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ACADEMIC LIBRARY SCIENCE AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIBLIOLOGY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE IN POLAND, 1945–2015*

The origins and development of academic institutions training librarians. The history of individual institutions — sections, departments, institutes. Research conducted at Polish universities, study courses and changes in their programmes. The achievements of selected scholars.

KEYWORDS: bibliology, research, information science, research, library science, history

It took more than 130 years since Jerzy Samuel Bandtkie's first lectures on bibliography at the University of Cracow (1811) for library science to be recognised as a university degree programme in its own right in Poland. Nevertheless, the foundation of the Library Science School at the newly opened University of Lodz in 1945 was not a matter of coincidence. It was a result on the one hand of broadly conceived bibliological research, albeit labelled otherwise, developing throughout the 19th and the first half of the 20th centuries and, on the other, of the socio-political and cultural conjuncture of the time. Namely, as part of installing a new system, a university was being organised in a big working-class city to facilitate the policy of incorporating practical skills, previously unacknowledged by the 'old' universities, into the academic curricula. The authorities intended the new university to primarily train the personnel useful in the building of the socialist

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Translator's note: Throughout this paper 'bibliology' is used to denote the science of books and not the study of the Bible.

economy and culture. It was in this context that Professor Jan Muszkowski began teaching courses in library science at the Faculty of Cultural Labour in spring 1945. The Department of Library Science with Muszkowski appointed its Head was officially established at the Faculty of the Humanities on 11 February 1946 (Więckowska, 1969b, pp. 114–134).

In this way, the institutional foundation was laid for the further organisation and development of research in the field of book science. Its further development was channelled by the establishment of successive academic institutions training librarians. Besides their teaching engagements, their teaching-and-research staff carried out systematic research within broadly conceived bibliology, thus contributing to the formation of a discipline which still had scholarly status denied to it sometimes in the early 1950s (e.g. Bieńkowski, 1953; Margul, 1953, pp. 342–358).

This study aims to retrace the main facts and developments involved in the foundation of science-and-research entities (sections, departments and institutes)¹ dedicated to library studies at various universities and to capture their contribution to the development of Polish bibliology over the last 70 years, though it should be borne in mind that the development of book studies was also considerably furthered by research libraries and other science-and-research institutions, particularly in the 1950s and 60s (Więckowska, 1969a, pp. 45–77). However, given the 70th anniversary of the university education of librarians celebrated in 2015² and the lack of studies offering a comprehensive account of the institutional and scholarly development of university-based library-science centres with their achievements and failures, an attempt to provide such an account has been undertaken.³

Because the university system of librarian education went through multiple changes and transformations in the timeframe under discussion, my argument in the first part of this paper is arranged diachronically in three stages: 1945–1974, 1975–1989 and 1990–2015. The year 1975 was chosen as marking a turning point, because it was then that the organisation of university librarian training was essentially remodelled. Starting in the academic year 1975/1976, new standardised

¹ Translator's note: The organisational structure of Polish universities is based on the division into considerably autonomous *wydziały*. A *wydział* consists of several *instytuty*, which also enjoy a degree of independence. A *katedra* can be part of an *instytut* or a free-standing part of a *wydział*, whereas a *zakład* is usually firmly embedded in an *instytut*. For the sake of lucidity, the following terminology is used in the paper: *wydział* = faculty, *instytut* = institute, *katedra* = department, and *zakład* = section.

² On this occasion the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Lodz, held a conference on *The Evolution of Academic Librarian Education, 1945–2015*. The conference proceedings were published in 2016.

³ There are relatively ample studies on the history of respective institutions and their organisation, teaching and scholarly legacy, usually published on their consecutive anniversaries. The data contained in them were used in this paper, as specified in the footnotes and citations.

curricula were introduced, and at the same time the number of universities offering degree programmes in library science increased. For its part, the year 1990 saw the processes of political transition, which considerably affected the higher education system as such and consequently the development of library-science hubs as well. Of course, the developments and processes discussed in this way tend to spill over their nominal timeframes. However, this represents a typical imperfection of any 'divisions' based on the criterion of chronology, which had to be used in this case.

The second part of the paper, which discusses the trends and themes of research carried out by the university-affiliated library-science community, is arranged by institutions, with chronology only serving as a secondary factor in ordering the data on research conducted at respective universities. Perceivable in this outline, a certain irregularity in the selection and presentation of the materials, particularly regarding the direction of research and scholarly legacy of the last 10–15 years, primarily results from the proximity of the period, which precludes the necessary temporal perspective and thus valid generalised assessments. At the same time, because the individually and institutionally arranged bibliographic data on the research and publications of the university staff are now commonly posted online, the presentation of the work accomplished under the Third Republic of Poland is limited to the most fundamental information.

1. THE INSTITUTIONAL BASIS

1.1. 1945–1974

Despite propitious beginnings, university-based library science took a long time to become more disseminated institutionally in Poland. Until the mid-1970s, merely three universities had units that offered MA degrees in library science. Following the foundation of the Department at the University of Lodz, its counterpart was founded at the University of Warsaw in late 1951 (*Rozporządzenie Ministra Szkół Wyższych i Nauki*, 1951) and professor Aleksander Birkenmajer was appointed its head. In 1956, Professor Antoni Knot's efforts resulted in the opening of the Library Science Department at the University of Wrocław, with Dr Karol Głombiowski as its head (Migoń, 2008, pp. 169–179).

Each of these three centres developed in a different way. The Department at the University of Lodz found itself in the least favourable situation, as after Muszkowski's premature death in 1953, it lost the right to admit students, which severely thwarted the development of a scholarly library-science community at Lodz for many years. Some of the staff moved to the Department at the University of Warsaw and pursued their academic career there. Until 1969, Helena Więckowska was basically the only employee of the Lodz-based Department, which she headed

after Muszkowski's death, at the same time serving as the director of the University of Lodz Library. The two positions were also combined by Więckowska's successor, Bolesław Świdorski.

Such problems were spared to the Department at the University of Warsaw, though its staff development was slow, as a result of which coursework relied on the help of librarians from the Warsaw University Library, the National Library and other library facilities. With time, as new workers were employed, including Krystyna Remerowa and Ksawery Świerkowski, the situation greatly improved in this respect. The development of the Department's organisation and staffing, combined with a gradual shift of research toward information science, was recognised by transforming the Department into the Institute of Library and Information Science (IBiIN) in June 1968 and transferring it from the Faculty of Letters to the Faculty of History (Radziejowska-Hilchen, 2002, p. 84).

In hindsight, it appears that the Department at the University of Wrocław experienced the most favourable development, which soon made it a leading library-science hub. Before the formal foundation of the Department, a powerful thrust was given to the institutionalising of research in the field of library science by Knot's successful effort to establish the Bibliography and Library Science Board (Polish: Komisja Bibliografii i Bibliotekoznawstwa) as part of the Wrocław Scientific Society (Polish: Wrocławskie Towarzystwo Naukowe), which provided a forum for sharing relevant research findings. Consequently, the establishment of the Library Science Department at the Faculty of Letters in 1956 was to a degree a natural outcome of the often very advanced bibliological research carried out at Wrocław, and the appointment of Głombiowski, a former employee of the University Library, as its head created opportunity for the effective development of the new institution (Migoń, 2008, p. 172). In line with the nationwide changes in academic research, the Department gained the status of the Institute of Library Science in 1969, and its staff gradually expanded (in the 1960s and 70s) by including the University's graduates of the library-science degree programme.

The rise of the research community of Polish bibliologists was borne out by the foundation of a journal titled *Studia o Książce* [*Book Studies*] as an Inter University Journal of the Polish Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Technology in 1970. Published by the Ossoliński National Institute Press, the yearly quickly became an important publishing platform for researchers affiliated with the university-based library science hubs (Korczyńska-Derkacz & Łusznak, 2016, pp. 223–245). A similar role was played by *Roczniki Biblioteczne* [*Library Annals*], also published in Warsaw since 1957, formally as a journal of university libraries. Of course, besides the staff of library-science departments and institutes, librarians working at research libraries published their papers in both periodicals (Żbikowska-Migoń, 2010, pp. 139–152).

