuing education

After the Rush

- Those brave old days early nineties
- Gone leaders
- Library automation: what it was and how has it gone out of fashion
- The coming of the Digital Age (with its own crew)
- Public library in a wealthy democratic state: plenty of everything

Adequacy of Library Education

- Chorzów discussion, 1994: will libraries retrain their own staff?
- Well-established degree programmes at universities in several NE countries (Juznic & Badovinac 2005)
- On the origins of LIS degree in the 1950s
 - Formal education in the Soviet world
 - Knowing the old libraries as a tool for managing the new ones (cf. the story of Aleksander Birkenmajer and the Warsaw University)
- Frantic curricular adjustments vs tradition
- Scholarly (lack of) communication?

LIS Graduates in the Profession

- In quest for adequate curriculum
 - J & B revisited: a list of courses is NOT A PROGRAMME. What makes a programme?
 - Discipline oriented vs student oriented (problem oriented etc.) programmes
 - Bologna process: what do you mean, colleagues?
- LIS degree not so important for the career?
- News from Poland: LIS postgraduate diploma indispensable for promotion
- Operational, day-to-day work turns librarianship into drudgery
- Knowledge of the practitioner

LIS Graduates in the Profession: Second Thoughts

- Towards anthropology of the library
- Library career: attractive and prestigious?
- No „changing of the guards” after the Fall of communism
- Immigration and transfer of services
- Populism, politics and the lack of standards
Prospect for change in an aging society (see next slide)

Crude Birth Rates for Selected Countries

	Birth rate						
Country	2007	2006	2005	1990	1985	1980	1975
<u>Czech Republic</u>	9.0	9.0	9.1	13.4	14.5	16.4	19.6
<u>Poland</u>	9.9	9.9	9.7	14.3	18.2	19.5	18.9
<u>United Kingdom</u>	10.7	10.7	10.8	13.9	13.3	13.5	12.5

Source: <http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0004395.html>

Women's Work

- Generation „1200”: a case of oppression or equal pay employer?
- Jobs for Women, Ltd.: obedient, scrupulous, quiet
- Family translated into the library

Managerial Models: Beliefs, Folklore, Reality

- Manager from outside of the profession: benefit? Danger?
- Library directors: leaders or rear runners?
- „Lack of data, lack of attention” issue (Renaud & Murray, 2003)
- Our director...
 - Is only to control us
 - Looks good on TV
 - Has her own little acre at the Library
- Vacancy: library director? Not much competition!

The Leader for the Action

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Automation and technologies: equipment, applications, code writing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-conventional libraries for young adults
?	Database management, data conversion, information architecture
?	Legislation, policymaking, lobbying
?	Crisis response/social responsibility issues
?	Rare books/special collections

What Can be Started Anew

- New library legislation, standards, quality assurance
- Energetic lobbying and lawmaking
- Imagine you manage only by projects and task teams
- Promotion for successful project completion
- Let's globalize the profession



- ▶ **Users' forum**
- ▶ **Information for users**
 - ▶ News archives
 - ▶ The Library Profile
 - ▶ Locations
 - ▶ Opening hours
 - ▶ Organisational structure
 - ▶ ...
 - ▶ ...
 - ▶ Circulation policies
 - ▶ Annual Report 2006 (in Polish)
 - ▶ To the Friends of our library
- ▶ **Services**
 - ▶ Online
 - ▶ On the premises
- ▶ **Find in the library**
 - ▶ New acquisitions
 - ▶ Find Books
 - ▶ Find Databases
 - ▶ Online Databases
- ▶ **Journals**
 - ▶ Information on journals
 - ▶ ...

**Welcome to
the Library
Lublin University of
Technology**

k
catalogue
search

Thank you for your attention!

h.hollender@pollub.pl



The Library during the summer recess
The Library during the summer recess »

The Library during the second half of July
The Library during the second half of July »

Library at the Faculty of Civil and Sanitary Engineering
The Library at the Faculty of Civil and Sanitary Engineering will have altered hours of operation in the second half of July. »

Library Orientation Course: Credits
Library Orientation Course: Credits Your credit for the Library Orientation Course may be issued daily... »

News archives
previous news can be found here