

## Report by Viktorija Moskina to BI-International

### Professional visit to the Bavarian State Library (*Bayerische Staatsbibliothek*) in Munich, 21 – 25 September 2015

Per diem and accommodation sponsored by *BI-International*

<b>Monday, 21 September</b>	<p><b>9:00</b> – Meeting with the Head of the Manuscripts and Rare Books Department Dr. Claudia Fabian – curator of the visit</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned general information about the Bavarian State Library (hereafter – BSB): structure, functions and history. BSB has recently undergone structural reorganisation process that changed model of administration. From the perspective of the National Library of Latvia (hereafter – LNB) – implemented model should be successful, because similar model works at LNB very well.</p> <p>BSB is similar to LNB in many professional areas. For example, both libraries are providing consultations to public libraries (BSB on regional level, LNB on national level) and also arranges professional trainings (BSB for academic librarians, LNB for all kind of librarians).</p> <p><b>10:00</b> – Guided Library Tour</p> <p>During the tour I have learned history of the library building, seen different library reading rooms, storage, received information about general library services.</p> <p>I think that it is very positive that library is open from 8:00 to 24:00. Another positive discovery is that anyone can obtain a library card free of charge, also foreign students and researchers.</p> <p><b>14:00</b> – Meeting with the Assistant to the Director</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned that tasks of the Assistant to the Director of BSB are very similar to mine with only difference that I concentrate more on international relations and internal tasks are coordinated by the Department of Library Development of LNB.</p> <p><b>15:00</b> – Meeting with Specialists on Public Relations</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned basic information on the Library Public Relations.</p> <p>It is very important to engage in social media activities and respond to society in positive manner that creates library image in the digital environment.</p> <p>We have common opinion about the best way of internal communication and informing staff members about library event – e-mail notifications with concentrated information on library events and happenings (in BSB – every month, in LNB – every week) and joint meetings for all staff members (in BSB – twice a year, in LNB – every month).</p> <p>Positive discovery that BSB publications could be purchased on-line (also at the electronic library kiosks) and collected at the library registration desk.</p> <p><b>16:00</b> – Meeting with Dr. Claudia Fabian</p> <p>Summary on the first day and practical instructions concerning next day visits.</p>
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<p><b>Tuesday, 22 September</b></p>	<p><b>9:00</b> – Meeting at the East European Reading room</p> <p>Collections on Eastern Europe studies are quite impressive and very positive that BSB region oriented approach also includes territory of the Baltic States.</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned about projects implemented by the corresponding department, on-line databases and open access resources.</p> <p>East European study specialists would like to exchange experience on web archiving with LNB staff members.</p> <p><b>14:00</b> – Meeting at the Manuscripts and Rare Books Department</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned that in Germany there is no national library in traditional perception and truly national collection could be created only virtually with digital copies from several institutions. These digitalisation plans are being coordinated between major libraries and planned many years ahead.</p> <p>Book binding database was demonstrated, and afterwards I had possibility to see many different examples of the rare book bindings from different ages.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, 23 September</b></p>	<p><b>10:00</b> – Meeting at the Munich University Library concerning Public Relations</p> <p>During the meeting I had possibility to speak with the Head of the Faculty Library who is in charge of the creation of the library web page and share experience in web page administration and social media communication.</p> <p><b>11:00</b> – Meeting at the Munich University Library concerning Old Books and Manuscripts</p> <p>During the meeting I had possibility to learn about unique collections of the Munich University Library, including many first editions of the Lutheran materials that could be useful for the current project of LNB – large-scale exhibition about Martin Luther in 2017.</p> <p><b>14:00</b> – Meeting at the Institute of Conservation and Restoration of BSB</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned about impressive achievements of BSB in paper conservation and restauration, including analytics without taking samples of materials.</p> <p>Positive thing that bachelor and master’s programme students are encouraged to have practical trainings at the Institute of Conservation and Restoration and make their thesis based on practical solutions for restauration problems.</p> <p><b>15:00</b> – Meeting at the Munich Digitalisation Centre</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned about impressive technical possibilities of the Munich Digitalisation Centre and aim to provide access to all BSB content (not protected by the copyrights) in upcoming ten years.</p> <p>BSB and LNB have the same model of Treventus Mechatronics scanner-robot and finds its standard software suitable for arranging workflow processes. In the case of LNB all processes are being made by the same person (three persons are engaged in digitalisation). In the case of BSB, workflow processes are being distributed among different specialists who are working in several shifts. Important aspect – creation of the digitalisation guidelines that would be used by the State memory institutions.</p>

<p><b>Thursday, 24 September</b></p>	<p><b>9:00</b> – Meeting at the Department of User Services</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned about reference and information services of the BSB. BSB is now implementing reference system based on the open source software that is called open ticket request. It allows library users to ask questions in real time.</p> <p>Positive thing is that BSB has supplemented BSB Facebook page with library history timeline. Similar information would be necessary to LNB prior to its 100 anniversary in 2019.</p> <p><b>14:00</b> – Meeting with on-line resource licensing specialist</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned that BSB has the leading role in the consortium of Bavarian libraries and communication with international cooperation partners and service providers. BSB uses specialised outsourcing services for storing and preservation of the third party content. BSB also has advanced experience in open access issues and communication with authors of publications.</p> <p><b>15:00</b> – Meeting with picture recognition specialist</p> <p>During the meeting I have learned about impressive achievements of BSB in deep indexing and sophisticated picture recognition technologies. The base for picture recognition process is edge detection and creation of histograms. Every picture is processed only once and is saved in the database. Achievements on deep indexing were demonstrated in Bavarikon portal that contains 85-90 thousand digitised items and 5,5 million pictures.</p> <p><b>16:00</b> – Meeting with Dr. Claudia Fabian</p> <p>Summary on the whole visit.</p>
<p><b>Friday, 25 September</b></p>	<p>Departure to Riga (morning flight).</p>
<p><b>Conclusions:</b></p>	<p>Professional visit gave me possibility to broaden scope of knowledge and meet different Library and Information Science professionals, as well as to exchange opinions on different library related topics. Apart from unique collections, BSB has high expertise in the research on the rare books and manuscripts, digitalisation and restauration of different types of materials that I will highly recommend to my colleagues.</p>

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of the National Library of Latvia  
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