

SVUC meeting

Time: 10. - 11.9.2009

Place: Helsinki, Finland

Participants: Tommy Schomacker, DBC, Denmark
Juha Hakala, National Library of Finland, *chair*
Laila Heinemann, National Library of Finland, *minutes*
Annu Jauhiainen, National Library of Finland
Sigrún Hauksdóttir, Consortium of Icelandic Libraries
Sveinbjörg Sveinsdóttir, Consortium of Icelandic Libraries
Roy Gundersen, BIBSYS, Norway
Arnvid Hellebust, BIBSYS, Norway
Gunvald Strømme, BIBSYS, Norway
Maria Kadesjö, National Library of Sweden (*day one*)
Christer Larsson, National Library of Sweden
Anders Söderbäck, National Library of Sweden

The representatives for the National Library of Norway were prevented from attending because of bad weather conditions at the airport.

1. Opening

Juha Hakala opened the meeting. The draft agenda was approved with a flexible order of issues. Revision of the agreement was added.

2. National reports

2.1 Finland

The Finnish Union Catalogue Linda was transferred from Voyager to Aleph in the end of 2008. It uses the Aleph Central Catalogue model (not the one called Union Catalogue by Ex Libris). It was not converted but recreated altogether.

Even though the transfer itself went well, there have been a few problems, mainly because the local catalogues are still using Voyager. There have also been problems with interoperability with third party solutions. Most of these issues have been solved by now. At the same time the format was changed from MARC21-fin to 'pure' MARC21.

There is a project to expand Linda to a National Union Catalogue covering all libraries (currently it only covers university libraries and a few major special libraries). Negotiations have been opened with the polytechnic and public library sectors. If all goes according to plan the polytechnics would join in 2011 and the public libraries gradually starting from 2012.

Another big project in Finland is **the National Digital Library** (usually referred to with the abbreviation KDK). The Ministry of Education has granted 16 million Euros for it. It is divided into two parts, one for a common search interface for libraries, archives and museums and the other for long term preservation of digital material.

The common search interface will consist of a central index of 50 million records from 700 institutions. The requirements will be sent out to 3-5 potential vendors in the end of September.

The interface will be complemented by the ontology server (www.yso.fi), URN resolver and possibly also a joint authority database.

The long term preservation system will be built out of modules, as there is no single system available on the market.

For more information:

- Juha Hakala's slides ([Appendix 1](#))
- www.kdk2011.fi (incl. info also in Swedish and English)

As for **standardisation** current issues are the OAIS-model (a shortened version is being translated into Finnish), METS and RDA.

2.2 Denmark

DBC is currently rewriting Danbib. DBC has introduced an **Open Library Strategy**, which is based on SOA and will promote the use of open source software and to some degree also open content. The modules are e.g. open resource sharing (ILL), open catalogue and open acquisition.

There is a project for a **new search interface** in cooperation with Copenhagen and Aarhus public libraries (brønd.Ting).

<http://www.dbc.dk/nyheder/openlibrarystrategy/genereltbrondting/09.09.09-Brond.TING-partnerskabet-i-luften-med.8>

<http://aakb.demo.gnit.dk/>

<http://kkb.demo.gnit.dk/>

A new term used in Denmark is '**data wells**' (databrønde), which are repositories of data, which may be harvested for building virtual indexes. Some of the data wells are focuses on electronic materials. This is the case for the data wells defined by DEFF, but there are others, too.

DBC has a **new department** for web services. Among these new services are e.g. "others who borrowed this" recommendation service and front page service. But there are a lot more. The new Danbib is based on web services.

A new project is **Danbib Real Shared Catalogue** for cataloguing direct in Danbib. Currently there are two scenarios for realizing this: either to include all information (also holdings) or only bibliographic metadata. Partners in this

project are the Royal Library, State Library in Aarhus and Roskilde University Library.

Another new project on national level is the technical requirements for a “loan and return everywhere” service.

2.3 Iceland

The main effort has been an **Integrated Search System for Iceland** project. It was initialised by a study report in April 2008, *Status Report and Proposals for IT Service Improvement of the Consortium of Icelandic Libraries*, written by a German consultant. One of the proposals for service improvements was to establish an integrated search and delivery system, containing both Icelandic and international material i.e. national licenses. The technical solution was tested in a pre-project supported by the Royal Library of Denmark and Danmarks Tekniske Informationscenter (DTIC) at the Technical University in Copenhagen. A prototype was built using Primo software. Into the prototype was uploaded various test materials, such as Gegnir, the Reykjavik Photo Library, newspapers, old maps and licensed material from 4 small vendors. The pre-project was concluded successfully in the spring of 2009. The financial crisis, however, has delayed the production use of the system. Currently, it looks as if the project will possibly be continued with a simpler Primo version than originally planned. The service will first cover only libraries, but museums and archives may join in later.

