#### The library system in Denmark & the strategy for knowledge society libraries

Jens Thorhauge Danish Agency for Libraries and Media

#### You are in the house of Danish cultural agencies

- Arts Council, Cultural Heritage Agency and
- Danish Agency for Libraries and Media
- 108 staff, app. 160 mio Euro
- Dealing with
  - Radio and television
  - Newpapers and magazines and
  - Libraries
    - Responsible for infrastructure
    - Advisor to the government
    - Denmarks Electronic Research Library
    - Library development & cooperation



# **The Danish Library System**

- Library types
  - School-libraries at every primary school
  - Public library in every municipality
  - 6 regional libraries
  - 2 national libraries
  - University libraries and many special and academic libraries
  - Denmarks Electronic Research Library



### **Denmark - a Nordic Kingdom**



- 5.5 mio. inhabitants
- GNP pr. capita: 45 402 \$
- kingdom for more than 1000 years
- parlamentary system since 1849
- homogenius population till recently
- from agriculture to industry to knowledge society



# **Library Legislation**

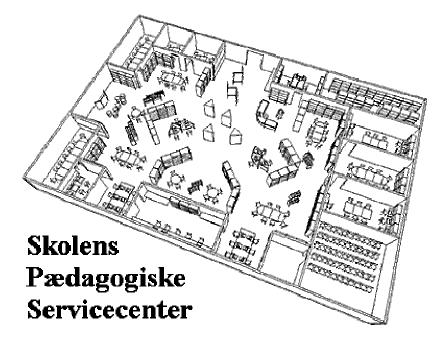
- Act on library services:
- public libray in each municipality- departments for adults and children
- giving acces to all kind of media, including Internet
- free access for everybody
- maintenance of collection
- interlending
- national union cat webbased





## **The School Library**

- In every public primary schoool there is a school library, used by every pupil.
- The library offers traditional lending activities but also serves as 'pedagogical service centre' – supporti ng teaching and learning activitites.



# A few key figures\*: Public Libraries

- 499 public libraries (incl. branches and bookmobiles), public libraries mandatory
- in municipalities (in 2007 from 270 to 98 mun.)
- total budget ap. 400 mio Euro
- per capita budget ap 70 Euro
- average loan per capita per year 14
- staff ap 4600
- 64% adult are public library users
- 81% of all children are public library users
- 36 mio. visits at local libraries
- \* figures from 2009



# **Main principles**

- Free and equal access to any published information
- for everybody, without any charge
- no matter what media the information be stored in\*
- PL the responsibility of municipal authorities
- National services organised by the state



\* with an exception for film

# **Regional libraries**

 Regional libraries are municipal libraries that by contract with the Agency perform various tasks like com´petence building in local libraries, coordination of activities, interlending



# University and research libraries: key figures

- Nearly 154 research and special libraries
- 2 national libraries
- 94 libraries of institutions of higher education
- 58 special libraries
- Staff ap 1527
- total budget 122 mio Euro

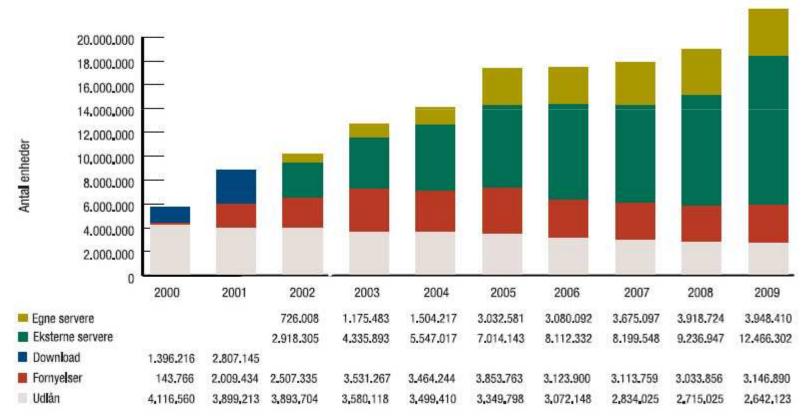


#### **Cooperation among academic libraries**

 Cooperation between national-, university, academic and educational libraries is coordinated within *Deff*, the Danish Electronic Research Library since 1998- giving e-access to research material and building shared services

