

A worldwide library

Students and researchers today expect immediate access to relevant information resources, regardless of time and place. Technological changes and an increasing flow of electronic information bring a shift of focus in library activities – from compiling collections to the organisation and acquisition of content. A new generation of information systems is under development, systems that organise access in a more specialised and analytical way than today.

The main task of the libraries is therefore to develop advanced support functions for education as well as for research. Virtual information services, comprehensive digitalisation, access to specialist librarians and suitable study environments provide better conditions for researchers and students to obtain information. Tools for more efficient international dissemination of researchers' publications are another prioritised activity for LUB.

Strong research environments at Lund University are characterised by large interdisciplinary projects in national and international cooperation. The service and organisation of the libraries are to reflect and facilitate these new forms of work and will thereby play a central role in the results and success of the research groups.

Advanced information skills are today a prerequisite for students to complete their studies within the specified time limits and for increasing both the quality of the courses and the employability of the students. Internet-based education will become an increasingly integral part of the everyday activities of LU students. In the physical as well as the virtual learning environment, LUB, in cooperation with the other parts of the university, is to offer user-adapted support and stimulating working environments.

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The Strategic Plan for LUB 2009–2012 was approved by the Library Board on 17th April 2009
http://www.lub.lu.se/fileadmin/user_upload/pdf/Om_LUB/Strategisk_plan_2009-2012.pdf



LUND UNIVERSITY

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Strategic plan 2009–2012

Lund University Libraries – LUB



Vision

WORLD-CLASS INFORMATION SERVICES FOR A WORLD-CLASS UNIVERSITY. The overall aim of Lund University Libraries is to generate added value for Lund University by supplying advanced support functions for research and education. The university's ambition to strengthen its international position and competitiveness presupposes access to world-class information services.



THE LUND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES NETWORK (LUB) consists of cooperating units with different orientations. The network includes libraries connected to each faculty which are responsible for providing information and accessible library services within their respective subject fields, as well as two shared units. The University Library is responsible for special and rare books collections and is a common interdisciplinary research and study centre for Lund University. Lund University Library Head Office is responsible for the university's electronic library as well as for the management, development and support functions of the entire library network.



Strategies

INFORMATION SERVICES – continuing to develop qualified, easily accessible and cost-effective information services for research and education.

On the national scale, Lund University is to offer the broadest and deepest range of information services and information resources for research and study within all subject areas.

The services are to be user-friendly and accessible via internet.

User support is to be offered both on site and virtually. Material which is not available in digital form must be available to order, for delivery within 24 hours.

Printed media continue to play a significant role at the same time as strong investments will be made in new media, comprehensive digitalisation projects, and development of modern information services.

It is also important to make the often unique collections of unprinted media digitally accessible. A special plan for this work will be drawn up.

An increased range of e-books and digital course material is a priority. In this way, the material will be more readily available to both on-campus and distance students. Local digitalisation investments are to be made for often requested and unique material published in Sweden and special collections. Particular attention must be paid here to information resources that underpin unique and interdisciplinary research areas at LU.

RESEARCH SUPPORT – developing advanced services to support the requirements of research and to increase the visibility, dissemination and evaluation of research at Lund University.

The allocation of resources to research is increasingly competitive. Access to reliable basic data for the university's research publications is an important strategic tool for Lund University. Developing services to this end and making them available will be an increasingly important task for LUB in the future.

The strong research environments at LU are characterised by large, cross-disciplinary projects in national and international cooperation. Access to researcher-suited tools and relevant

research information plays a central role for the results and success of research groups. In order to be able to meet the future needs of research correctly, cooperation between the library and research groups must be strengthened as new methods for communication between researchers are developed.

Through increased dialogue, LUB intends to further develop services in support of research, thereby contributing to making the researchers' work more effective.

SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION AND LEARNING – continuing and intensifying work that aims to position the libraries as an important resource within education and learning, thereby contributing to the development of advanced information skills among the university's researchers, teachers and students.

Knowledge development is global, swift and changeable. Information skills are a basic condition for lifelong learning and increased employability. For researchers and teachers, an increased knowledge of the range of relevant and demand-sensitive information services is a quality-enhancing and strategic tool which enables greater precision and efficiency in research and education. LUB, in cooperation with other players, will increase activities in this field.

Through the active integration of information skills in education, information resources are

exploited in teaching and educational diversity increases. The academic performance of students improves, as do the conditions for higher quality in students' degree projects. Students who have mastered information management have good prerequisites for reaching their learning outcomes and completing their studies within the specified time limits. One condition for reaching the educational goals is to include methods concerning development of information skills in the faculties' courses on teaching and learning in higher education.

PHYSICAL AND VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS – in cooperation with other agents within Lund University, striving to create stimulating and modern physical and virtual learning environments for students.

Study centres are being set up at the university – places for study, dialogue and cross-disciplinary meetings. Through close cooperation between the libraries and teaching activities, environments that contribute to the students' learning development will be set up. Accessibility and flexibility increase in the premises that the libraries make available. The physical libraries are integrated with other study areas, and become components in a study environ-

ment that has been carefully planned from an educational point of view. The libraries' virtual services are designed and presented in a way that allows for the integration of information resources and services in the course platforms. The virtual learning environment thereby becomes a support for knowledge development, for online education as well as for education on campus.