### Preparing a New Library and Learning Centre as an Interuniversity Initiative: Norms

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### The idea of a new L&LC for ULB and VUB

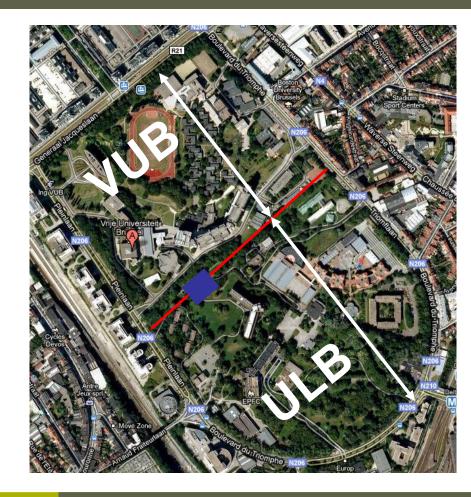
A new Library & Learning Centre!
How to start?

Basic ideas:

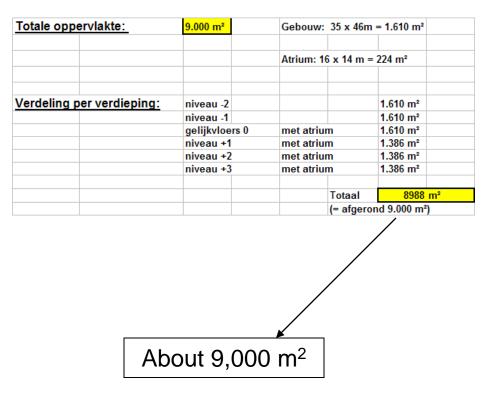
ULB – Faculté des Sciences & Techniques VUB – 2 or 7 faculties?

Can VUB keep the advantages of a central library (for its 7 faculties)?

Where?



# First estimation ULB 2 faculties, VUB 7 faculties



### A "common sense" estimation

Niveau 1:	Collecties	WE & IR					
		Boeken		Thesissen	Totaal	Waarvan nu in leeszaal CB:	
	WE	14,000	30,000	4,000	48,000		
	IR	8,000	7,000	5,000	20,000	1.420 lopende meters of 290 Rekmeters	
	Globaal	22,000	37,000	9,000	68,000	Inhoud van 3 á 4 Modules!	
	Gemiddelde jaarlijkse groei: 1.900 volumes					Nu in magazijn: 2.000 lopende mete	ers o
	ULB colle					400 RM	
Niveau 2:	Collecties LW & PE				Waarvan nu in leeszaal CB:		
		Boeken		Thesissen		5.100 lopende meters of 850 RM boo	eken
	LW	176,000	45,000	6,000	227,000	770 lopende meters tijdschriften of	
	PE	18,000	9,000	3,000	30,000	150 RM tijdschriften	
	Globaal	194,000	54,000	9,000	257,000		
						Wiedoperatie naar magazijn: 30 á 5	50%
	Gemiddelde jaarlijkse groei: 6.800 volumes					Inhoud van 6 á 8 modules	
Niveau 3:	Collecties	RC & ESF	<u> </u>				
		Boeken	Tijdchr.	Thesissen	Totaal	Waarvan nu in leeszaal CB:	
	RC	32,000	33,000	4,000	69,000		
	ESP	45,000	22,000	5,000	72,000	2.480 lopende meters of 410 RM boo	eker
	Globaal	77,000	55,000	9,000	141,000	2.200 lopende meters of 440 RM tijd	sch
	Gemiddelde jaarlijkse groei: 3.700 volumes					Wiedoperatie naar magazijn 30 á 5	0%
						Inhoud van 5 á 7 modules	

### How big?

#### Can we make use of existing norms & standards?

- ACRL
- SCONUL
- Other

#### Most existing norms & standards:

- estimate storage of collections and administrative "in accordance" to our "common sense" estimation
- seem to overestimate (largely) surfaces for user areas

#### What to do now? Take a good example and derive own norm:

- University of Antwerp merged three universities into one
- With one large central city campus (serving humanities)
- Used existing buildings and converted them to library & learning spaces

### Second estimation

Based on measurements on the spot in the library of the University of Antwerp

We derived new calculation rules

(= maybe a better term than "new norm")

by performing "reverse engineering"

#### Results regarding first estimation:

- surface requirements for display of collection OK
- surface requirements for administrative spaces OK
- surface requirements for study and consultation OK

#### Regarding ACRL and SCONUL norms:

→ obvious overestimation of surfaces for study and consultation



## Overview of new "norms" for spatial needs (1/3)

Item	ACRL/SCONUL	VUBULB
Seats per alpha student (arts & humanities)	1 seat per 5 students	1 per 10 students
Seats per beta student (sciences & applied sciences)	1 seat per 5 students	1 per 15 students
Surface per seat (incl. circulation)	ACRL: 2.3 to 3.2 m <sup>2</sup> SCONUL: 2.39 m <sup>2</sup>	Mean: 2.6 m <sup>2</sup> (4 types, ranging 2.1 to 5.1 m <sup>2</sup> )
6,197 alpha students 6,148 beta students	2,465 seats 5,670 to 7,889 m <sup>2</sup>	1,030 seats (common sense estimation: 1,178 seats) 2,678 m <sup>2</sup>

## Overview of new "norms" for spatial needs (2/3)

Item	ACRL/SCONUL	VUBULB
Monographs in standard fixed shelves	ACRL: 108-154 volumes per m <sup>2</sup> SCONUL: percentage total surface	115.38 volumes per m <sup>2</sup>
Monographs in compact movable shelves	ACRL: / SCONUL: /	360.00 volumes per m <sup>2</sup>
Current periodicals	ACRL: / SCONUL: /	17.9 titles per m <sup>2</sup>

## Overview of new "norms" for spatial needs (3/3)

Other items	ACRL/SCONUL	VUBULB
Library & information desk	ACRL: / SCONUL: /	163 m <sup>2</sup>
Photocopy room(s)	ACRL: / SCONUL: /	4 or 5 rooms of 25 m <sup>2</sup> (each)
Cloakroom(s)	ACRL: / SCONUL: /	140m <sup>2</sup> (each)
Exposition room	ACRL: / SCONUL: /	350 m <sup>2</sup>
Canteen	ACRL: / SCONUL: /	150 m <sup>2</sup>
Small meeting room(s) for personnel	ACRL: / SCONUL: /	Several small rooms, 200 m <sup>2</sup> in total
Staff room(s)	ACRL: 1/8 total surface SCONUL: /	Landscape: 10 m <sup>2</sup> Standard: 15 m <sup>2</sup> Director: 20 m <sup>2</sup>

## Besides consultation, administration and learning

Centralised approach → bring together, as much as possible, student spaces:

- to study
- to work
- to get guidance
- to find information

#### Lots of seats for:

- consultation / individual study (silent)
- group work (discussion allowed)

Distances between loan /information desk(s) and outer corners of the publicly accessible places as small as possible

Number of loan / information desk(s) as small as possible, preferably 1 (one)

### Next steps

#### We now have a set of calculation rules that allows:

- versatile approach(es)
- calculate rapidly required spaces for any approach
- to maintain the centralised approach as much as desired
- a flexible design (= "universal design")
- to continue to go (on) for a green library on a green campus (with sustainable and ecological construction)