University Libraries
and Learning
Center

Tracing
a path for the
future

Activity
report
2024

Université
de Lille

Contents

Editorial

This year's activity report focuses on the University of Lille's *2030 Strategy* for the University Libraries and Learning Center. Presented to and adopted by the University's governing bodies in 2024, this strategy updates and replaces the one drawn up and approved in 2018.

Only six years separate the two strategies, which are marked by remarkable continuity in the missions of our libraries, but also by profound changes and even ruptures, linked to major societal changes to which library structures must adapt.

Continuity stems first and foremost from the pillars on which the university libraries are built: campus life, support for and participation in teaching, and support for research. Campus life and teaching have long been part of the mission of university libraries. The adaptation to the *'third place'* model of university libraries, theorised in 1989 by the American sociologist Ray Oldenburg in a book entitled The Great Good Place, took place in the years following this publication. As for initiating users in scientific and technical information, this approach dates back to the reform of the general university studies diploma (DEUG) in the mid-1990s, with more systematic reliance on the university library and the skills of librarians in training courses. Support for research is a more recent development, but is already firmly rooted in prevailing practices and has been run as a service since the mid-2010s, at the University of Lille as elsewhere. This continuity is also notable in terms of the hybrid nature of university libraries, a development that began in the 2000s and has been consolidated year after year since: university libraries are in fact both physical places (over 2 million entries per year, with users spending prolonged periods in the spaces available) and digital facilities that are highly popular with users (access to online content and digital platforms).

So why a new strategy? Because societal changes are profound, requiring quick and robust adaptation from libraries. Identified during the preparation of the new strategy, these changes represent real challenges for libraries specifically, and for the university institution as a whole.

The erratic development of horizontal communication and the alarming confusion between science and opinion make the need for reliable, verified, shared and understood information more relevant than ever, particularly for students, who must be able to adopt a reasoned and critical approach to the sources of information available to them. The development of critical thinking and the fight against misinformation are major facets of the new library strategy.

Student poverty is now reaching worrying levels and proportions. Libraries are in a privileged position to observe this precariousness, which the health crisis linked to COVID-19 has exacerbated. As the ideal place to welcome students, libraries will have a growing role to play in the coming years in the university's fight against student poverty.

Digital practices are constantly evolving. Portability and hyper-connectivity, the massive consumption of multimedia content, the widespread use of multitasking and the lack of digital skills and culture, even among the youngest generations, all call into question the institution and its libraries, and require an adaptation of both the skills of library professionals and the services offered to users.

The emergence of artificial intelligence is undeniably a major social phenomenon of the 2020s, but its medium-term consequences for library activities are not yet fully understood. AI is revolutionising user practices, especially among students, is evident in the services provided by providers of content and software, and is even challenging established professional practices such as cataloguing. Fully aware of this new paradigm, our libraries are taking on this challenge in *Strategy 2030*.

Lastly, the environmental transition is having a major impact on university libraries, given the amount of floor space they occupy and the prominence of digital technology in library activities. The adaptation of spaces — the new Humanities & Social Sciences library, Agora, will be a flagship building for the university's environmental transition plan —, the introduction of ecological criteria in calls for tenders and in projects, and support for the development of more virtuous practices among users will all be key elements of the libraries' actions as part of this transition in the years to come.

Happy reading.

Julien ROCHE,

Director
University libraries and Learning Center

Highlights of *2024*

LORD[1]

The *Lille Open Research Data* data management cluster is consolidating its position as a key resource for researchers, with the development of new services such as a single contact form. Thanks to the launch of ad hoc communication tools (newsletter, LinkedIn) and events (seminars, training courses), the network is consolidating and expanding, notably with the integration of a new regional player: Université Polytechnique Hauts-de-France.

A website[2] for Open Science

As well as providing concrete, practical information on how to disseminate research, the site also publicises the university's commitment to Open Science, including its roadmap and its financial and human support for the ecosystem

A new standing order system and optimisation of the e-book circuit

The order-tracking tool and the revised circuit are fully meeting their objectives. For purchasers, this simplifies the process and saves time on order management, particularly at the start of the academic year. For our users, documents are now available more quickly, as textbooks are received as soon as they are published.