The turn of the 1960s heralded an increase in the number of library science-hubs, which was related to the expansion of university-level librarian education and training. As its new form, a four-semester inter-faculty library science programme was offered to students of the humanities degree courses. The first programme of this kind was founded at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan in the academic year 1966/1967, and the following were soon opened at the University of Lodz (1969/1970) and the Jagiellonian University (1970/1971). Regrettably, this study form failed to deliver for a variety of reasons and was discontinued. However, a postgraduate programme initiated at Poznan in 1968 proved a success.

In an attempt to expand the professional library staff, higher schools of education and/or teacher training colleges were included in the librarian education system by establishing in them a new training programme called Polish Studies with Library Science. Such programmes were launched at various points and thus worked shorter or longer in various cities: in Kielce (from 1970/1971), in Bydgoszcz (from 1971/1972), in Poznan (from 1971/1972), at the Higher Teacher Training College in Cracow (from 1971/1972), in Olsztyn (from 1974/1975), in Rzeszów (from 1971/1972), in Szczecin (from 1975/1976), in Zielona Góra (from 1975/1976) and in Katowice (from 1959) (Więckowska, 1979, pp. 52, 63; Kubiak, 1976, p. 403). With time, the development of teaching prompted these universities to found organisational entities such as library science sections, but their research potential was mostly relatively modest.

1.2. 1975–1989

The years 1974 and 1975 proved to be a turning point for the organisation of the academic library-science system. Changes unfolding in librarian education in Western countries, also reflected in the activity of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), made the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Technology appoint a Teaching Workgroup, including a dozen or so members, to develop a new university curriculum of librarian education for a four-year MA study cycle. Because the programmes taught up to that point at the two largest hubs, that is, the Universities of Warsaw and Wrocław, differed considerably, the new curriculum was developed in two variants. One that corresponded to the hitherto book-studies programme was labelled as the humanities model, and one that foregrounded library and information science was dubbed the mathematical model. The new standardised curricula came in force in the academic year 1975/1976 and were implemented in an increased number of institutions — at nine universities (i.e. all except the Catholic University of Lublin) and five teacher training colleges. The mathematical model was adopted by the Jagiellonian University and the Universities at Poznan and Warsaw, with remaining universities and colleges implementing the humanities model (Więckowska, 1979, pp. 43–52).

Such radical conceptual and quantitative changes in the education and training system yielded positive outcomes and also triggered a series of problems. This was particularly pronounced at the newly founded institutions, where classrooms, teaching aids and the stable professional staff were lacking. The latter problem proved most acute. Most of the teachers were employed on the basis of so-called adjunct appointments. In the academic year 1977/1978, 14 universities that offered various forms of librarian education employed 131 full-time workers and 189 adjunct staff. More than a half of full-time employees (66 people) worked at three universities: in Wrocław (24), Poznań (23) and Warsaw (19) (Więckowska, 1979, pp. 58–59).

Yet, as years went by, the ranks of research-and-teaching staff grew by including young graduates of library science and, later, library and information science degree programmes. The number of annually initiated and completed PhD projects increased as well, first predominantly at the Universities of Wrocław, Warsaw and Łódź, and later at other universities, too, with the first PhD degrees conferred at the Jagiellonian University (where a Library Science Section was founded in 1974) in the late 1970s. Between 1975 and 1980, almost 40 candidates obtained their PhD degrees,⁴ and in the following decade the number considerably increased.

Regrettably, the scholars had very limited publication opportunities. Apart from the already existing bibliography-focused periodicals, which often appeared belatedly as compared to editorial plans, new journals were few and far between. The main reasons behind this dearth were funding difficulties, the lack of paper, the inefficient printing base and censorship. The University of Warsaw's Institute of Library and Information Science was the only institution to begin to publish a regular periodical that presented the findings of book-studies research, titled *Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiórami Historycznymi* [*Studies on Polish Historical Book Collections*]; the journal, Barbara Bieńkowska's initiative, first appeared in 1975. Between 1982–1988, the Library Science Section of the Higher Teacher Training College in Cracow published nine issues of *Prace Bibliotekoznawcze* [*Library Science Studies*] as part of the *Rocznik Naukowo-Dydaktyczny Wyższej Szkoły Pedagogicznej im. Komisji Edukacji Narodowej* [*Research and Teaching Yearbook of the National Education Commission Higher Teacher Training College*]. All these issues were edited by Jerzy Jarowiecki (Grzywacz & Ruta, 2013, p. 133). In Katowice, *Studia Bibliologiczne* [*Bibliological Studies*] began to appear

⁴ The calculations are based on the 'Wykazy prac doktorskich i magisterskich wykonanych w Instytutach Bibliotekoznawstwa' ['Lists of PhD Dissertations and MA Theses Completed at Library Science Institutes'], published in *Roczniki Biblioteczne* [*Library Annals*] between 1975 and 1980, and the *Spisy prac magisterskich i doktorskich z zakresu nauki o książce, informacji naukowej i czasopiśmiennictwa wykonanych w UE* [*Indexes of MA and PhD Theses in Book Studies, Information Science and Periodicals Completed at the University of Łódź*] compiled by Tadeusiewicz, since *Roczniki Biblioteczne* [*Library Annals*] did not take the Department at Łódź into account.

in 1983 as a theme-focused collectively edited yearly. The journal aimed to support the scholarly promotion of junior assistants and assistant professors, but experienced PhD-holding scholars also published in it (Gondek, 2013, p. 54).⁵ Between 1979 and 1994, the Teacher Training College in Bydgoszcz published seven issues also titled *Studia Bibliologiczne* [*Bibliological Studies*]. They were edited by Henryk Dubowik and contained papers by the staff of the Library Science Section and the College Library, as well as authors not affiliated to the College (Kropidłowski, 2013, p. 37). In Lodz, a series titled *Folia Scientiarum Artium et Librorum* appeared as part of *Acta Universitatis Lodzianensis* between 1981 and 1989. Four of its nine volumes were focused on bibliography and only contained works produced to obtain a scientific degree.

In the 1970s and 80s, conferences and conference proceedings resulting from them were relatively rare (as compared to our times). A handful of methodological conferences addressing the education and training of librarians and other book workers were held in the 1970s by the institutes at Poznan, Olsztyn, Cracow (Jagiellonian University), Warsaw and Wrocław. Wrocław was also the venue of a conference devoted to regional research (especially in Silesia), the theory and history of the book and bibliography (Herden & Koredczuk, 2008, pp. 197–198). In the 1970s and 80s, the University of Warsaw's IBiIN organised or co-organised national and international conferences revolving around both contemporary issues and historical themes (*Sprawozdania Instytutu Bibliotekoznawstwa Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego*).⁶ Separately from sessions devoted to research on the history of the book in Silesia, some conferences dedicated to library science-related themes were also held in the second half of the 1970s by the still rather new Library and Information Science Section at the University of Silesia (Gondek, 2013, pp. 51–53). A methodological conference held by the Institute of Library and Information Science at Poznan in 1974 proved an important event for the development of the discipline's theoretical foundations. Some contribution to the organisation of the conference was made by library-science units of the Teacher Training Colleges in Bydgoszcz and Cracow (Adamczyk, 2009, pp. 29–45; Grzywacz & Ruta, 2013, pp. 134).

The Institutes at Warsaw and Wrocław were the most dynamically developing academic hubs. The number of the teaching-and-research staff at the University of Warsaw's IBiIN stood at 10 in 1971, doubled to 20 by 1981 and increased to 35 in the early 1990s (Kisilowska, 2002, pp. 99–104). In the second half of the 1970s, the internal structure of the Institute expanded as well in response to the teaching needs resulting from the establishment of new specialties and the diversity of research

⁵ By 2015, twenty volumes of *Studia Bibliologiczne* [*Bibliological Studies*] had been published.

⁶ *Sprawozdania Instytutu Bibliotekoznawstwa Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego z lat 1971–1991* [Reports of the Institute of Library Science, University of Wrocław, 1971–1991], typescript.

projects carried out there. Such changes were somewhat slower at the University of Wrocław's Institute of Library Science, where the number of full-time teaching-and-research workers increased from 18 in 1971 to 22 in 1981, and further to 30 in 1991.⁷

Poland's oldest academic library-science institution at the University of Łódź, which was renamed as the Information and Library Science Section, reopened its MA degree programme in 1975/1976 (the socio-humanities model) and was converted into the Library and Information Science Department in 1981. As its teaching recommenced, a new team of research workers began to be developed as well.

