Successful Night of Arts and Science

In 2019, the UG celebrated its 405th anniversary. The Night of Arts and Science was held on Saturday 8 June as part of the celebrations. The UB City Centre was one of the main venues: it hosted several musical acts, a pub quiz, a Wikipedia Edit-a-thon and a guided tour of the library, all of which attracted lots of visitors.

Reflection room

Students who make intensive use of the UB sometimes feel the need for peace and quiet. So in 2019, the UB opened what is known as a reflection room in the first-floor reading room. The reflection room seems to be fulfilling a need and will therefore remain open in its current form.

Series of lectures on ‘Stad en Universiteit’ (City and University)

The UG organized a series of interesting lectures in the UB City Centre. Every month from January to May 2019, a lecture was given about a notable UG professor or student and their connections with Groningen.

For example, in the first lecture, Prof. Mineke Bosch spoke about Dr Aletta Jacobs. Afterwards, the audience members were invited to stay in their seats while the Centre for University and Academic History gave a lecture about the famous Professor of Genetics Jantina Tammes, another UG researcher who featured in the ‘Stad & Universiteit’ project.

UB attends the KEI Week and other events

Once again, the UB set up an information stand at the KEI Week to make its presence known. New first-year students were given a UB information flyer and asked to take a selfie in the UB stand. The idea was that they should post the photo on Instagram, tagging the UB.

The UB was also present at both ‘welcoming ceremonies’ for new international students. This target group is intrinsically highly motivated and the students are always interested in the UB and its products and services.

Finding the way with the Library app

Once users have found a book in the catalogue, the library app can now lead users to the shelf where that book is kept. We worked closely with the CIT’s Geodienst to develop this app. Later on, the functionality will be expanded to enable users to reserve studios via the app.

Intriguing Lost & Found exhibition

Dozens of items are left in the UB every day. As well as the usual pens, notebooks and clothing, we sometimes find more surprising objects such as telephones, chargers, glasses and even underwear...

The Lost & Found exhibition, in which hundreds of items of unclaimed property were put on display in cabinets throughout the buildings, attracted a lot of attention and publicity!

At last: our own name on the building

A few years after the end of the renovations, the name of the UB City Centre was finally mounted onto the front of the building. The lettering not only makes the building more recognizable; it is also a real eye-catcher.
You share, we take care

Section 25fa of the Copyright Act, known as the Taverne amendment, gives authors of short academic articles that have been wholly or partially funded by Dutch public money, the right to make their work available to the general public once a ‘reasonable period’ has elapsed after the original publication. The VSNU (Association of Universities in the Netherlands) and the National Platform for Open Science have decided to give open access an extra boost by advocating more widespread application of this legislation. The UB can advise and support UG authors in making their publications available via open access.

Open access ambassadors

Since 2019, so-called open access ambassadors have been advising the Open Access team about intensifying collaboration with the academic community in the area of open access. These twelve researchers, all of whom are enthusiastic, vociferous supporters of open access and open science, advise colleagues in the field about open access and how to contact the UB.

Impact learning portal

Our experts from Research Impact Services have developed an interactive learning portal to help researchers to measure their impact and raise their external profile.

New series: Meet our experts

In an effort to make researchers more aware of the professional services on offer at the UB, we started a series of interviews focusing on specific areas of our information specialists’ knowledge and experience.

In addition to open access specialist Giulia Trentacosti, we interviewed Shaya Abdolahzadeh, research impact specialist, and Joost Driesens, specialist in bibliographic management.

You share, we take care!

Use your right to share publications after six months. ‘The university library will help you out.’

Share the publication via the institution’s repository.

Complicated and slow? Not any more!

An amendment to the Dutch Copyright Act has made it much easier to share publications online. Please consider: then the library will share the published version after six months. Even if the candidate is a co-author, or you are a co-author, your publication was published by an international publisher.

Would you like to know more? For more information about the conditions, please visit www.groningenacademic.com/openaccess
Introduction

The UB offers information literacy courses on various subjects, such as the reuse of copyrighted material in education. Last year, the UB’s education team (re)developed a number of workshops, e.g. for PhD students and on bibliographic management.