Release of the Springer agreement (Springer.link platform)

In line with its policy in favour of Open Science, and faced with prices that were deemed too high, the University of Lille decided to unsubscribe at the beginning of 2024. This decision is in line with its roadmap and reinforces the commitment of library management to supporting a more virtuous ecosystem.

Operation "Clean Codes"

To address the problem of damage caused to books, the document policy department launched an awareness-raising campaign in the Law & Management library in the spring. This mediation operation, designed in close collaboration with front desk staff, was a success and will be repeated.

Xperium celebrates its 10th anniversary!

4 round tables with the concept's creators and institutional backers provided an opportunity to retrace its history and present its future prospects in the presence of researchers passionate about the societal impact of their work. It was a wonderful celebration for one of the pillars of the university's SAPS[3] strategy: 5 thematic seasons, 39 innovative research projects showcased, more than 22,000 visitors from all walks of life since its inception. Visitor numbers have risen by 36% over the last year.

Tsama Do Paço in the Law & Management library

The library exhibited one of the artist's works as part of the ARTU[4] programme run by the culture department, with the "Third Landscape" as its theme. This collaboration enabled the library to shed new light on its documentary contribution to the concepts of the law of nature and the ethics of living beings

Sylvie Retailleau launches the AMI SHS during a visit to LILLIAD

During a trip to Lille on 18 March 2024, the Minister for Higher Education & Research visited the Xperium and the LILLIAD library hub. During her visit, Sylvie Retailleau launched a call for expressions of interest in "humanities & social science research programmes", funded to the tune of €100m as part of France 2030.

ECOS[5]: support from the Healthcare library

For the ECOS, library management decided to make a selection of comic books, magazines and a few games available to students, who must sometimes wait around for hours before and after their exams. This collaboration between the Healthcare library and UFR3S was much appreciated by users and will be repeated.

A Passport for Research Data

The *Open Science Passport* collection, commissioned by the Ministry with oversight by the Lille university libraries, published its latest work in April: a reprint of the passport itself and the creation of a guide on research data.

The Pépite[6] platform is expanding

Since last autumn, access to the full text of doctoral theses in Lille has been open to the entire French academic community. The introduction of this system has had an immediate impact on document consultation, as shown by the increase in the statistics for Pépite consultations.

In other libraries in the network

STAPS[7] library behind a collection dedicated to university sport in "LillOnum".

This project is the fruit of collaboration between the STAPS library, the ANRT, the SCD and lecturer Joris Vincent. It illustrates the library's commitment to preserving and promoting our sporting heritage and led to the publication of an article in the *Bulletin des bibliothèques de France*[8].

BSA[9] exhibition: *Negotiating in the world of ancient Greece*

As part of its participation in the activities of the Faculty of Humanities and the Halma laboratory, in March 2024 the BSA hosted an exhibition produced to accompany a study day entitled *Negotiating in the world of ancient Greece: Greek cities in the age of negotiating.*

A Taiwanese children's author-illustrator in the spotlight, at the DEFI[10]/CLIL[11] library

In April 2024, the literary encounter organised with Mori — a Taiwanese student, author and illustrator of children's books who is learning French — was the fruit of a successful collaboration with the 1st year of the Masters in Children's literature and years 1 & 2 of the Masters in Teaching French as a foreign language.

Meeting with Patrick Mortal at the ICID Infocom library

On 24 October, a meeting was held with Patrick Mortal to mark the publication of his latest book, *L'époque de la solidarité, petit manuel d'histoire des politiques sociales.* The event was an opportunity for the students present to debate social policy issues with him.

The France Culture student novel award at the BHUMA[12]

Emmanuelle Lambert came to the Humanities library on 18 November to present her novel *Aucun respect* (Stock, 2024) as part of the *France Culture* student novel award. The meeting was chaired by Alexis Buffet, lecturer in the Department of Modern Literature.

"Komplett Kafka" exhibition at the EGNS[13] library

Organised in November 2024 to mark the centenary of the author's death, this exhibition offered visitors the chance to immerse themselves in the world of Franz Kafka through a selection of books and posters on loan from the Goethe Institute. A conference was also organised on the theme of "Franz Kafka's life and work revisited through comics".

Women in mathematics at B2RM[14]

An exhibition highlighting the role of women in mathematics was held at the B2RM from 15 November to 6 December. An article on the exhibition was published in the *Femmes et mathématiques* newsletter.