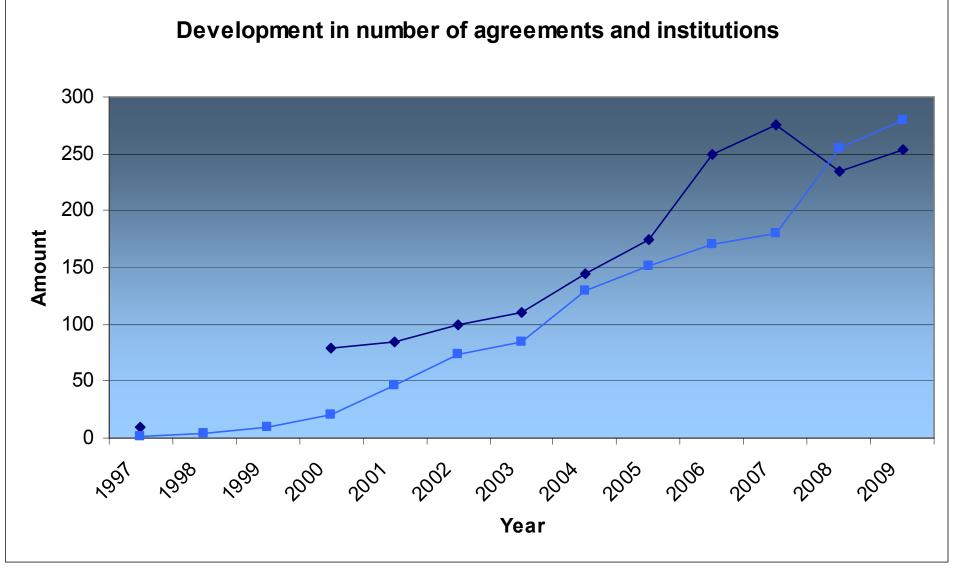


#### **Growth in use of digital resources in academic libraries**



Figur 1 16 forskningsbibliotekers samlede udlån, fornyelser og download 2000-2009





#### **Current strategy of DEFF**

- Strategy with vision, mission and yearly action plans
- Main target group are researchers, lecturers and students of higher and further education institutions within the public sector, which primarily are serviced directly through the institutions that participate in DEFF
- Reach out to all educational institutions to secondary school level
- Reach out to small and medium sized businesses
- The overall objective is to ensure an optimal exploitation of research-based information resources for research, educational and innovative purposes

#### **Central institutions and regulations**

- Act on Library Services -since 1920
  - revised for info-society in 2000

#### • Danish Agency for Libraries and Media

- state-agency, government adv.

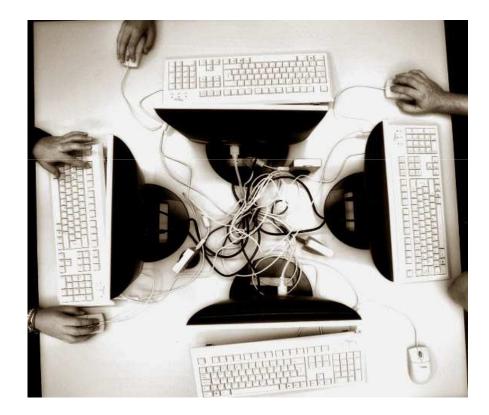
#### Danish Bibliographic Center

- organised as a ltd. co
- Royal School of library and information Science (BA,MA,PhD)
  - rankning no 1 in Europe



## **System and ideas**

- bibliotek.dk –search and request any title in Danish libraries
- All libraries cooperate, ILL
- transportation system- day to day deliverance all over Denmark
- The hybrid library concept
- more and more virtual services, music-files, film, computergames,
- access to licensed e-journals and e-books
- ask-a-librarian on the internet





#### The vision for the nearest future

- To establish a coherent digital library covering all fields of media and library services from baby- to researcher level
- Corresponding with the library space
- Aiming at all citizens with segmented services and building on partnerships of all kind