The organisational processes of teaching and research unfolded in a similar way at all other academic institutions, most of which came into being in the mid-1970s. Characteristically, the library-science sections/departments were as a rule first headed by researchers with background in other humanities disciplines (literature and language scholars, historians, etc.). For example, Stanisław Grzeszczuk, the first head of the Library Science Section — and then Department — at the Jagiellonian University between 1974 and 1994 was a historian of Polish literature (and the director of the Jagiellonian Library in 1978–1981) (Linert & Żołądowska-Król, 2010, pp. 101–102). The university-based centres of librarian education at Lublin, Kielce and Toruń were mainly organised by historians and initially formed part of Institutes of History.⁸

Among these newer institutions, the self-standing (from 1977) Library Science Section at the Higher Teacher Training College in Cracow experienced particularly dynamic development, with a five-year MA degree course launched there in 1981 and the library science programme offering teacher qualifications starting in 1985/1986. A similarly robust development took place at the Library and Information Science Section founded at the Faculty of Letters, University of Silesia, in 1974. The 1980s were far less propitious for the development of academic librarian education centres at Bydgoszcz, Kielce and Toruń. This was mainly the consequence of the insufficient number of senior research workers⁹ and caused temporary suspensions of admissions.

1.3. 1990–2015

The process of socio-political changes initiated at the turn of the 1980s also extended onto the academic community. New legislation on higher education (1990, 2005, 2012) remodelled the education system and the organisation of teaching pro-

⁷ Sprawozdania...

⁸ The data about individual institutions come from studies on them already cited in this paper.

⁹ Translator's note: A senior research worker (Polish: *samodzielny pracownik naukowy*) is a phrase that customarily refers to a holder of the *doctor habilitatus* degree, which follows the PhD degree in Poland.

cesses. Library science programmes not only implemented the structural changes stipulated by successive legal acts (curricular standardisation, the Bologna System, the National Qualification Framework, accreditation of degree programmes) but also had to offer new curricula and sometimes also new degree courses to adapt to transformations at libraries and in the forms and methods of information production, collection, retrieval and processing. These developments were accompanied by numerous discussions and publications, which offered critical appraisals of the condition of librarian education and valuable visions of its future (see Fluda-Krokos, 2016, pp. 67–94). The transformations within the discipline found their official recognition first in 1992, when library science was acknowledged as one of the 14 equally valid humanities disciplines (Migoń, 1993, p. 109), and then on 25 October 2005, when the Resolution of the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles (Polish: Centralna Komisja do Spraw Stopni i Tytułów) gave this discipline the name of bibliology and information science. This terminological (and thematic) duality is increasingly often reasserted by renaming university institutes and departments and by opening new degree programmes.

At the University of Warsaw, the 1990s saw the TEMPUS-funded restructuring of study programmes (division into two study cycles and their incorporation into the European system of study mobility) and the concomitant change of the name of the entity into the Institute of Information Science and Bibliological Studies (1997) (Materska, 2002, pp. 64–80; Ochmański, 1998, pp. 339–345; Jasiewicz, 2014, pp. 83–86). In 2016, the Warsaw Institute underwent a radical change as it was merged with the Institute of Journalism into a newly founded Faculty of Journalism, Information and Bibliology.

Like in the preceding timeframe, the transformation processes unfolded at a slower pace at the University of Wrocław's Institute of Library Science, which was renamed as the Institute of Information and Library Science as late as in 2003. More importantly, however, from the early 1990s till 2005, the Wrocław library science hub was the only one in Poland to be authorised to carry out *doctor habilitatus* procedures in the discipline of 'library science and scientific-technical information,' which was later renamed as 'bibliology.'

The 1990s marked the onset of a vigorous development of library science at the University of Silesia. At the beginning of the decade, the Library and Information Science Section was transformed into the Institute of Library and Information Science, whose organisational and scholarly advancement was officially recognised when in 2010 it obtained the right to carry out the *doctor habilitatus* procedure (as a third facility in Poland, following the Wrocław and Warsaw Institutes).

The development of the other library science hubs was somewhat hindered by a range of problems. As a consequence of the new standards put in place by the Main Council of Higher Education (Polish: Rada Główna Szkolnictwa Wyższego)

in the early 1990s, the Lodz-based Library and Information Science Department, which did not have enough senior research workers, had to transform its library and information science degree course into a specialisation within the Polish Studies programme.

The new standards concerning the research staff also had acute ramifications for the library studies hub at the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun in the early 1990s. However, the launching of, first, a BA study cycle and, then, a graduate studies programme and, above all, the scholarly development of the staff resulted in the foundation of the Institute of Information Science and Bibliology in 2004, leading to the accreditation of PhD conferrals and, in 2015, of the conduction of *doctor habilitatus* procedures (Tondel, 2009, pp. 13–27).

The Jagiellonian University's Institute of Information and Library Science is the only institution of this kind in Poland that is not part of a humanities faculty. Since the mid-1990s, the Institute has operated within the Faculty of Management and Social Communication, which was founded at the time. This fact and the courses taught at the Institute (with Information Management as a new degree programme) have considerably affected the nature and themes of research undertaken by its staff.

The Institute of Library and Information Science was established at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin as late as in 2003, even though, as already mentioned, library science programmes had been taught there since the mid-1970s.

In the 1990s and at the turn of the millennium, the Institute of Information and Library Science at the Pedagogical University of Cracow went through a number of organisational changes, which primarily resulted from the transformed status of the school itself, which became the National Education Commission Pedagogical Academy in 1999 only to be made the National Education Commission Pedagogical University in 2008.

A library science programme at the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce is taught by the Institute of Library Science and Journalism, which was founded at what was then the Higher Teacher Training College in 1998. Since the academic year 2010/2011, the Institute has also offered a degree programme in Journalism and Social Communication.

The Information Science and Bibliology Department (previously Section) was established at the Teacher Training College in Bydgoszcz, the predecessor of the present-day Casimir the Great University, in 1991. Despite problems with sustaining the continuity of degree programmes, the Department has systematically developed its research staff and expanded its organisational structure.

A certain contribution to the development of Polish bibliology has also been made by the Information and Library Science Section established at the University

of Białystok in the academic year 2008/2009 (previously, since 1998, the Library Science Section). However, the future of the Białystok-based hub is uncertain as it suspended admissions in the academic year 2014/2015. At Białystok, library science courses are currently only taught as a specialisation within the first-cycle study programme in Polish Studies (Zimnoch, 2014, pp. 30–34; Zimnoch, 2016, pp. 127–135).

After 1990, in the aftermath of changes in the legal system that sanctioned the foundation of non-public universities and guaranteed the autonomy of HEIs, the number of academic institutions offering librarian education considerably increased. In the 1990s, the major tendency was to offer post-graduate courses, but when the Bologna System was introduced (in 2005), universities also began to launch first-cycle (BA) studies. However, the more often than not very modest staff and financial capacities of some of them, combined with the dropping birth rates and so-called deregulation (Rozporządzenie Ministra Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego, 2012), gradually curbed the ambitious plans of these universities. Their contribution to the education and training process continues to shrink, and their involvement in the development of research has rarely been substantial in the first place.

2. RESEARCH

2.1. FACTORS IN RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY PRACTICE

The trends and foci of research undertaken over the 70 years under discussion at the research hubs listed above hinged on a variety of internal and external factors. The former certainly included the size of the institution and the number of its teaching staff, along with the kind of the curriculum taught (the humanistic or the mathematical model), the local research traditions, the structure of the institution and its place within the university and, last but not least, the personality of its head.