Systematic Review

Every year, dozens of researchers rely on the services of UB teaching specialists, who show them how to gather the literature they need to write a systematic review. Some of them are young researchers with little experience, while others are senior researchers who want to polish their skills. The researchers are supervised individually or in small groups.

Instruction video crosses the North Sea

Information specialist Joost Driesens made a handy, light-hearted video called ‘Op weg naar een boek’ (The way to a book). After having shown the video at a library conference in 2019, the University Library of Brighton asked whether they could use the concept of his video to make their own version.

Final edition of Pictogram

After a run of twenty-one years, Pictogram has finally been put to bed. The magazine was originally published by the UB in association with the then-Computing Centre as a means of flagging up and explaining the various types and uses of IT at the UG.

Every edition of Pictogram that was ever published is now available online via University of Groningen Press.

Information skills teaching (IVO) in figures

Number of participants: 5,043 students and researchers
Number of activities: 104 lectures, workshops etc.
Activities with an online component: 24 tests, modules etc.

Master of Knowledge workshop

Since the start of this year, PhD students in the Faculty of Science and Engineering have been able to follow an advanced workshop in which they are taught how to search for literature systematically, and given an introduction to topics such as Open Access, Research Impact etc. The workshop is given on two afternoons and includes two homework assignments. Dozens of participants have already been presented with certificates for this activity.

EndNote project

This project analysed the service provision concerning our reference managers. Our communication team and the CIT helped to suggest and introduce improvements with regard to the website, teaching and substantive and technical support. This project made it possible to support four reference managers effectively: EndNote, RefWorks, Mendeley and Zotero.

Copyrighted material

Under certain conditions, lecturers may use (or re-use) copyrighted material in their lessons. The UB can help lecturers to determine how to use copyrighted material in their teaching and, for example, how to generate an efficient link to material that the UG is licensed to use.

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Using copyrighted material in teaching

UB Groningen video
University Library Brighton video
Introduction

A university library cannot function without its Special Collections. They form an important addition to the regular collection and offer students and researchers an outstanding opportunity to work with valuable materials while supported and advised by our expert staff.

Exhibitions

A number of popular exhibitions were held thanks to the new showcase in the Special Collections Department on the third floor of the UB City Centre, which enabled us to display some costly material to the public.

The UB compiled an exhibition to mark the 50th anniversary of the Old Groningen Churches Foundation, for example. And International Women's Day was a perfect reason to highlight the Groningen Women's Gallery: fifty biographies of women from Groningen were displayed in eye-catching cubes on the staircase.

In addition to physical exhibitions, 2019 also saw several virtual exhibitions, including one about four unique manuscripts, written in response to the annual international ‘Things that Matter’ summer school.

Series of lectures on ‘Treasures from the UB’

In a series of lectures entitled ‘Treasures from the University Library: lectures about Special Collections’, academics talked about their ongoing or past research into material owned by the Special Collections Department. They even brought the artefacts in question with them. The lectures were very popular: many book-lovers simply could not waste this opportunity to see unique, priceless incunabula at such close quarters.

Special Collections get everywhere

The Special Collections Department is becoming increasingly visible, both inside and outside the University. Staff from the department attended the biennial national Historian Days, for example, and the well-attended Day of Groningen History 2019.

Academic meetings

The UB regularly stages academic meetings. On 22 March, for example, the symposium ‘New Perspectives on Early Modern Media and the Book Business in Europe’ was held at the UB. The symposium was an opportunity for three new publications on the subject to be presented by their authors: Andrew Pettegree and Arthur der Weduwen, Heiko Droste and Joop Koopmans.

On 16 May, there was a book presentation for De Atlas van Acker Stratingh: Kartering van de Groninger bodem, wierden en waterstaat (1825-1839), a study of the oldest geological map to be published in the Netherlands.

One of the top exhibits in the Suriname Exhibition in Amsterdam was the UB’s copy of the famous work by Maria Sibylla Merian about the Surinamese insect world.