This year there has been more time for **quality issues**. The authority database is now in good condition, covering names (persons and corporate), Icelandic subject headings and unified titles. The search results have also been streamlined – the problem was getting too many results.

The Gegnir **Z39.50 server** is now up and running. The connection has been working to Libris and Linda since May, configurations to Danbib and Bibsys still need to be implemented. According to statistics Libris has been used quite a lot for copy cataloguing even though the main source is still OCLC.

A more detailed report on Gegnir is in [Appendix 2](#).

The National Library of Iceland has opened a Web Archive.

2.4 Norway

The whole report is in [Appendix 3](#). The main points are:

- A new profile, including a new website.
- Import of bibliographic records from Bibliotekscentralen
- Enriching bibliographic records with table of contents
- New discovery tool (BIBSYS Ask2) <https://ask.bibsys.no/ask2/html/>
- New cataloguing client (BIBSYS Embla)
- Integration of National Bibliographies in BIBSYS joint catalogue

There has been increased **cooperation between BIBSYS and the National Library of Norway** (who could not attend the meeting).

The National Library is planning a **National Authority database**.

A cooperation project has started for publishing the National bibliographies on BIBSYS platform.

NB is currently scanning all material from selected decades to provide on the web, see: <http://www.nb.no/bokhylla> ,. In this project NB uses bibliographic data from BIBSYS.

BIBSYS has established **consortia** with boards for all the various products. These help prioritise the development issues.

In 2008 a group with members from the BIBSYS libraries made a report on the **needs of the libraries in the future**. The conclusion was not to develop homemade solutions but to buy current available commercial products.

Formal discussion based on the report took place this winter, and comments from the libraries were discussed in the BIBSYS board. The outcome was a decision to buy from a commercial vendor a *next generation* product that should be on the market in 2012 and be able to influence the development of it. Implementation will then take place in phases. A qualification document has been sent out and vendors have one month to show interest. Negotiations will then be had with 3-5 vendors and results should be available by the end of November 2009.

2.5 Sweden

There has been a joint project between the National Library and The National Archives to create a common user interface to simultaneous searching in The National Archival Database (NAD), LIBRIS and The Swedish Media Database (SMDB). The new search service, **Sondera**, was released in April 2009 (<http://sondera.kb.se/>).

Academic publications registered in a majority of the Swedish universities' local publication databases are harvested via OAI-PMH and made available for public searching in a single national search service, **SwePub** scheduled for release in November 2009 (<http://swepub.kb.se/>). The data has been filtered and deduplicated in order to assure a satisfactory quality. Links to freely available full texts as well as number of citations in Web of Science® (ISI) and links to LIBRIS are provided when applicable. The metadata is also available for free to harvest or to access, either through the protocols OAI PMH and SRU, or through the lightweight API Xsearch (see <http://www.kb.se/libris/teknisk-information/SwePub/>). The possibilities to integrate the SwePub data into the LIBRIS user interface (<http://libris.kb.se/>) will be investigated.

There is a **new department** in KB after the merging of the departments for Libris, national development and licensing.

Samsök consortium is being reviewed by a consultant, the report is due in December. Issues on how Libris shall handle electronic materials and federated search and Libris have also been investigated.

There has been a project of including the libraries' **holdings of licensed e-journals and e-books** in Libris, see <http://www.kb.se/libris/katalogisering/e-tidskrifter/>. Activated targets in the libraries' SFX instances are used as main data source. Open Access platforms and other freely accessible e-resources may be included in a later phase.

KB has also done research for for the development of a **web client for cataloguing**.

KB has also adopted an **open strategy**, which strives to have open APIs in all systems. An open licence for Libris has also been investigated by the National Librarian and the lawyers, Open Data Commons licence model has been considered.

KB and a number of other Swedish libraries have decided to **move to the Dewey Decimal Classification System**, with projected start 2011. The project is described at <http://www.kb.se/bibliotek/dewey/>. The Swedish classification system (SAB) will probably still be used in many libraries. Mapping between these two systems already exists.

A decision has not yet been made on RDA, but it is probably coming.

Sweden has joined the **VIAF** (Virtual International Authority File) projectn, which aims at lower costs and increased utility of "... library authority files by matching and linking the authority files of national libraries, and then making that information available on the Web", <http://viaf.org/>.

- - end of day one - -

3. Nordic resource sharing infrastructure

The topic was discussed based on the paper by Tommy Schomacker ([Appendix 4](#)). The idea is to expand SVUC from just a discovery tool to include also delivery.

Libris has already been interested in the suggested model of cooperation. The system could be tested by Denmark and Sweden, and others could join in later.

The suggestion is to build services based on two kinds of databases, the union catalogues and the national library directories. However, there are a few basic problems:

- The union catalogues in Sweden and Finland do not include public libraries, in Finland not polytechnic libraries either. There has been interest in expanding the scope in both countries, though.