The external factors, which tended to change with time and concurrently with changes in the political system, comprised the concomitant existence of several other research institutions that also launched research in broadly conceived book studies even though this was not their primary aim. These institutions were (and still are) the National Library in Warsaw, with its specialised agencies (the Bibliographic Institute, the Institute of Book and Readership, the Old Prints Department), academic libraries, especially those of universities, autonomous libraries of the Polish Academy of Sciences, notably represented by the Library of the Ossoliński National Institute (outside of the PAS network since 1996) and some public libraries of research status in big cities. Under the Polish People's Republic, the only independent bibliological scholarly and research institution was

the National Book Institute (Polish: Państwowy Instytut Książki), which worked between 1946 and 1949 in Łódź.¹⁰

The trends, nature and themes of research launched in the 1950s and 60s were also to a degree affected by inaccurate terminology, in particular the indeterminate status of interrelations between library science and book studies. The drawing of a clear distinction between the scope and research potential of these disciplines was not helped by the fact that the term ‘library science’ was used in the names of departments founded at the time and of the degree programmes they offered, whose curricula mainly covered issues from the field of book studies. The often heated polemics in specialised journals¹¹ and, above all, the theoretical and factual findings of the researchers of the day (primarily Karol Głombowski and his colleagues) eventually helped develop definitions of the objects, methods and tasks of the two disciplines. In the Polish People’s Republic’s centralised system, the trends and nature of research carried out at universities were also impacted by the government’s administration, specifically by the Ministry of Higher Education, which funded certain research projects — those that focused on the so-called major, nodal, branch or inter-branch themes.

The transition initiated at the turn of the 1980s had a favourable effect on research opportunities available to the university staff. As a result of political and economic changes (respectively, the abolition of censorship and the removal of paper quotas) combined with the progressing computerisation, the publishing of research results became easier than in the prior decades, all the more so because all the hubs began to publish their own journals (sometimes two at the same time). The recent state policies (e.g. the grant system) and the point-scoring system, which is instrumental in the parametrisation of institutions, first of all encourage publishing in high-index journals (preferably in English). The Polish Librarians’ Association (Polish: Stowarzyszenie Bibliotekarzy Polskich) has had a special part in the dissemination of bibliological research findings through the founding of the Polish Librarians’ Association Press, a very vigorous editorial institution that has published a bulk of studies produced at universities in its *Nauka — Dydaktyka — Praktyka* [Research — Teaching — Practice] series. Conferences (national and international) capped with the publication of conference proceedings were gradually becoming an increasingly popular form of the organisation of scholarship. Conferences were held by all the hubs, with some of them coming to specialise in certain thematic fields, for example *Kraków — Lwów. Książki — czasopisma — biblioteki* [Cracow — Lviv: Books — Periodicals — Libraries] at the Institute

¹⁰ For an account of the activities of these institutions, see Więckowska, 1969a, pp. 45–77; Migoń, 1979, pp. 124–129; and relevant entries in the *Encyklopedia wiedzy o książce* [Encyclopaedia of the Knowledge of the Book] (Birkenmajer, Kocowski, & Trzynadłowski, 1971).

¹¹ The main participants in the discussion were Karol Głombowski and Władysław Piasecki.

of Library Science, Pedagogical University of Cracow; *Książka, biblioteka, informacja — między podziałami i wspólnotą* [*The Book, the Library and Information: Between Divisions and Community*] held by the Kielce-based Institute since 2006; conferences on censorship organised by the Institute at Torun, and on education in library and information science hosted by the Institute of Information Science and Bibliology, Jagiellonian University (a total of 17 conferences between 1995 and 2011) (Kraśńska, 2013, pp. 66–119; Herden & Koredczuk, 2008, pp. 181–199; Jaremków, 2013, pp. 178–187). The development of research was also considerably stimulated by international collaboration, including individual mobility grants (under Erasmus and similar schemes) and conferences, symposia and seminars co-organised with foreign institutions.

Besides the political and systemic changes, the trends in research were powerfully influenced by the information revolution and widespread digitisation at the turn of the millennium. All these shifts were accompanied by debates around the theoretical and methodological premises of bibliography, the redefinition of its research paradigm and attempts to determine the core element of library science degree programmes. Side by side with the notion of ‘book culture’ as the central research concept in bibliological research (Migoń, 2003, pp. 11–20), the concept of information increasingly tended to be promoted as the main object of bibliological research as a result of the dynamic development of digital technologies. In this context, the notion of information ‘is not limited to the sphere of research as framed by the humanities and culture but is subject to modern processes of collection, thorough study and sharing and comprises historical and contemporary processes of its production and dissemination’ (Grabowska, 2011, p. 201). This terminological (and also thematic and methodological) dualism was reflected in the development of new research trends.

2.2. RESEARCH TRENDS

In the seven post-war decades, the development of book studies was undoubtedly propelled by large research libraries. All the founders of the first university-based library-science hubs: Jan Muszkowski (Łódź), Aleksander Birkenmajer (Warszawa) and Antoni Knot and Karol Głombiowski (Wrocław) had first long worked at research libraries and, with the exception of Głombiowski, managed such institutions for many years. Whatever their background (the solid sciences, the humanities, the social sciences), their often opulent scholarship tended to be dominated by works aligned with bibliological studies, whereby Muszkowski and Birkenmajer continued the research they had done, and to great success too, before 1939.

Muszkowski developed and refined his pre-war theory of book studies in a series of papers on this theme and the second edition (Kraków 1951) of his *Życie książki* [*The Life of the Book*], first published in 1936. At the same time, since he

noticed the inclusiveness of the term ‘document’ and realised that the book was a kind of graphic document, he proposed a separate discipline, distinct from bibliography and corresponding to information science, which he called documentation (‘Dokumentacja i dokumentologia’ [‘Documentation and Document Science’], *Życie Nauki* 1946, nos. 9/10). In the post-war years, Muszkowski’s interests mainly focused on the issues of academic librarian education, which was of course strictly related to his research-and-teaching work.

Birkenmajer also worked to develop theoretical models within book studies, but he focused (chiefly in the post-war period) on handwritten books. As an eminent expert on medieval manuscripts and old books, he published a range of studies on book bindings and the history of printing and libraries. In the post-war times, Birkenmajer greatly contributed to the systematisation of terminology and to the demarcating and marking off the research fields of library science and bibliography. Birkenmajer had already expounded his views on the content of library science in the 1920s, when he had proposed an outline of a university textbook of scientific librarianship.¹² The textbook was never published, but the major ideas about librarian education that the outline contained were later implemented by Birkenmajer in the organisation of studies at the University of Warsaw. As the founder of the Warsaw Department, Birkenmajer abandoned the model of bibliological degree programme implemented by Muszkowski to construct a study programme around two parallel themes — the book and the library. The model, which in time evolved into a library-cum-information-science one, was continued by Birkenmajer’s successors and was reflected in the research projects undertaken by the Department’s staff.

In Wrocław, research was initiated under different circumstances. Given the background and research interests of Knot, the founder and leader of library science in Wrocław, the historical perspective initially predominated. This tendency of research in Wrocław was promoted by the fact that the city had several research libraries boasting extensive collections (the Ossolineum Library, the University Library, the Chapter Library), which offered research resources to Wrocław-based scholars. It was only later that a more theoretically inclined research movement surfaced in Wrocław, which is to be credited first and foremost to Głombiowski (Żbikowska-Migoń, 1977, pp. 486–487).

In the first decades of the timeframe under discussion, the most extensive research agendas were to be found at the departments, and then institutes, at Warsaw and Wrocław. Hence, they are the most suitable starting points for an account of the trends and foci of research carried out at academic library science hubs.

¹² An outline of the envisaged textbook was presented by Birkenmajer at the International Congress of Librarians and Bibliophiles in Paris in 1923. See Więckowska, 1979, pp. 25–27, pp. 64–69.

2.2.1. WARSAW

In the first years following the foundation of Library Science Department at the University of Warsaw, research was basically carried out by Professor Birkenmajer alone, with the area of research only gradually expanded and diversified as successive teaching assistants and senior researchers were employed over time (Radziejowska-Hilchen, 2002, pp. 81–97). Their research publications released in the 1950s and the early 1960s followed two parallel paths. One of them was bibliology-oriented and chiefly preoccupied with historical themes (the role of the book in Polish culture in the 16th–18th centuries), and the other centred around contemporary issues and the future of librarianship, whereby attention was especially paid to developing optimal structures and tools promoting the influence of libraries. With time, a third path appeared as well, heading toward information science. It was around these three research axes that research at the University of Warsaw revolved over the following years (Czekajewska-Jędrusik, 1978, p. 125).