Meeting with Sophie Blitman, author of children's literature at the Jacques Hédoux library

In December, Sophie Blitman came to campus to share the ways in which gender issues are woven into her work as a children's author. The meeting was organised with the GRREG[15].

Getting to grips with sexuality education: workshops and meetings in INSPE[16] libraries

As part of Pollen, the fortnight of culture and research organised by INSPE, the theme of which was *Getting to grips with sexuality education,* the libraries organised a number of readings and workshops in partnership with the Pas-de-Calais family planning unit

Presentation of the *Manual of Metropolitan History* at the Michelet Library

As part of the Humanities Faculty seminar, Marc Gil, emeritus lecturer in art history, presented his latest book, *Manuel d'histoire métropolitaine,* at the Michelet library, an event moderated by Bertrand Cosnet, lecturer in art history

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[1] LORD: *Lille Open Research Data*

[2] https://scienceouverte.univ-lille.fr/

[3] SAPS: Science with and for Society

[4] ARTU: Artist encounter on university terrain

[5] ECOS: Objective structured clinical examinations

[6] https://pepite.univ-lille.fr/

[7] STAPS: Sciences and techniques of physical & sports activities

[8] https://bbf.enssib.fr/2024-2-sport-et-bibliotheques

[9] BSA: Library of Ancient Sciences

[10] DEFI: Department of international French teaching

[11] CLIL: University of Lille language centre

[12] BHUMA: Humanities Library

[13] EGNS: Germanic, Dutch and Scandinavian studies

[14] B2RM: Regional mathematics research library

[15] GRREG: Group for reflection and research on education and gender

[16] INSPÉ: National higher institute for teaching and education

Key figures
2024

1,864,000
entries for the year

Users[1] comprising

80,000 students
including 11,000 international
students

8,000 staff members, 50%
of whom are teaching & research
staff

An acquisition budget of
€3.9m of which
77% is dedicated to electronic
items

4 facilities:

LILLIAD
9 700 m²
1 024 seated
capacity
-
**Temporary
Humanities &
Social Science
library**
1 000 m²
200 seated
capacity

**Law &
Management
library**
5 300 m²
937 seated
capacity
-
**Healthcare
library**
3 700 m²
707 seated
capacity

Staff of
206

[1] This data accounts for the
experimental public establishment (EPE) University of Lille

Award-winning projects in
2024

OSYR[1]: Open Science for young researchers

Supported jointly by university libraries and research laboratories, the OSYR project aims to analyse Open Science awareness and training schemes, their take-up by young researchers and the effects of these schemes on the practice of Open Science.

Duration: 2025-2027
Funding: ANR[2], AAP RESO[3]

Co-sponsorship for the CollEx-Persée digitisation programme

Alongside the Persée research support unit, the University of Lille has been chosen to lead the national digitisation programme within the GIS CollEx-Persée. It will be particularly involved in the concerted digitisation of academic literature and ensuring programme participation by research communities.

Duration: 2025-2031
Funding: CollEx-Persée

Ioké2: a suggestion engine tailored to user needs

Thanks to the support of the MEL[4], the platform for exam topics and teaching resources will be enhanced with a personalised recommendation engine, based on user profiles. It will offer students a selection of resources tailored to their discipline and level.

Duration: 2024-2025
Funding: MEL

Digitisation programme on the academic and technical collections of the region's libraries

The MEL is funding an operation for the university to digitise collections from the Lille and Roubaix public libraries. The digitised documents will be developed jointly, with these libraries making them available online, a virtual exhibition on LillOnum, a presentation on the MEL website and a conference.

Duration: 2025
Funding: MEL

A book to promote Agora

In partnership with the University of Lille foundation, a book entitled Agora, due to be published at the end of 2026, will highlight the major choices made for the future Humanities & Social Science library, present the virtuous approach in terms of environmental performance and enhance the university's reputation as a place of experimentation and innovation.

Duration: 2024-2027
Funding: University of Lille Foundation

Recherche Data Gouv

The University of Lille is continuing its participation in *Recherche Data Gouv*, the national ecosystem for the sharing and opening up of research data. In particular, it is actively involved in the governance and various working groups, as well as opening its digital single contact form at the *Lille Open Research Data* data management cluster.