- There is not a proper library directory system in all countries. OCLC directory could perhaps be an alternative? In addition to location information each library should also describe the protocols they use.
- Lack of a working ILL protocol, using Z-order can be a problem.
- Technical infrastructure will be totally different in 5 years time (especially in Finland and Norway)

Comment round:

Iceland was wondering would there be use for it. The National and University Library offers ILL service on a national basis. British Library is the main contact point for international loans. As a business case the main problem is both technical as well as political.

Finland is in the process of installing a national ILL system, and is very interested in the suggested co-operation model. A working system could turn the down trend of ILL in Finland. The biggest problem is the lack of a functioning library directory system – the current one desperately needs modernising.

Sweden considered that too much time is currently being used to handle ILL manually. Politically Denmark is way ahead of the others. Technically Sweden and Denmark are on the same level, which is ideal for a pilot project. If it resulted in a working solution it could also help the political situation.

Norway has the technical infrastructure for the service. At the moment Ask has no ILL function but one is planned. There is a national protocol for resource sharing. Politically joining in would probably be possible, but it depends on the costs. However, this is not a decision for BIBSYS to make alone, the National Library should also be involved.

NORON might perhaps be able to finance the project.

Action plan:

- Tommy Schomacker will prepare a new version of the draft with more background information and a future scenario – based on input from the other SVUC-partners.
- The key points should be identified
- ILL statistics should be gathered from all countries
- Generic information should be provided for NORON
- Library registries should be improved

It was agreed that a preparatory project will be needed and the Nordic ILL working group should be contacted. Their next conference will be held in Finland in September/October 2010.

The matter will be discussed again in the next SVUC meeting. A report is needed from each country on the current situation and future plans on national level.

4. Z39.50 status

Denmark has Z39.50 implemented for both searching and copy cataloguing. Searching and copy cataloguing via Zpunkt (Z39.50 access) is free for SVUC-partners. Finland and Sweden has access. Iceland will get access soon. Danish libraries can search and copycat from Bibsys and Libris via Netpunkt user interface – and soon also Gecnir and hopefully also Linda..

Iceland has already connected to Libris and Linda, the rest of the Nordic databases will be configured thisfall.

Finland uses Bookwhere for copy cataloguing, Metalib for searching and Z39.50 to connect to Voyager. All Nordic databases have been configured.

Sweden is connected to Denmark and Finland, but there has been problems with BIBSYS. Gecnir will be added now. Biblios.net is a new collective bibliographic database, Libris will be available via that service, too.

BIBSYS shall be providing both Z39.50 and SRU connections.

This issue, too, will be discussed again in the next meeting.

4.1 Promotion of SVUC

Now that all the Nordic union catalogues have working Z39.50 connections, the original target has been reached and should be made public. It was agreed that as soon as SVUC is 100% operational national announcements should be made. It should also be publicised to NORON.

At the same time future plans can be advertised, as SVUC is entering a new phase: from discovery to delivery.

Juha Hakala will write a draft text that can be translated to all the national languages and sent via appropriate channels in each country.

5. Administrative issues

5.1 New chairperson

Juha Hakala has been chair of SVUC since the project started and now wants to step down. The model for rotation was discussed, the alternatives being a fixed period of time or chair coming from the country where each meeting is held. It was agreed that SVUC needs a more stable head and not just a chair for the meetings.

It was decided that the period should be two years, with a possibility for a second two year period.

Maria Hedenström from the National Library of Sweden has consented to consider the post and her candidacy was supported. Juha Hakala shall have formal discussions with her.

5.2 Revision of contract

The new system for selecting a chairperson needs to be in the contract. Also the Finnish MANDA database, that is no longer maintained, should be removed from the text.

Juha Hakala together with Maria Hedenström will prepare a draft for a new agreement and send it out for commenting.

5.3 Next meeting

The next SVUC meeting will be held in Stockholm on 25.-26.3.2010 (to be confirmed). The one after that will be in Reykjavik.

6. Common issues

6.1 OCLC

Sweden is still negotiating. Data from the National Library collections only, not all Libris.

Denmark has an agreement and has also uploaded the library directory.

BIBSYS has got a proposal but has not taken any action yet. Discussion with the National Library of Norway is also needed.

Iceland has had a contract for both searching and copy cataloguing for some 20 years. Own data has not been uploaded to OCLC, though.

Finland has uploaded data from the National bibliography, but the contract negotiations are still ongoing.

6.2 RFID

There have been problems in Finland with the data model, which was based on the Danish model. The vendors have had two different interpretations of it which has resulted in interoperability problems. These have been solved with a temporary fix while waiting for the ISO standard.

7. Summary of issues for next meetings

It was agreed that the following issues shall be discussed in the next meeting:

- Resource sharing infrastructure – Tommy Schomacker will prepare a new draft
- OCLC contracts
- Web archives
- Authorities / VIAF – Sweden shall prepare this issue

It was also agreed that the national reports shall only be taken up once a year, not in every meeting since they take up far too much time. The reports should be sent in writing in advance, and only questions arising from them will be discussed in the meeting.