Initiated by Birkenmajer, the historico-bibliological trend in book research was picked up by Świerkowski, most of whose works were devoted to the history of Warsaw's book institutions, and by Czekajewska-Jędrusik, whose research interests covered book culture in Renaissance Poland and the history of science and science studies. From the late 1960s on, research on the old book and its role in scholarship, schooling and education, editorial aspects, readerly interests and the function of the book as a medium for the transmission of content robustly developed, mainly as a result of the work of Bieńkowska, who authored a range of books and papers on these themes (*Staropolski świat książek* [*The World of the Book in Early Modern Poland*], Warszawa 1976, and *Zarys dziejów książki* [*The History of the Book: An Outline*], co-authored with Chamerska, Warszawa 1987). This research especially attended to the history of the book in Warsaw, chiefly to publishing in the 19th and 20th centuries, an area explored, among other scholars, by Andrzej Skrzypczak and Marianna Mlekicka, and to the history of Warsaw-based libraries, studied, for example, by Józef Wojakowski.

In the early years of the Department, research on contemporary librarianship and reading practices was conducted by a few scholars, first and foremost by Remerowa, Zdzisława Brzozowska and Aleksandra Niemczykowa. The head of the Institute of the Book and Readership Institute of the National Library, Remerowa competently combined teaching, research and experimentation. She can be credited with promoting library-science and, with time, information-science research. This research trend also comprised issues of the sociology of the book and reading practices, librarian education, school-based and pedagogical libraries, including their responsibilities and organisation, and library studies (e.g. Niemczykowa and Fercz's frequently re-edited textbook *Wstęp do nauki o książce i bibliotece* [*Book and Library Studies: An Introduction*], Warszawa 1972).

Research that centred around libraries as institutions located within the broadly conceived social environment continued on the work undertaken at the inception of the Department by its founder and his first collaborators. Marcin Drzewiecki and Anna Radziejowska-Hilchen studied the place of school and pedagogical libraries in the system of education and culture, exploring possibilities of their modernisation. The thematic scope of this research was gradually expanded as a result of collaboration with historians of literature (e.g. Joanna Papuzińska) and education scholars. A different approach to the operations of contemporary libraries was adopted by Anna Sitarska, who argued in her works that there was a systemic unity to all types of libraries, as a result of which their work contributed to the establishment of a cultural community.

The recognition of changes unfolding in the contemporary world, particularly in the domain of broadly conceived information, prompted research on the methods of the acquisition, organisation, processing and presentation of information, which gradually developed in the 1960s. First studies in this area were undertaken by Regina Hancko, whereas a study programme in information science was organised by Chamerska, who had a background in history but was capable of combining the two disciplines not only in her own research.

Nevertheless, it was only the socio-mathematical model of library science studies, which was introduced by Warsaw's Institute in 1975, that offered new opportunities for the continuation of research in information science. The automation of library systems, which dynamically progressed in the West, but was barely germinating in Poland, came into the orbit of Sitarska's interest in the first half of the 1970s. The studies on the theory of data query languages and their practical application, which were conducted at the University of Warsaw's IBIIN, are regarded as seminal and unique in Poland (Materska, 2002, p. 75). Research of this kind was initiated by Ewa Chmielewska-Gorczyca in the late 1970s, and starting in the mid-1980s, she was part of a research team (Barbara Sosińska-Kalata, Jadwiga Woźniak and Elżbieta Artowicz) that explored the structure and terminology of data query languages. Their work culminated in the publication of *Słownik encyklopedyczny terminologii języków i systemów informacyjno-wyszukiwawczych* [*The Terminological Lexicon of Data Query Languages and Systems*], edited by Bożenna Bojar, which appeared in 1993.

After 1990, a new historical research trend emerged at the Warsaw Institute, with inquiry concerning the restitution of Polish cultural goods (studies, among others, by Bieńkowska, Urszula Paszkiewicz and Jacek Puchalski). At the same time, the chronological compass of previous historical research was expanded (back to the Middle Ages) through investigations of book culture and the history of libraries and information in multinational and multicultural society (studies by Andrzej Skrzypczak, Edward Potkowski, Wojakowski and Dariusz Kuźmina).

A historical approach was also an important part of research carried out by Paulina Buchwald-Pelcowa and Mikołaj Ochmański, while at the same time issues of the methodology of bibliography, digitisation of library collections and bibliography in the networked environment were tackled as well (for example, by Marta Grabowska). Research was also continued into the problems of the contemporary library system: bibliotherapy and school, pedagogical and prison libraries (Drzewiecki and Elżbieta Barbara Zybert), library organisation and management (Zybert and Małgorzata Kisilowska) and the application of marketing methods in library practices (Radosław Cybulski). The new economic realities proved to be an inspiration for the study of the book market and library marketing, including in relation to the children's book (Cybulski and Michał Zajęc). The development of media and modern information technologies sparked new research trends in the Department of Information Systems, which was already robust in the 1980s. Today, such studies encompass the theory and practical use of data query languages, the organisation and representation of knowledge, the use of both traditional and modern information resources and the electronic book (Jadwiga Woźniak-Kasperek, Sosińska-Kalata, Mieczysław Muraszkiewicz, Katarzyna Materska, Dariusz Grygowski).

2.2.2. WROCLAW

The Library Science Department at the University of Wrocław was a vigorous hub of, first, regional research on the old book and, then, important generalised theoretical findings. These pursuits were promoted by the fact that there had been a prior programme of research on the history of the book in Silesia and by the systematic development of the Department.

In this initial period, regional research was mainly advanced by the staff who had previously been affiliated to the University of Wrocław Library. In capping his earlier research on the incunabula and the history of printing in Silesia, Kocowski published three volumes of *Katalog inkunabulów Biblioteki Uniwersyteckiej we Wrocławiu* [*The Incunabula of the University Library in Wrocław: A Catalogue*] in 1962–1977. Głombiowski focused on the reception of selected works and authors in Silesia from the 15th to the 18th century, while the reception of the foreign-language book in Silesia until the end of the 18th century was studied by Krzysztof Migoń, Anna Żbikowska-Migoń and Kazimiera Maleczyńska. The history of paper and papermaking in Silesia was investigated by Maleczyńska, and the history of the Polish book in Wrocław in the 18th and 19th centuries was explored by Aleksandra Mendykowa. An overview of book-studies research concerning Silesia launched in Wrocław was offered by a collected volume titled *500-lecie polskiego słowa drukowanego na Śląsku, materiały sesji naukowej 9–11 X 1975* [*The 500th Anniversary of the Printed Word in Silesia: Proceedings of the Scholarly Session, 9–11 October 1975*] published in 1978 (Wrocław 1978), which included papers on the

history of printing, librarianship and book circulation in Silesia by authors such as Kocowski, Migoń, Żbikowska-Migoń, Maria Przywecka-Samecka, Maleczyńska and Mendykowa.

With time, the historical research focused on Silesia became just one of research trends as several scholars developed an interest in studying book culture historically in other regions of Poland. Pioneering work in this field was done by Maria Przywecka, who examined the history of music printing in Poland and Europe, while Maleczyńska investigated the history of Polish libraries in the 19th century. Polish book culture in the age of the Enlightenment was explored in multiple studies by Józef Szczepaniec. The themes that aroused special research interest included the history of bookselling and printing in the Republic of Cracow and Galicia before autonomy (studied, for example, by Anna Aleksiewicz), the uses of the book in Great Poland in the 19th century (examined by Stefan Kubów) and the book as embedded in the Basilian community in the Eastern territories of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the 16th–18th centuries (scrutinised by Maria Piđłypczak-Majerowicz).

The theory of book studies proved an important field of research at the Wrocław Institute. Głombiowski offered an array of generalised historico-theoretical insights and considerably expanded the field of book-studies research by initiating the so-called functional conception in bibliological research (his fundamental study *Książka w procesie komunikacji społecznej* [*The Book in the Social Communication Process*], Wrocław 1980, was published after his transfer from Wrocław to Gdansk). While Głombiowski's work inspired further research on the social functions of the book and libraries, the focus on theory in book-studies research was continued. Migoń, himself Głombiowski's student, made the greatest contribution to the systematisation of the field, research scope and methodology of book studies. Preceded by several studies on these themes, his opus magnum of 1984, *Nauka o książce. Zarys problematyki* [*Science of the Book: A Thematic Outline of the Field*], proved that bibliology was a discipline with already strong scholarly credentials. Migoń's and other researchers' further works earned the research carried out at Wrocław the moniker of the 'Wrocław school of bibliology' (Herden & Koredczuk, 2008, pp. 181–200). This scholarly effort also included Żbikowska-Migoń's studies on the development of bibliology as a separate discipline in the 18th century. Historical and theoretical library-science issues were investigated by Zofia Gaca-Dąbrowska, who produced a synthetic overview of the history of Polish libraries in the interwar period (1918–1939) and a series of studies on library science.

