

PAKISTAN LIBRARY CLUB (PLC)



## **Report of PLC Group Study Tour to German Universities Libraries with the collaboration of Bibliothek & Information International, Germany**

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Submitted by

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**Director: Pakistan Library (PLC)**

# Introduction

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The Pakistan Library Club (PLC) is established to provide a platform to professional librarian working in various libraries in Pakistan. PLC's main aim is to provide professional leadership and support to working librarians in order to enhance their potential. A team of young energetic professionals would train you how to become successful in your career and profession. PLC main aim "to provide a knowledge environment" and support to working professional in Pakistan. Pakistan Library Club would emphasize on raising professional and personal capabilities of working librarians through interactive workshops, informative seminars and personal counseling.

It gives me immense pleasures to pay extreme respect, from the core of my heart, to the **Bibliothek & Information International** for their extended sponsorship for materializing this Vision-exchanging professional visit to German Libraries. PLC Executive body members are exceptionally thankful to BI-International for speedy/timely correspondence and cooperation the way for all allied arrangements of our visit resulting in the occurrence of this skillful visit which offered me an opportunity and shared our professional experience, knowledge and future vision to the persons/people of the library profession in Germany.

Once more we would like to mention that the entire officers/staff of the Bibliothek & Information International showed great support and offered full cooperation during all pre –scheduled activities.

On behalf of PLC executive body I am thankful to following university libraries administration who allows us to visit their libraries and arranged guided tour and meeting with library staff.

1. Freie Universitate Berlin Philologische Bibliothek Bibliotheksleiterin Habelschwerdter Allee 45, D-14195 Berlin
2. Humboldt-Universitatz zu Berlin Universitatz bibloithek, Zweig bibliothek Natur wissensc haftern im Erwin-Schrodinger-Zentrum Rudower Chaussee 26, Berlin-Adlershof, D-10099, Berlin
3. Technische Universitat Munchen Aricisstrabe 21 Munchen
4. Brandenburgische Technische Universitat Cottbus Library

# Purpose of the visit

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As library is considered to be the core heart of each institute/university/organization and the high standard library defines and reflects the standard of the respective organizations. In the beginnings, the library used to be considered, as places to keep the business, legal, historical, and religious records of a civilization, but since the middle of the 20th century it has emerged as a far-reaching body of information resources and services that do not even require a building. Rapid developments in computers, telecommunications, and other technologies have made it possible to store and retrieve information in many different forms and d from any place with a computer and a telephone connection. The terms digital library and virtual library have begun to use for the vast collections of information to which people gain access over the Internet, cable television, or some other type of remote electronic connections. As libraries have changed, so, too, has the role of the librarian. Increasingly librarians have assumed the role of educator to teach their users how to find information both in the library and over electronic networks.

The work of librarians has also moved outside the walls of the library. Librarians have begun to work in the information industry as salespeople, designers of new information systems, researchers, information analysts and much more. How does the focus on learning outcomes affect the mission of the Library? Like other communities at the University, the library must move from a content view (books, subject knowledge) to a competency view (what students will be able to do). Within the new environment, we need to measure the ways in which the library is contributing to the learning that the University values. Like the general education program, the library has a direct and an indirect interest in the learning outcomes for all the students at the University. The role of the librarian is also changing globally with the current international trends, norms and value for satisfying the user's academic/research needs. For running smoothly the day to day affairs/activities and to keep pace with the internationally accepted user's needs a university librarian must have the capability to embrace all kinds of positive changes for the benefits of the library users.

Good contacts/links among organizations, lead to hold meetings/seminars/workshop/ short Internship/exchange of expertise, offer a strong opportunities for sharing ideas, views and visions during which an opportunity can be seen in the perspective for bringing innovation to the system, analyzing the working methods, and evaluating each other work/performance.

