

University Libraries as Centers for Scientific Communications (According to the Experience of Higher Educational Institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan)

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15421/172310>**Gardashov Rashad**Ph.D., Department of Library Resources and information retrieval systems,
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6512-3771>, qardashov@gmail.com**Kazimi Parviz**Ph.D., Assoc. Prof., <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5577-4773>, parvizkazimi@gmail.com
Baku State University (Baku, Azerbaijan)

Abstract

There is a lot of research on the transformation of university libraries in our time. University libraries are studied in different directions and analyzed as part of the educational, pedagogical and scientific process. There is no doubt that the expansion of functions increases the value and role of these libraries.

This article provides information on the issues of comprehensive coverage of documentary resources on educational literature of library and information centers of higher educational institutions in modern times and analyzes examples based on the experience of specific university libraries. Only libraries of advanced universities of the Republic of Azerbaijan were involved in the study.

University libraries in Azerbaijan act as one of the leading structural institutions of higher education. The process of transforming libraries into centers of spiritual and intellectual ties is being carried out at an accelerated pace, providing education and research, educational, scientific, methodological literature and information materials that promote knowledge. The article analyzes and makes practical generalizations based on facts based on domestic and foreign experience in this area.

The world experience of libraries of higher educational institutions is studied and compared with the experience of libraries operating in Azerbaijan. Taking into account the practical importance of public libraries such as: BSU (Baku State University) scientific library, Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University Library and Information Center (ADPU), library of "Baku Engineering University", "Main Library named after Azerbaijan State University of Oil and Industry", library of Azerbaijan University "Linguistics", their work experience was considered and compared.

Keywords: university libraries, library fund, communication centers, model charter, electronic catalogue

Університетські бібліотеки як центри наукових комунікацій (за досвідом вищих навчальних закладів Азербайджанської Республіки)

Гардашов Рашад, Казімі Парвіз*Бакинський державний університет (Баку, Азербайджан)*

Анотація

Досліджень щодо трансформації університетських бібліотек у наш час є чимало. Бібліотеки ВНЗ досліджуються в різних напрямках і аналізуються як частина навчального, педагогічного та наукового процесу. Безперечно, розширення функцій підвищує цінність і роль цих бібліотек.

У статті подано інформацію про питання комплексного висвітлення документних ресурсів з навчальної літератури бібліотечно-інформаційних центрів вищих навчальних закладів у сучасний час та проаналізовано приклади з досвіду роботи конкретних університетських бібліотек. До дослідження були залучені лише бібліотеки передових університетів Азербайджанської Республіки.

Університетські бібліотеки Азербайджану виступають одними з провідних структурних закладів вищої освіти. Прискореними темпами здійснюється процес перетворення бібліотек на центри духовних та інтелектуальних зв'язків, забезпечення освітньо-науковою, навчальною, науковою, методичною літературою та інформаційними матеріалами, що популяризують знання. У статті проаналізовано та зроблено практичні узагальнення на основі фактів, що базуються на вітчизняному та зарубіжному досвіді у цій сфері.

Вивчається світовий досвід роботи бібліотек вищих навчальних закладів та порівнюється з досвідом роботи бібліотек Азербайджану. Враховуючи практичне значення публічних бібліотек таких як: наукова бібліотека БДУ (Бакинського державного університету), Бібліотечно-інформаційний центр Азербайджанського державного педагогічного університету (АДПУ), бібліотека «Бакинського інженерного університету», «Головна бібліотека ім. Азербайджанський державний університет нафти та промисловості», бібліотека Азербайджанського університету «Лінгвістика» розглядався та порівнювався їх досвід роботи.

Ключові слова: бібліотеки ВНЗ, бібліотечний фонд, вузли зв'язку, модельний статут, електронний каталог

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Introduction.

The ranking of universities is measured not only by their quality of education, but also by their library and level of service. The introduction of modern technologies in libraries has led to the improvement of the classical model of library services and entering a new stage. The libraries of higher educational institutions of Azerbaijan are working on further enrichment of their future activities, connecting the past with the present. A number of innovations are being implemented by university libraries to direct a modern approach and a wide flow of information to scientific development, to provide readers with access to the most extensive and advanced information resources. The current situation associated with the change in the level and form of education at the university makes libraries rethink their goals, redefine the definition of new goals and objectives of their activities. University libraries act as multifunctional institutions, taking over the functions already functioning in educational institutions.