Research into historical and present-day reading practices, with a particular focus on reading and media culture (e.g. studies by Głombiowski) formed another bibliological field that robustly developed at Wrocław. In later years, these themes were chiefly explored by Jadwiga Andrzejewska, who made a substantial contri-

bution to the development of research on school and pedagogical libraries and the teacher-librarian profession.

Expanding the research field of bibliography by launching interdisciplinary research was an important part of scholarship cultivated at the Wrocław Institute. In the 1970s and 80s, Migoń and Żbikowska-Migoń worked at the intersection of bibliography, science studies and the history of science in their inquiry into the scientific book in Polish Enlightenment culture. Pioneering research fusing bibliography, art history and visual arts was initiated by Małgorzata Komza in the late 1970s and innovatively continued at the turn of the millennium. At that time, carrying on the studies begun in the 1980s, holding numerous conferences and publishing widely, the Wrocław Institute also became a research hub in the field of editorship and book art, with Janusz Sowiński's multiple publications on these issues representing a major thrust in this respect.

The political transformations with their civilisation and cultural effects were not indifferent to the work of the University of Wrocław's Institute of Library and Information Science. Dominant in the earlier years, historical and theoretical research in bibliography, press studies, library science (continued, for example, by Bożena Koredczuk and Małgorzata Derkacz) and school libraries (mainly studies by Bogumiła Staniów) was and still is an important part of the Institute's scholarly work (with adjustments necessitated by ongoing changes in the world), but at the same time, the young generation of researchers undertake comparative research associated with the theory and semiotics of the traditional and electronic book. The turn of the millennium saw a series of publications on the computerisation of libraries, digital libraries, the electronic book and virtual communities (authored, for example, by Małgorzata Góralska and Aneta Firlej-Buzon). As another new development, research at the intersection of bibliography, bibliography, information science and sciences studies was initiated at the Institute, showcasing the possible applications of quantitative methods in the interpretation of bibliological phenomena (e.g. studies by Marta Skalska-Zlat, currently continued, for example, by Dorota Siwecka). Also, the group of researchers dedicated to the study of children's and young adult book and continuing research on book art is constantly growing (e.g. Elżbieta Jamróz-Stolarska and Ewa Repucho).

2.2.3. LODZ

As already mentioned, credit for the commencement of book-science research at the University of Lodz is due to Muszkowski. Some contribution to the development of book studies was made at the time by Aniela Mikucka, one of his assistants, who was one of the first Polish bibliologists to continue research on reading practices, already initiated by Muszkowski before the war.¹³

¹³ Her PhD project on reader preferences was cut short by her premature death in 1950.

After Muszkowski's passing, bibliological research was mainly carried on by Więckowska. Herself a historian, she helped produce an account of the post-war history of Polish bibliology (Więckowska, 1969, pp. 45–77), even though the science of the book was only an object of historical study for her. Her views on the nature and relevance of bibliology were predominantly pragmatic. She emphasised that bibliology should be an indispensable basis of library practices and of university-level librarian education, an issue that she discussed in several publications. As for library science, a field that was working toward emancipation in the 1960s and 70s, she defined it as one of the subdisciplines of book studies. Więckowska's research attitude has been succinctly and very aptly captured by Migoń, who labelled her as 'a practitioner-bibliologist' (Migoń, 1988, pp. 29–42).

Hence, the research interests of Świdorski, Wieckowsk's successor as the Head of the Department, were also intrinsically pragmatic. His studies and publications comprised significant works on the classification of writings, subject-classed catalogues and the specialisation and collaboration of libraries in compiling their collections (Janiak, 2009, pp. 77–111). This research focus was practically the only one in the scholarship of the Lodz hub in the 1960s and 70s, with new research fields only emerging there from the 1980s on. Janusz Dunin's research interests encompassed the cheap book, editorship and book morphology and the history of bibliophilism in the 19th and 20th centuries. An array of studies on the history of printing in the 19th and 20th centuries were published by Hanna Tadeusiewicz. Historical themes were also addressed in the works of Jerzy Włodarczyk, who paid particular attention to the evolution of the librarian profession on Polish lands under partitions from 1795 till 1918.

Regional research was a separate trend in bibliological studies carried out in Lodz, with these issues being taken up by junior researchers, who obtained their degrees in the 1980s. Their projects and works mainly centred around Lodz (e.g. Jadwiga Konieczna and Maria Majzner), with Tomaszów Mazowiecki and Piotrków Trybunalski representing some other of their research sites (e.g. Magdalena Kwiatkowska). The history of the network of scientific, technical and economic information hubs in Lodz was chronicled in the works of Stanisława Kurek-Kokocińska and Aleksandra Wejman-Sowińska.

The following years were marred by organisational problems caused by the scarcity of the senior research staff, but research on the history of the book in Lodz and its region (as well as in Great Poland, which was studied by, for example, Ewa Andrysiak and Agata Walczak-Niewiadomska) was continued, with interesting findings fuelled by Konieczna's adoption of the notion of 'book culture' as the central research concept. At the same time, analyses delved into the development of contemporary book institutions — libraries and publishing houses — in Lodz

(studies by Magdalena Rzadkowska and Konieczna). The historical trend also encompassed Andrzej Wałkowski's studies on the handwritten book and Kwiatkowska's research on scientific editorship in the Russia-ruled part of Poland in the 19th century. Beginning in the 1990s, a new research field took shape, with the issues of children's and young adult books, reading practices and libraries studied in the historical and contemporary context by Konieczna, Alina Brzuska-Kępa, Alicja Mazan-Mazurkiewicz and Walczak-Niewiadomska. Press-studies research was continued and developed, with a focus on the press market (Ewelina Kristanova and Magdalena Przybysz-Stawska), along with research on the morphology of the book and reading practices, including children's and young adult reading culture (Jacek Ladorucki, Rzadkowska and Mariola Antczak). In the last decade, researchers have come to focus (including in collaboration with the University Library) on the legacy and achievements of their predecessors, such as Muszkowski, Więckowska and Dunin. Like in other academic hubs, historical and regional research was accompanied by studies on issues in the broadly conceived scientific information and, today, information science, electronic books and digital libraries (Kurek-Kokocińska and Grzegorz Czapnik). The development and publication of *Podręczny słownik bibliotekarza* [*A Concise Librarian's Dictionary*] (Warszawa 2011) was a remarkable accomplishment of the Lodz Department.

To conclude this brief overview of research carried out in the three major academic library science hubs, three extensive encyclopaedic publications collaboratively developed in cooperation with the staff of research libraries should be mentioned as their shared accomplishment. These were the *Encyklopedia wiedzy o książce* [*Encyclopaedia of the Knowledge of the Book*] (edited by Birkenmajer, Kocowski and Trzynadlowski, Wrocław 1971), the *Encyklopedia współczesnego bibliotekarstwa polskiego* [*Encyclopaedia of Contemporary Polish Librarianship*] (edited by Głombiowski, Świdorski and Więckowska, Wrocław 1976) and the *Słownik pracowników książki polskiej* [*Dictionary of the Polish Book Personnel*] (edited by Irena Treichel, Łódź 1972). The latter lexicon, which was edited by the Lodz centre (with Tadeusiewicz and Rzadkowska as its later editors), has been published until the present day in the form of successive *Suplementy* [*Supplements*] (1–4).

2.2.4. CRACOW, KATOWICE AND LUBLIN

In the other library-science institutions, most of which were founded in the early or mid-1970s, the types and themes of research largely hinged on the scholarly background of their heads, who, as already stated, usually derived from other humanities disciplines. As a result, in the second half of the 1970s, the new hubs tended to do often regionally-inflected literary-studies research that explored the

place and role of the book in the culture of past centuries and also looked into local periodicals, book institutions and professionals.¹⁴ With time, as some of the new institutions achieved formal and organisational stability and developed their own research-and-teaching staff, more propitious conditions emerged for the advancement of research in broadly conceived bibliology and the crystallisation of thematic specialisations in this research.