The main emphases of the professional visit was to observe academic library buildings, reception area, lockers, book shelves, periodical & journal display, technical and reference services, library automation, data bases, networking and circulation system. We have visited the following libraries in Berlin, Cottbus, and Munich:

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## LIBRARIES VISITS

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### *1. Freie Universitt Berlin, Philologische Bibliothek Bibliotheksleiterin*

Our first visit to Freie Universitt Berlin, Philologische Bibliothek Bibliotheksleiterin was arranged on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018. I was received by Ms. **Monika Schade**. She briefed us about the library and took us to all sections of library and showed arrangements of the book shelves, periodical/journals display and reading area. She said that Berlin has gained a fascinating new architectural landmark and the Freie Universitt a new address: the Philological Library designed by the renowned British architect Lord Norman Foster. The new building, which adopts the form of a brain, has provided a new home for 900,000 books in eleven sub libraries.

She gave me a very excited welcome; we held a long professional meeting and shared a lot of innovative ideas/creative thinking about the importance of the library collection, services and current dynamic role of the library. After the meeting he made me a very detailed visit of the entire library and gave me very informative briefing. We held a very nice meeting and exchanged a lot of professional views. For this high-valued meeting with the president I am so much thankful to Ms. **Monika Schade**.

The governing mayor of Berlin and Sir Lord Norman Foster attended the ceremonial opening of the new building, which took place on 14th September 2005. Study Carrels with computers have been provided to library users for study purpose. The library environment encourages readers to come and sit in library for hours and hours. Ms Monika gave me her very costly time and explained every service very professionally. I appreciate such devoted

professional. I wouldn't keep quite in saying that, first time, I have seen such a beautiful designed building, with an access of natural light at the study area a Beautiful Building for Promotion of Knowledge and Information”.



## ***2. Technical University Munich Germany (31/01/2018)***

The second visit of our study program was the Library of Technical University Munich on January 31<sup>st</sup> 2018. The Director of University Public Relations Office Dr. Christoph Mitscherling warmly welcomes to the group members and gives comprehensive presentations about the University, program and other facilities. Director Library Dr Reiner Kallenborn gives us the comprehensive presentations about the library, services and Academic Library Associations. He is also the president of Internationals Academic Libraries organizations. Ms. Caroline Leiß gives the presentations on digital library, Institutions Repository and Information's literacy program.



The University Library of the Technical University of Munich is the academic information Centre of the Technical University of Munich (TUM). The library comprises nine branch libraries, situated at the university's four locations in Munich, Garching, Weihenstephan and Straubing. The library of TUM is with over 2 million printed and electronic items, 400,000 loans, over 10 million full-texts downloads and 1.83 million library visitors each year, the university library is the academic information Centre of the Technische Universität München (TUM). The TUM provide the services support to students, scientists and university staff in their studies, research, teaching, further education and advanced training. Library has 130 staff members and 80 volunteers. Library has organized 500 plus information literacy events per year for its users.

The TUM have nine branch libraries, situated at the university's campuses in Munich, Garching, Freising and Straubing, these libraries provide comprehensive collections of literature and access to information in the fields of natural sciences and technology, architecture, engineering, educational studies, environmental science, landscape planning, life and food sciences. They also carry out tasks in the area of literature and information provision for research facilities, companies and private individuals both in Bavaria and nationwide. As a library for legal deposit, we archive an essential part of the technical literature published in Bavaria. The furniture arrangement, layout plan was very attractive. The use of easy sofas was seemed very much eye-catching in the library, apart from that the color combination presents a very good look and thus reflecting a very comfortable environment for the library users.