One of the most important tasks of university libraries in modern times is to perform the function of a scientific communication center. Scientific communication is divided into two parts: formal and informal. The formal section includes the publication and distribution of scientific and technical documents, while the informal section includes personal connections of specialists, participation in scientific symposiums and congresses. The relationship of university libraries with systems of scientific communication manifests itself in these two forms and functions as a scientific center both on a formal and informal level. The functioning of university libraries as centers of scientific communication is carried out on the basis of legal regulations, laws and guidelines, both local and international practice. Based on the experience of the country, we can especially note the legal acts and laws adopted in this area, for example: in the Law on Library Activities, adopted in 1999, Library and Information Activities in the Republic of Azerbaijan, covering for 2008-2013 in the state plan of measures for improvement, as well as in the model regulation on scientific libraries of higher educational institutions, the requirements for the university library, the obligations of the university library to meet the requirements of the time are clearly indicated (On Library Work, 1999). Functioning as communication centers should be based on directly adopted laws and guidelines. The activity of university libraries as a scientific and communication center is also reflected in international experience. So, in the model and concept of the UK, adopted in 2017, there is such an idea: "What should be the academic map of university libraries of the future?"

In the prepared academic map, the future development of university libraries is reflected in 10 main paradigms. The 5th paradigm of these 10 proposed paradigms is based on the activities of university libraries as a scientific and communication center. The activity of university libraries

as this scientific and communication center consists of certain sub-segments, and these segments are manifested in the several form.

As already mentioned, there are 6 sub-segments in this model, in which the university library functions as a scientific and communication center. These sub-segments can be grouped as follows:

1. The university library should be the main center of education. That is, the first task of the university library is to contribute to the scientific and communication center with educational literature.

2. The university library should be a research center. When clarifying this sub-segment, it is necessary to focus on one issue, namely that not only the university library, but all types of libraries, in addition to teaching activities, perform the functions of a research, information and training center, as specified in the Law. for library work. In this regard, university libraries should also act as research centers.

3. The university library should become the main center of the university campus. As you can see, in the European and especially British model, the university library is not only engaged in scientific and pedagogical literature, but also becomes the center of the campus for scientific communication.

4. The university library should participate in effective management. In order for libraries to function and meet the requirements of the time, there must be effective methods of management, and in this method of management, the responsibilities of libraries at the level of the requirements of the time must be researched and established.

5. The university library must have a corporate network. One of the requirements of the modern era is that the university library should have centralized management of regional distributed networks. That is why the presence of a corporate network is one of the most important factors.

6. The university library must implement information policy and engineering. As stated in the law on information, the transfer, processing, analysis of information, in other words, the implementation of information engineering, is one of the most important tasks of libraries (Pinfield, & Rutter, 2017).

As you can see, the sub-segments of this paradigm contain the actual vector directions of the university library of the present and the future. At what level do scientific libraries or library-information centers of higher educational institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan contain the relevant segments of this presented and recommended paradigm?

This question needs clarification. The current picture and noteworthy provisions allow us to say that the scientific libraries of more than 50 higher educational institutions operating in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan respond in an appropriate form to some of the submitted and requested recommendations. When we look at the

documentary-information cycle, the documentary fund, information support and access to the international world of the scientific libraries of the universities listed below, we clearly see that very progressive steps are being taken in this area.

Regarding the Scientific Library of Baku State University, which is the first of the higher educational institutions, it can be noted that in the modern era, the computerization of library work is of great importance in the context of the rapid development of society's need for complete, accurate and timely information.

The initial goal of this laboratory, created on the basis of the scientific library of the Belarusian State University, is to work with theoretical and organizational issues and problems associated with the use of new information technologies for the computerization of all library processes in the library and information activities of the university. At the initial stage, an electronic catalog and a database of the national book fund were created, containing scientific, educational and other literature stored in the library. Since 2001, for the first time among the republican libraries of universities in the library of BSU, the creation of an electronic catalog has begun. At present, the library fund in Azerbaijani is included in the full electronic catalog. Periodicals, dissertations and rare books in the library in Azerbaijani and foreign languages are reflected in the electronic catalog (EC). The electronic catalog allows providing services to readers anywhere in the world through an international computer network. At present, the scientific library has been created as a full-text electronic library.

In connection with the 100th anniversary of BSU, the updated electronic page of the library is posted on the website of the university bdu.az. By accessing this site, users can get complete information about the library, and at the same time, they can search the Internet faster through the electronic catalog. At present, the Scientific Library is a member of the Central Methodological Library Commission, the Association for the Development of Library Work in Azerbaijan, the Society of Librarians of Azerbaijan and the Eurasian Library Assembly, and is also the Methodological Center of Libraries of the Higher School of the Republic (Khalafov, 2019).

The Library and Information Center of the Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University (ADPU) has 684,772 copies of literature, including books and brochures, journals, dissertations, abstracts, scientific works of university teachers, textbooks and teaching aids, therefore it ranks second among the university libraries of our republic. The Library and Information Center serves readers with 5 departments and 27 employees. The number of readers of the Library and Information Center is 11,299 people. There are 2 specialized service departments: precise and humanitarian. In 3 educational buildings there is a library and a reading room. Reading rooms of the Library and Information Center for 230 seats are intended for readers. An electronic catalog has been created at the ADPU,

work on the creation of an electronic library is continuing successfully (Kazimi, 2021a).