This is exemplified by the Higher Teacher Training College in Cracow, where the evolution of research trends was considerably affected by the extensive research interests of Jarowiecki, whose studies addressed historical-literary issues and press-studies themes (e.g. in Poland under the Nazi occupation in 1939–1945), and also examined the operations of school libraries. The study of the role and relevance of the book in the scholarly and intellectual life of Cracow in the 15th and 16th centuries was also an important research pursuit, which was mainly undertaken by Professor Wacława Szelińska.

Studies on the history of the book, libraries, publishing, bookselling and press studies have also formed a sizeable part of the research work carried out by the staff of this Institute over the last twenty-five years. Historical research primarily centres around book institutions in Cracow and Galicia (works by Jan Bujak, Maria Konopka, Marek Pieczonka, Adam Ruta, Iwona Pietrzekiewicz and Józef Szocki) and also in other regions of Poland (the studies of Barbara Góra and Lilia Kowkiel). Still little popular in bibliology, research on book anthropology has been undertaken by Andrzej Drózdź. Press-studies research, which was initiated by Jarowiecki, is continued and covers the newspapers of Cracow and Lviv and other Polish periodicals, mainly those published in the 20th century, with Władysław Marek Kolasa, Urszula Lisowka-Kożuch, Krzysztof Woźniakowski, Grażyna Wrona, Grzegorz Nieć and Michał Rogoż being major scholars in this field. Given the pursuits of the University, a lot of effort is still invested in research on school libraries, bibliotherapy, reading practices and the methodology of library work (Halina Kosętko, Lidia Ippoldt and Pietrzekiewicz). The goals of the University of Pedagogy also call for interdisciplinary research. In recent years, such studies have mainly examined the history and theory of literature (works by Michał Zięba, Szelińska, Kosętko and Maria Jazowska-Gumulska).

The Institute has also effectively developed information-science research. Important studies have scrutinised information culture and education and explored the needs of information users. At the same time, researchers' interest has been aroused by digital libraries and the digitisation of records (Hanna Batorowska, Barbara Kamińska-Czubała and Stanisław Skórka). Comprehensive research on

¹⁴ The data on respective institutions were sourced from the studies concerning them, which have been cited above.

information science carried out at the University of Pedagogy's Institute of Information and Library Science has also resulted in the publication of relevant textbooks (e.g. *Wybrane zagadnienia nauki o informacji i technologii informacyjnej* [*Information Science and Technology: Selected Issues*], 1996 and 2000) (Grzywacz & Ruta, 2013, pp. 120–144).

In its first years, the Library and Information Science Section at the University of Silesia was also predominantly committed to literary-studies research, largely focused on regional themes. As the Section produced and employed its own graduates and recruited library practitioners with research experience, the scope of research broadened to include library-science issues and themes at the intersection of information science and practical librarianship, which were explored, for example, by Zbigniew Żmigrodzki and Jacek Ratajewski. In the 1980s, extensive research projects on the history of the Polish book in Silesia in the 19th and 20th centuries were implemented in collaboration with the academic counterparts in Opole and Wrocław, which resulted in a multi-volume multi-author publication edited first by Adam Jaros and then by Maria Pawłowicz in the following decade. The situation of the Polish book in Silesia under partitions was also studied by Elżbieta Gondek (Gondek, 2013, pp. 50–56).

Starting in the 1980s, the Institute developed its trademark research specialising in the protection and preservation of library collections. Through collaboration with and later the recruitment of experts in other fields of knowledge, such as Leonard Ogierman and Bronisław Zyska, theory was effectively combined with practical pursuits for the renovation of endangered prints. In the 1990s, research on the book for and reading practices of the young reading public was initiated at the University of Silesia's Institute of Library and Information Science, which was mainly propelled by the work of Irena Socha. A considerable contribution to studies on the children's book was also made by Krystyna Heska-Kwaśniewicz, who was an initiator and editor of a four-volume publication titled *Literatura dla dzieci i młodzieży (po roku 1980)* [*Children's and Young Adult Literature (after 1980)*] (Katowice 2008–2014). The Silesian research community greatly furthered the development of Polish bibliography by providing the fundamental synthetic accounts of knowledge indispensable in university teaching in a range of textbooks, such as *Bibliotekarstwo* [*Librarianship*] edited by Żmigrodzki (Warszawa 1994, 1998), *Bibliografia. Metodyka i organizacja* [*Bibliography: Methodology and Organisation*] (Warszawa 2000) and *Bibliotekarstwo* [*Librarianship*] edited by Anna Tokarska (Warszawa 2013).

Generally, the scholarship and research of the Institute at the University of Silesia fall into two easily perceivable trends: the history of the book, newspapers, libraries and reading practices in Polish territories and contemporary Polish and European librarianship, with an additional focus on information science. The for-

mer trend encompasses, for example, studies on book culture in Silesia (works by Danuta Sieradzka, Tokarska and Małgorzata Gwadera) and on national minority communities in old Poland's borderlands (studies by Jerzy Reizes-Dzieduszycki), the history of newspapers and the historical and contemporary issues of the reading practices of and the book and newspapers for a young readership (publications by Socha and Katarzyna Tałuć). The latter trend comprises research on the development directions in information science, the operations of library information systems and specialised tools for online archives and institutions of culture (works by Diana Pietruch-Reizes and Jacek Tomaszczyk), along with studies on the quality of library services and the effective use of marketing tools in librarian-client interactions (works by Beata Żołędowska-Król and Socha) (Gondek, 2013, pp. 47–65).

At the Jagiellonian University, where, as already mentioned, the so-called socio-mathematical education model was adopted, research in information science developed along with the theory and methodology of that relatively new discipline, mainly through the work of Wanda Pindlowa. At the same time, the scholarly pursuits of what was then the Section importantly incorporated historical issues, as epitomised by the study of book culture in Cracow in the 18th and 19th centuries carried out by Maria Kocójowa, Krystyna Bednarska-Ruszajowa and Anna Gruca and by inquiry into the history of printing (e.g. works by Jan Pirożyński), though historical themes were gradually relegated to the margin. In the 1980s and 90s, the scope of research was expanded, mainly through the efforts of Jacek Wojciechowski, a long-time director of the Voivodship Public Library in Cracow, by including issues of contemporary librarianship and reading practices. These themes were later augmented by new aspects of present-day library work and other book-related institutions, in particular those embedded in the Internet (Sapa, 2014, pp. 35–54; Kocójowa, 2000).

With time, studies in information science, bibliometrics and bibliography came to prevail in the scholarship of the Cracow Institute. Currently, the research interests of its staff pivot on information and knowledge management, especially in the context of dissemination in digital libraries, as investigated, for example, by Wiesław Babik, Pietruch-Reizes and Marek Nahotko. Other issues related to information science studied at the Institute in Cracow include information culture and information competencies and behaviour (e.g. the works of Agnieszka Korycińska-Huras). Other scholars carry out research on information systems, electronic periodicals (Maria Próchnicka, Nahotko and Małgorzata Janiak), philosophy and the theoretical and methodological foundations of bibliography and information science (Remigiusz Sapa, Sabina Cisek). The research staff also address innovative issues, such as the ecology of information (Babik). The domination of information-related studies has not discouraged some of the scholars from pursuing other research interests, such as the role of the book in social communication, the book and libraries

in literary texts and children's books (the works of Gruca, Zdzisław Pietrzyk and Piotr Lechowski).

Historical research was clearly overriding at the library-science hub at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin. This resulted from its long-time links to the University's Institute of History and from the pursuits of its head, Józef Szymański, the author, among other studies, of the textbook *Nauki pomocnicze historii* [*The Auxiliary Sciences of History*], several editions of which were released after its publication in the early 1970s. Antoni Krawczyk was also a historian and his work included a series of papers on the history of the book in Lublin. Book institutions in Lublin in the 19th century were also investigated by Mieczysława Wełna-Adrianek, although her research in the 1970s predominantly concerned textbooks and school libraries in the Russia-ruled part of Poland in the 19th century, a theme she discussed in several articles. The history of printing in Poland in the early modern period was an object of keen interest to Maria Juda.