#### **Next library**

- Danish Digital Library
- Integrated acces/federal search to all relevant material
- Open source and SOA
- National solutions on infrastructure and licensing– local priorities and presentations, local profile in library space and programme
- Basic collection of web-media for all libraries

#### DANISH AGENCY FOR

# The digital medialandscape is part of a bigger agenda

- The knowledge and innovation society
- The changed economic balance between Europe and the new economies
- The fragmentation of social life and growing tension
- Needs for better skills



#### A European agenda

- Knowledge societies imply globalisation and a new competition pattern – jobs are moving east
- The answer to the challenge is 'innovation' based
- on more research, better education, lifelong learning, a strong identity and cohesion in society.
- We are in badly need of all these elements facing illiteracy, social tension in a more and more multicultural society+
- the fragmentation and cultural changes in the 'late modern society' are roaring for counter strategies

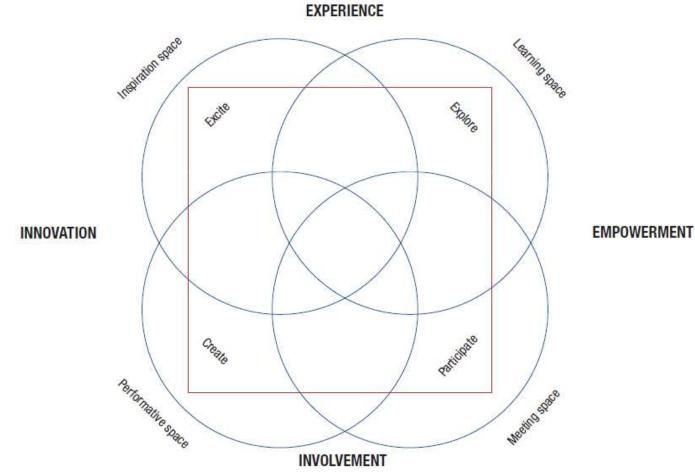
#### **E-services are also part of a bigger agenda**

- An e-book platform is not enough
- Developping a new library concept
  - Public service concept: services for all citizens, segmentation
  - Competting with other information services: the library niche
- Creating new organizational frames
  - No library is an island: (inter)national development
  - Partnerships
  - Break up of traditional library collection oriented organisation





#### A new library concept





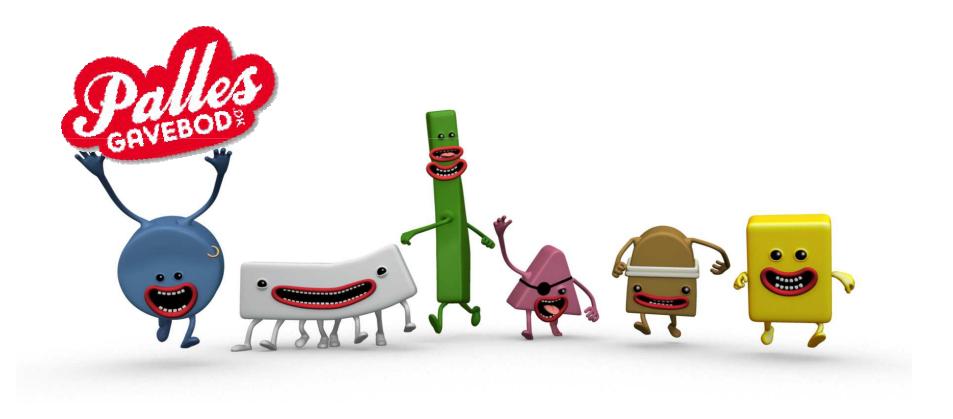
# Analogue and digital services should be integrated

- The library space is for public libraries still the hub
- The activities in the four spaces of the new library concept are virtual & real
- The programmes support the agenda of society, from innovation to democratic inclusion and participation
- Partnerships basic for organisation

