History of the library

Széchenyi István University had been started to operate as the Transportation and Telecommunication College in 1968. Its centre was in Budapest. The institution in Győr started the new session in a new building in 1974. The library of the college was established this year also. With this step this library became the centre of the college library system. It was moved to this present place in the summer of 1977. While the construction of the new building was made, the library was operating in different parts of the college building.

The resettled library units merged into the college library in Győr. From 1978 to 1996 the library had a share in a national obligatory copy service.

The first computers appeared in the library at the beginning of the nineties, in those days they were used to complete the journal register and the directorial correspondence. The computerization of the whole library work began in 1992. A local network was built up which consists of six personal computers and a server machine. In order for this development to happen the Higher Education Digitalization Program provided the appropriate framework. There was announced a closing up program to European Higher Education Basis (FEFA/2) in 1993.

The library was taking part in this program where it gained a sum which was spent on computerization, network development, hardware and software purchases. After the testing of different systems ALEPH 300 integrated library system was installed, to which 12 computerized workstations, 5 polling terminals, and a CD tower were attached.

The stock's computer processing was begun in 1995, in parallel with the current and retrospective processing. The journal module has been working since 1997, from 2001 the lending module also works on computer. In 1994 we developed the electronic file protection system with financing from the Mellon Foundation. The library has had a web server since 1997, but during this time the library catalogue was available only from the university's website. From 2002 we have our own website, the lib.sze.hu. The library's informatics system has continuously expanded and has gotten modernized, thanks to different tenders.

Modern PCs got into the place of the old terminals, the server expanded, and ALEPH 300 was replaced to a new version, ALEPH 500, with a new graphical surface in 2000. In 2004 and in 2006 a newer update happened; we use the 506.16.02 version currently.

On the 1st of January 2002 a new chapter started in our life, a decision was made by the Parliament, our college was declared to be a university, so from now on our library became a university library. This decision gives us new opportunities and new tasks.

2011 was another milestone in the library's history. A TIOP project provided the opportunity to develop the university and a new, modern building was built that can satisfy all requirements. In this new buildig we tailored our services to the requirements of the users and the new era with the help of a TÁMOP project named "Széchenyi István University University Library's way to the web 2.0 services".

The new library welcomes the patrons during 54 hours a week from March 2011. The library's knowledge tranfer and knowledge sharing functions were formed by 2012. In the 4.500 m2 almost 750 seats, 250 computers + wifi, 300.000 documents (books, theses, PhDs, standards, CDs and DVDs), cca. 500 journals, separated and common studying areas, six mediaboxes and 15 research rooms serves our patrons. The whole collection can be searched or browsed via our online catalogue (named HunTéka). Besides printed documents there are 41 online, mostly full text databases that cover the univeristy's whole education offer. Most of these databases can be used in the campus, some of them can be used only in the library.

The Library's main aim as an academic library is to serve our students, professors and employees; as a public library is to serve the academic and research staff in the region with its high quality collection, services and educated staff.
The library as the university's education and research support background institution completely fulfills its job with its modern equipments. Education and research need the most scientific background in the university. One of the important requirements of education is the library that on one hand collects and catalogue documents, on the other hand provides the technical and IT background. The modern and nice building is a good choice to hold conferences, trainings and e-exams here.

Services:

- Basic services: enrollment, lending, reference and reference only
- Online services: online catalogue, lengthening, reservation, online reference, online game, links and databases
- Webpage's services: webpage in English and German and for visually handicapped persons
- Interlibrary loan
- Information literacy trainings: by curriculum or on demand for groups and for individuals
- Innovation information: information broker service and patent library
- Cooperation between librarians and faculties, departments
- Building and coordinating the National Repository
- Copying, scanning and printing

Our services are being developed. In the University Library intensive and quality professional work is done in order we can serve our patrons in a high quality. We are trying to meet the university leaders', the professors', the employees', the students' requirements - and not least to the library profession.

Our goal resonates with the thoughts of the Széchenyi István University's founder:

"The institute should give answers taken from reality to the challenge of the third millennium."