If the historical approach still takes an important place in the research of the Lublin hub, it is no longer the dominant perspective. The recent historical studies concern the history of the book and writing culture in Poland from the Middle Ages until the 18th century and the history of culture across centuries (works by Juda and Piotr Tafłowski), while the social factors in the 19th-century book are investigated by Anna Dymmel. The history, theory and methodology of Polish bibliographies also form an important segment of research (studies by Jarosław Pacek and Alicja Matczuk). At the same time, research develops on the contemporary book and media market for a young readership, reading culture and the role of the book and other media in social communication. Contemporary cultural changes and their determinants and the role of the book and libraries in the system of culture add up to another meaningful research segment, which has been explored, for example, by Anita Has-Tokarz, Renata Malesa and Bożena Rejakowa.

In recent years, the research staff of the Institute have increasingly displayed interest in issues related to broadly conceived information science, which is in all probability related to the foundation of a new degree programme, namely Information in E-Society. Studies are also devoted to information management, the theory and application of data query languages, natural language processing and the use of computer and tele-information technologies (e.g. Zbigniew Osiński and Sebastian Kotuła) (Has-Tokarz & Malesa, 2013, pp. 145–159).

2.5. TORUN, KIELCE AND BYDGOSZCZ

Like in the other library science hubs, research carried out at the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun has encompassed historical and contemporary issues of broadly conceived bibliology, information science, librarianship, reading

practices and bibliotherapy. Historical studies dominated in the first twenty years following the foundation of the library science centre at Torun. Themes addressed at the time included the study of incunabula and the history of printing, publishing, bookselling and bibliophilism, whereby the focus was mainly on the history of the book in Royal and Ducal Prussia (e.g. works by Bronisława Woźniczka-Paruzel, Janusz Tondel and Iwona Imańska). Historical research is still being done at the Institute, but today it also comprises the issues of publishing and bookselling from the 18th century until the present day (Imańska and Wanda Ciszewska), as well as European biblioegy and ex-libris art from the 15th to the 21st century (Arkadiusz Wagner). Extensive press-studies research, including censorship and press law, accounts for a considerable part of the scholarly output of Torun's Institute of Information Science and Bibliology. Besides historical themes (explored by Grażyna Gzella and Jacek Gzella), researchers investigate the local press and scholarly and science-popular periodicals (the studies of Barbara Centek and Dorota Degen). As its trademark specialty, the Institute has long implemented research on bibliotherapy, which involves working with communities of people with various disabilities, senior citizens and children (works by Woźniczka-Paruzel and Małgorzata Fedorowicz-Kruszewska). The themes addressed in information-science research are varied as well. Scholars examine a range of issues such as information and knowledge management, the architecture of information, quality assessment of information resources, digitisation and establishment of electronic databases. Considerable attention is devoted to the education of information users, in particular to the concept of information literacy, which is studied, for example, by Ewa Głowacka, Małgorzata Kowalska and Natalia Pamuła-Cieślak (Kowalska & Ciszewska, 2014, pp. 55–82).

The trends and foci of research conducted at the Jan Kochanowski University's Institute of Library Science and Journalism have been directly influenced by their organisational situation and the study programmes it offers. In the 1980s and early 1990s, the Institute's staff chiefly focused on the history of the book and libraries in the 19th and 20th centuries, with a special focus on the Kielce region (e.g. the works of Mieczysław Adamczyk and Czesław Erber), though the narrow regional approach was often transcended, for example in Danuta Adamczyk's studies on the publishing institutions of the Polish Socialist Party and Danuta Hombek's work on the Polish press in the 18th century. In the first decade of the 21st century, researchers increasingly often explored press-studies themes (studies by Jolanta Chwastyk-Kowalczyk and Tomasz Chrzęstek), media-studies issues (works by Tomasz Mielczarek, Barbara Lena Gierszewska and Jolanta Dzierżyńska-Mielczarek), editorship and bookselling (publications by Danuta Adamczyk, Oskar Stanisław Czarnik, Monika Olczak-Kardas and Aleksandra Lubczyńska), whereby both the historical and the contemporary perspectives were applied.

Traditional bibliological and library-science research is still carried out, focusing on the social function of the book and the history of libraries (studies by Stanisław Adam Kondek, Jolanta Dzieniakowska, Izabela Krasieńska and Maria Siuda) (Krasieńska, 2013, pp. 66–119).

The major interests of the staff of the Bydgoszcz library-science hub have comprised the history of the book, libraries, printing and periodicals of the Bydgoszcz region, Kuyavia and Pomerelia (studied, for example, by Franciszek Mincer, Zdzisław Kropidłowski and Bernadeta Iwańska-Cieślak). Besides, the Bydgoszcz bibliologists also explore the history of the book in antiquity and the modern age, in particular the history of church libraries (works by Dariusz Spychała and Kropidłowski). Besides historical themes, a range of issues related to contemporary librarianship are examined as well, with a particular focus on the protection of book collections (multiple studies by Ryszard Nowicki), reading practices (the publications of Katarzyna Domańska and Katarzyna Wodniak) and bibliopegy (the works of Elżbieta Pokorzyńska) (Kropidłowski, 2013, pp. 29–46; Adamczyk, 2009, pp. 29–45).

The Information and Library Science Section at the University of Białystok has also made a contribution to the development of Polish bibliology. The Białystok researchers primarily study regional issues of reading practices, libraries and the press in Podlachia (works by Katarzyna Zimnoch, Katarzyna Sawicka-Mierzyńska and Anna Nosek). At the same time, the tradition initiated by Sitarska is continued in the current information-science research on data query languages and systems and bibliography (studies by Jadwiga Sadowska). Investigations undertaken in Białystok have also concerned children's and young adult book and literature, a field explored by Nosek.

Though small, the Archival, Library and Information Science Section of the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn has made a noteworthy contribution to the development of the science of the book and to the expansion of its research field. It is in fact the only academic centre in Poland to study the culture of Old Ritualists and Cyrillic prints (works by Zoja Jaroszewicz-Pieresławcew), at the same time promoting research on the identification of information barriers, human resources management and information and knowledge management, a field investigated by Marzena Świgoń.

* * *

The above survey of the scope, trends, themes and stages of research makes it clear that, having developed in the university setting for seventy years, Polish bibliology, with all its ups and downs over time, is a full-fledged academic disci-

pline today. This does not mean that it has achieved absolute stability or that its prospects of development in its current form can be taken for granted. The invasion of electronic media and the changing forms of communication affect the structure and functions of the book. As a result, bibliologists are faced with new challenges, and essential questions arise as to what contemporary bibliography should be like, what subdisciplines should make it up and where the lines between them should lie. These questions must be tackled not only by theorists of book studies. They must also be addressed by all practitioners of the discipline. The overview above, in particular the part covering the last twenty-five years, appears to demonstrate that such efforts are being made.

Translated by Patrycja Poniatowska

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JADWIGA KONIECZNA

ACADEMIC LIBRARY SCIENCE AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIBLIOLOGY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE IN POLAND, 1945–2015

Summary

The aim of the study is to present the origins and development of academic institutions educating librarians in Poland between 1945 and 2015, taking into account the institutional and scholarly aspects. In the first part of the paper the author presents the history of various institutions — university faculties, departments and institutes — arranged diachronically in three stages (1945–1974, 1975–1989, 1990–2015). She takes into account the circumstances of their establishment (including the legal framework), their organisers, staff, organisational structures and their changes. In addition, she points to other components of academic life influencing the work of academic library science centres, such as conferences and journals. In the second part, devoted to a discussion of bibliological and information-science research conducted at Polish universities, the author focuses on various issues, treating chronology only as an element organising descriptions of research processes at individual library studies centres. She identifies the areas of research, as well as changes in the thematic foci in the analysed period, citing selected scholars and their most important works. Like in part one, she also discusses the social, political and cultural determinants stimulating research processes, paying particular attention to the impact of new technologies and media. The author's overview confirms the huge role the academic institutions engaged in library studies play in the consolidation of the position of bibliology as an academic discipline, but at the same time, she shows how the research profile of book studies has been changing in recent years, including issues associated with information science and new technologies.