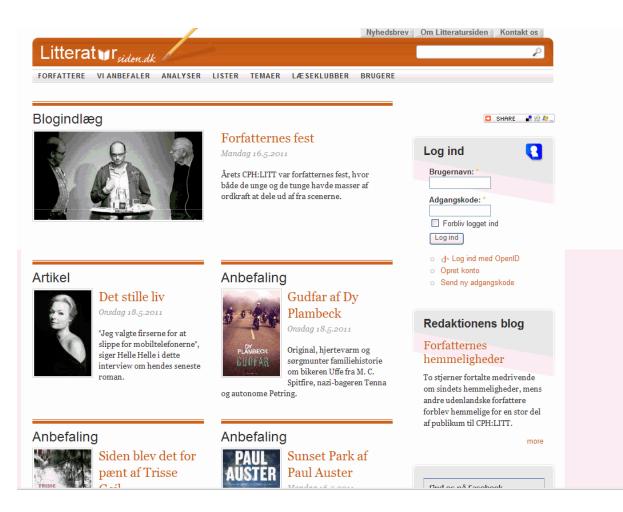




#### The website forms a universe of its own



#### The web for literature is a new intermediary



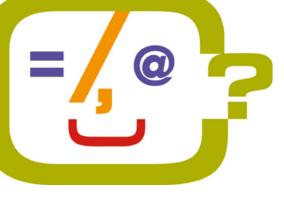


#### **Homework café**

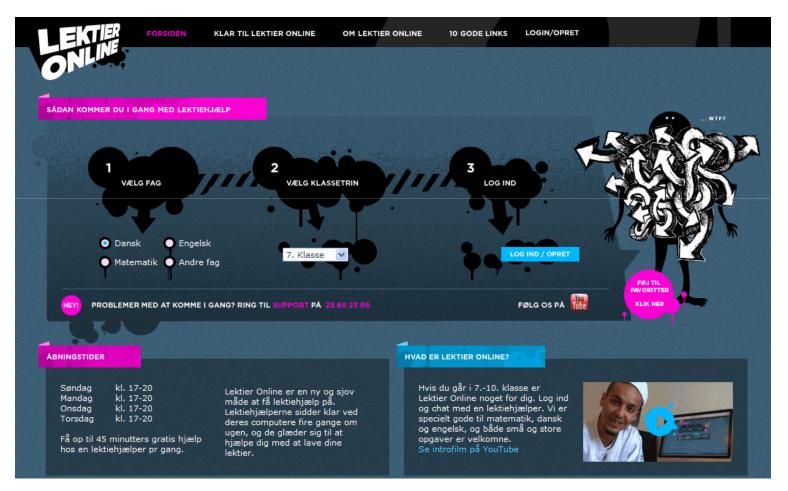


# LEKTIE CAFÉ

- PÅ DIT LOKALE BIBLIOTEK



# Homework-online hits boys that are not visiting the library



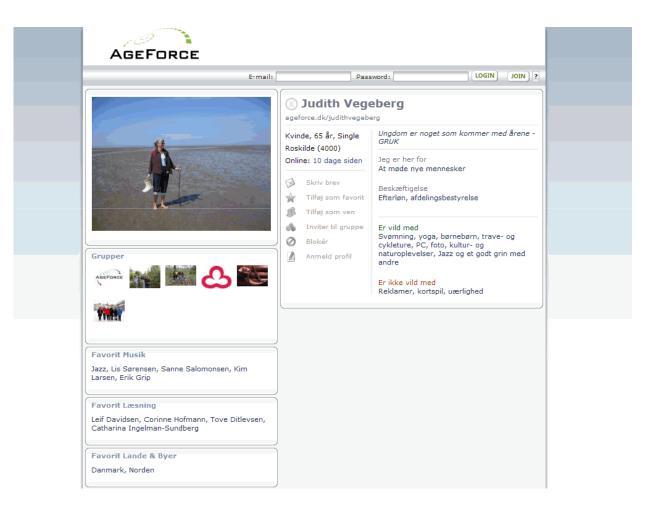


#### 'Borrow an expert'





#### **Empowerment of 50+**



# The library space remains - but virtual services are part of it as water taps in a household