### 3. *Humboldt-Universitäts zu Berlin, Universitätsbibliothek*

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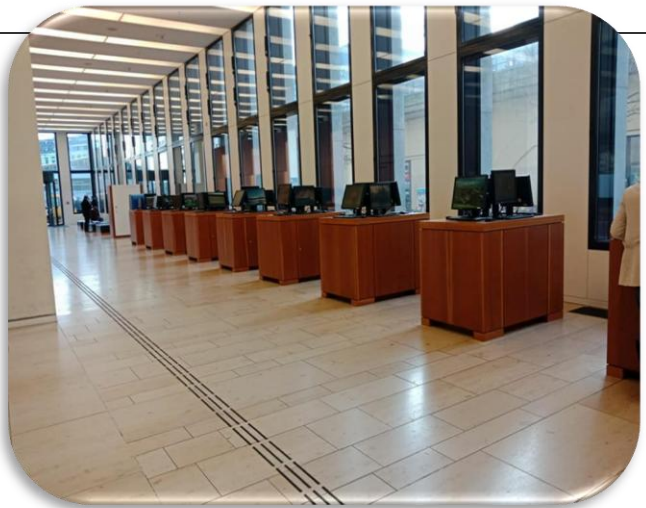
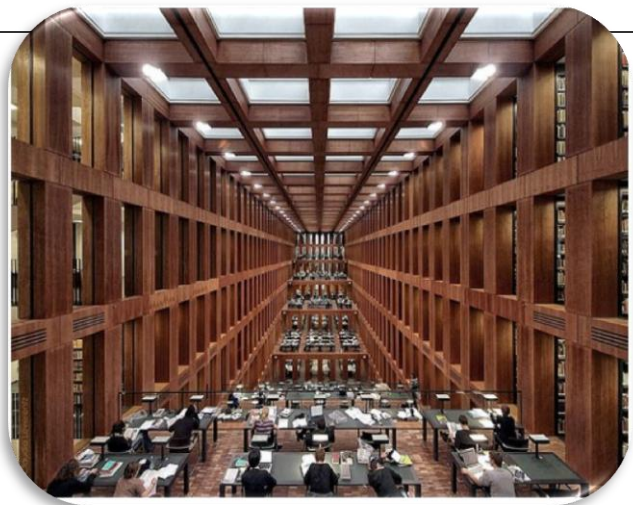
The third Library which we visited in Germany was Humboldt University Berlin on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. The Public relations officer of the University Ms. Katja Krause warmly welcomes the group members. After that the Director General Libraries **Prof. Dr. Andreas Degkwitz** Give us comprehensive presentations about the Libraries, Services and resources. The Berlin University which was founded in 1810 and renamed as Humboldt University in 1949 initially possessed no library of its own. Literature was provided by the Royal Library (today: the Berlin State Library, Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation).

Stocks include 6 million printed books and journals together with digital knowledge resources including 200,000 e-books, 16,000 e-journals and 200 databases and digital objects which can be searched and used down to item level. These also include the stocks of the two 'Higher Education' and 'Folklore and Ethnology' DFG special collections. The Carl Friedrich von Siemens Foundation offers funding of €900,000 a year to procure printed monographs in all subject areas. The services provided by the university library of the Humboldt-Universität with its 12 locations are availed of by around 69,000 registered users (38,000 of whom are external), and the Grimm-Zentrum is particularly popular with 5,200 users per day. Together with the around 4,800 users of the branch libraries, around **10,000 people** today visit the library sites. In 2011, the university library was the most popular academic library in Germany with 2.96 million visitors. The university library's collection profile also includes special collections such as the university's art collection (Custody), offering an extensive stock of art items. As a facility with central responsibility for the entire university, the university archive is part of the university library and contains more than 8000 meters of records and outstanding academic bequests.

The Humboldt University Library have an international reputation for an intense and sustained focus on how students learn and how faculty create and share knowledge in an age of digital technology and collaboration. The Humboldt University

Library is probably the most advanced university library in the Germany, settled in an iconic ultra-modern building that was designed to combine efficiency and inspiration. Every corner of the Humboldt University intends to generate a creative environment where students are encouraged working, creating, studying, and interacting with peers. Faculty members and researchers also need specialized spaces that support their research and teaching and build a sense of scholarly community. These spaces need to be comfortable and inspiring, and to make it easy to collaborate. Architectural features and interior design approach of the building combine natural light and traditional study rooms with unusual learning spaces with colorful, dynamic furnishings. There are more than 100 group study rooms with whiteboard material covering the walls. The Humboldt University Library is not just a building with impressive specifications, but a living laboratory equipped to meet the challenges of the future, wherever they lead.

### *Humboldt-University Berlin Library Building Inner and outside*





#### ***4. Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg:***

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On February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018 it was our last visit to the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg Library Cottbus. The Director Library Ms. Magdalene Frewer-Sauvigny warmly welcome to our group. The Library staff Ms. Kathrin Woywod give presentations on "Architecture, organizations and public services (including technology)". The next presentation was given by Ms. Charlotte Meixner on Architecture and Services and guided tour. And the third presentation was given by Ms. Birgit Kammer "Library resources: acquisitions and cataloguing especially of electronic media in cooperation with other German libraries.