At present, the library fund of the Baku Engineering University has about 106 thousand books and magazines. Of these, 18,000 Azerbaijani, 28,000 Turkish, 32,000 English, 2,000 Russian, 1,000 Arab-Persian, 150 German, 90 French, 103 Spanish-language literature and other languages of small peoples (Uzbek, Turkmen, Kyrgyz, Ukrainian, etc.) belong to the shares. Our library works on an online system, students and teachers receive books by ordering online. Orders are prepared within a maximum of 15 minutes. The order is valid for 24 hours. The library provides students with free textbooks and learning materials used in the subjects taught in the educational process. There are more than 5000 textbooks in the library fund. In addition to university staff, educational and methodological materials published by other authors also contribute to the availability and modernization of information sources on the disciplines taught. Our books, related to the specialties available at the university, are selected for their relevance and used by the student-teacher contingent. In addition, our university library cooperates with other local universities (Kazimi, 2021b).

The West Caspian University Library is one of the richest libraries in the country with over 65,000 books, over 550 microforms and other sources of information. The library fund contains more than 17,000 books in English, at the same time, depository libraries of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), the United Nations World Tourism Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization and the International Labor Organization have been created at the university. Currently, the library collection receives literature from dozens of prestigious international organizations. The library has access to EBSCO-host of EBSCO-publishing and OPscience, The Royal Society, open access books to DOAB full-text online databases. The databases include 9,000 journals (of which 7,851 are peer-reviewed) in the public, humanities, computing, engineering, (oil, gas, etc.) physics, chemistry, transportation, etc. database of journals covering fields and providing a selected number of them in CD / DVD format, as well as more than 3000 full-text books and brochures, etc., are provided by the use of information resources (Gardashov, 2019).

The main library of the Azerbaijan State University of Oil and Industry (ASU) was established in 1920 at the Baku Technical School. At that time, the library had 6,500 books and 300 readers. Currently, the Main Library has about 700,000 book collections. The fund is rich and versatile and consists of books in Azerbaijani, Russian and foreign languages, magazines and periodicals, standards and patents, electronic media and other printed materials.

The library of the Azerbaijan University of Languages (ASU) has a rich library fund. In total, the library has over 462,000 books. The university library,

which has a wide audience of readers, serves the teaching staff, students and all technical workers. In the current situation, the number of readers in the library is 7,794 people, of which 1,394 are professors and employees, and 6,400 are students. To find out what books are in our library, readers can use the search in the catalog section on "adu.edu.az.electronic library" (Model Regulation of the library).

In the main fundamental content of university libraries as a center of scientific communication, it is important to replenish their electronic fund. The sources and methods of assembling electronic publications, documents and other similar electronic resources in university libraries are different. To collect electronic documents and other resources in the collections of the university library, first of all, the university library must have an electronic library that is widely connected to the Internet or at least a local computer network that meets modern requirements. A library with a local computer network can be equipped with books, magazines and databases that match the profile. On the other hand, the method of transition to electronic format is considered an internal source of acquisition.

Nothing can replace the leading role of a professional librarian in the selection of sources for compiling electronic information. Electronic information resources consist of 3 components:

- Network resources are open to all (free of charge);
- Acquisition of books, magazines and other types of documents that are portable information carriers, as well as paper documents;
- Resources of pay networks, important in the collection of electronic information (Ivannikov, 2013).

To use the Internet, you must obtain permission from the owners of the resource when transferring electronic information to the server. If the library wants to include any web document or bibliographic database in its electronic collection, it must obtain the approximate consent of the owner of the document, that is, register on its website.

Despite the fact that the "portable" method has been used in foreign countries since the 80s of the 20th

centuries, little work is being done in this direction in our country. University libraries require a lot of technical equipment to produce print-based e-books, which is a complex and relatively more expensive process. Up-to-date and high-quality documents are protected on paid network resources. Most of them do not have a printed version. Here the licensing method is used. A license agreement is a way of communication between a supplier and its customer. The legal basis of the license is copyright law. In this direction, the Law on Copyright and Related Rights has been adopted in the Republic of Azerbaijan. The main feature of the electronic information license is that it does not give the right of ownership, but only the right to use. The license imposes various conditions and restrictions on the use of electronic information.

Conclusions.

In conclusion, university libraries, as centers of scholarly communication, support the community as a whole and help the next generation grow as global leaders. We provide an academic experience that provides our students with the necessary sources of information and guidance to take full advantage of our book and digital materials. A significant amount of scientific information is created every day, and we strive to provide our students, faculty, and staff with the various resources they need to fulfill their educational and research goals. University libraries make the most of quality print and electronic resources covering teaching and learning topics in multiple languages, with growing collections spanning general education, as an open access digital library that reflects innovation and presents it to the educational community.

University libraries monitor "academic activity" and study the dynamics of student demand for books and "information". University libraries can be active participants in the evaluation process as a center for "scientometric" analysis. Practical work is being carried out in this direction in some university libraries. The expansion of the activities of university libraries in the bibliometric and scientometric direction will be a requirement for the near future, and this is the topic of a separate article.

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