Libraries at the Crossroads
Resolving Identities

EMEA
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
BERLIN
21-22 FEB. 2017

OCLC

#EMEARC17
Once there were 5 libraries …

- Five independent libraries, with different levels of cooperation in between
- Differences in use of former discovery tool
- Different user groups: different backgrounds, disciplines & needs
University Library

- Main disciplines: economics, management, social sciences and humanities
- Students & researchers
- Discovery tool used since 2010
Institute for Social Studies (ISS)

- Policy-oriented critical social science
- In The Hague (20 miles from Rotterdam)
- Master students, PhD students, researchers, diverse international community
Sanders Law Library

- Library for the Erasmus School of Law
- Only staff members can borrow books
- Focus on books, paper journals
Medical Library

- Library for the Erasmus Medical Centre
- At the Hoboken campus (other side of town)
- Library wall with books – short loans for students – with Self Service Library
- In general focus on journal articles
Rotterdamsch Leeskabinet

- Private member library, since 1969 collaboration with the EUR
- Students & employees of the EUR can also borrow books
- Focus on books, on literature and humanities, no digital collection
Identity

• Collection
• Services offered
• Communication
• Appearance
RLK: a distinguished identity in the new library
Changes on the ‘front end’

• New catalogue
  – Different presentation of the collection
  – New terminology
  – Library links
  – Access from home
  – Search boxes on websites?

• New link resolver
Only 3 out of 5 libraries on display
Changes on the ‘front end’

- Borrowing from other branches
- Pick-up locations
- Notifications
Changes on the back end

- Collective cataloguing – Dutch books?
- Fines
- Loan period
- Automatic renewal
- Internal organisation
Conclusions for EUR & recommendations

- Cooperation between branches is strengthened
- Attention for the online presences/entrance pages per branch
- Important to know in advance: what has to be standardised and what can be configured by branch?
- Independent project-leader to mediate between branches.
- Make sure cooperation prevails above trying to be unique on a small scale
- For OCLC: allow more than 3 branches to show up
Thanks for your attention!