Director library further briefed about the library and showed us library shelving system, study area, study carrels, periodical/journal display and also display of the audiovisual material. Magdalene Frewer-Sauvigny explained the functions of the library and told that University was founded in 1991 as the only technical university in the Federal State of Brandenburg; More than 5000 students, of which approx. 1000 students come from over 80 countries; The largest groups come from China, Cameroon, Poland, Bulgaria, India, and the Ukraine. She said that new library building designed in a very innovative style by Swiss Architects Herzog and de Meuron. It is called the "Information, Communication and Multimedia Centre" (IKMZ) and replace the old library in the main building.

The University library has over **1,192,393 books** and **780360** different scientific monographs, 588 printed journals, 21802 E journals, regional and international magazines and periodicals, Microfiche, video, maps, diskettes, CD ROM's in addition to standard printed text are available. The library also won Deutschland Land Der Iden Award, Library of the year award by Bibliothek des jahres 2006 (Library of the Year), and German Architecture Award 2007.

The Library Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg





## *Bibliothek & Information Deutschland (BID) BI-International in Berlin*

We visited Bibliothek & Information Deutschland (BID) International and met to Ms. Ewald Brahms & Ms. Kerstin Bröring, Internationally co-operation for libraries. She briefed us about our visit and explained the functions of Bibliothek & Information International / Library and Information International and told that BID promotes the creation and development of such competencies through international cooperation and maintenance of contacts.

She explained that Bibliothek & Information International is composed of representatives of the member associations of Bibliothek & Information Deutschland (BID). Bibliothek & Information International coordinates the international know-how-transfer in librarianship, information science and related fields in Germany. She also explained that BID supports and promotes in various ways, the international professional exchange of information in bilateral and multilateral relationships. A future focal point will be on the promotion of junior professionals. Bibliothek & Information International works mainly on a project-oriented basis and uses funds made available by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media (Bundesbeauftragten für Kultur und Medien) and the Foreign Office.

## **Conclusion & Learning Points**

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*International study tour* serve one vital function as far as education is concerned. International study tours link the outside world in so doing they not only improve learning, but also give both the learner and educator valued practical experience. Our visit to German Libraries was an interesting one observing by the varied lessons that we had to receive. Germany has one of the best education systems and institutions in the world. Some of the

Universities were established in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Centuries. In the results of the above-mentioned visits of different libraries, we have noticed down the following important points. In connection to that I would like to launch immediate efforts for the implementation of certain points which can be made practicable in our libraries and the remaining points to be kept for our future planning.

- 1 Limited physical resources
- 2 Flexible, modular learning environments
- 3 Wireless connectivity and outlet access
- 4 Integrated academic support services
- 5 Food and drink options (Nearest Cafeterias with library)
- 6 A Social Space for Interactions and Knowledge exchange
- 7 A quiet space for contemplations
- 8 A maker space for innovation i.e. 3D printer etc.
- 9 A neutral and trusted space for public use i.e. cultural activities, information's point of the University, Public Relation office of the university etc.
- 10 iCampus; it is the modern education technology tools that can make a that can make a significant & Sustainable difference in how students learn, remembers, and shifts from absorbing facts and concepts to creating new ideas and solutions themselves.
- 11 Library shopping bags, Marketing of Library material; it has printed promotional messages which are used for marketing the library for public awareness
- 12 The shelves are easy to reach for the researcher and students.
- 13 Friendly signage in Library
- 14 Unique & separate library building
- 15 Availability of enough number of computers for the library users

## **Study Tour Participants**

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Initially following PLC members were interested to participate in this study tour but at eleventh hour some members were not joined this study tour due to their domestic problems

1. Mr. Arshad Mahmood
2. Ms. Sadia Arshad
3. Mr. Anil Zafar
4. Ms. Naheed Rahim

5. Ms. Rabiya Ali Faridi
6. Mr. Sher Afzal Khan
7. Ms. Zara Rehman
8. Mr. Abdur Rehman
9. Mr. Zahid Iqbal
10. Mr. Sameem Kardar