Duration: 2025-2026
Funding: MESR[5]

[1] OSYR: *Open Science for Young Researchers*
[2] ANR: National research agency
[3] RESO: Research on Open Science practices and issues
[4] MEL: Lille European Metropolis
[5] MESR: Ministry of Higher Education & Research

A close look at our *2030 Strategy*

How will the University of Lille libraries and Learning Center change between now and 2030? The strategic roadmap of the University of Lille Libraries Department (SCD) emphasises collaboration, innovation and adaptation to the major challenges of tomorrow: the ecological transition, digital technology, artificial intelligence and the fight against misinformation.

Analysis and perspective

The University of Lille's libraries and Learning Center have undergone major changes in recent years, as illustrated by the opening or reopening of key document facilities and the modernisation of the services on offer.

A collaborative, forward-looking methodology

The methodology used to develop the 2030 strategy is based on a participative and forward-looking process, rolled out in several stages, from identifying the institution's values and mission to building the final version of the strategy.

The process began within the 2022 steering committee, which identified core values: consistency, trust, collective intelligence and quality service. These values set the ethical and methodological framework for the process. **Our user-oriented *raison d'être* is the common objective of all library staff: to bring together expertise, spaces and people to share knowledge, encourage encounters and train enlightened citizens in a world in transition.**

In February 2023, a prospection phase was launched to explore four scenarios for the future up to 2030. These scenarios were used to identify the levers of opportunity and define the challenges and range of possible transformations, taking into account the uncertainties associated with digital and spatial developments.

Based on an analysis of these scenarios, eight issues were identified as priorities for the future: libraries as places, the role of digital technology, libraries and society, libraries supporting research, libraries supporting initial and continuing education, the information & knowledge society, the living and working environment, and libraries as a university service.

Each issue was associated with questions to be addressed and a desirable vision of the SCD by 2030 in order to clarify the scope during the next phase. In April 2023, all staff were invited on this basis to express their interest in one of the themes and take part in a series of 5 workshops. This call for participation involved more than 60 employees over a 6-month period. The final workshop was devoted to summarising the discussions and drafting concrete recommendations, identifying the obstacles, strengths and gaps to be filled. On 17 October 2023, a feedback day was held to present the results of the working groups to all participants. This was an opportunity to gather feedback and adjust the proposals to ensure that they met the challenges identified.

The recommendations were translated by the steering committee into strategic priorities for the remainder of 2023 and broken down into three categories: continuity, change and transformation. This categorisation made it possible to organise the priorities in a structured way for long-term action.

At the beginning of 2024, the first version of the 2030 strategy was drafted. The priorities and actions were presented to the working groups in March 2024, during another day of joint work, to make the final adjustments before the phase of political consultation and consultation outside the SCD (associated libraries and their components, public reading libraries). In June 2024, the issues, priorities and levers were presented to the Documentary Council to prompt questions and debate, and to mandate management to continue the drafting work. The SCD plenary session at the end of June was devoted to presenting the strategy. Management finalised the drafting of the text, which was adopted by the Documentary Council in October 2024, presented to the University Management Committee and then to the Board of Governors in December 2024.

The methodology used to draw up the 2030 strategy has made it possible to develop a shared strategic vision, thanks to the active involvement of all those concerned.

A strategy in line with the University of Lille's strategic priorities for 2026-2030

The University of Lille has embarked on a significant transformation since the merger of its three universities in 2018. This process was strengthened by the creation of a major institution in 2022, the confirmation of its Initiative of Excellence in March 2022 and the award of major projects as part of France 2030. This development has been accompanied by the restructuring of its governance and an overhaul of its internal processes to allow greater autonomy for its departments, while maintaining a coherent overall strategy.

The first strategic axis developed by the university is to demonstrate its exemplary role in its own transition, by implementing an active social policy to boost a collective dynamic, acting to ensure solidarity and emancipation for all the students it educates, and finally, by overseeing the ecological transformation of its own practices.

The second is devoted to developing a multi-disciplinary, innovative and sustainable educational offering that is relevant to the challenges facing the region. The third is to promote excellent interdisciplinary research with a high social value and an international outlook. The final axis aims to optimise the organisation and management of the institution, in order to conclude the experimental phase. Lastly, the University of Lille's strategy is based on a vision built around four pillars: cultivating critical thinking, encouraging openness, developing interdisciplinarity and promoting social excellence.

2030 roadmap: strategy of the University Libraries and Learning Center

A changing environment marked by major societal challenges.

Stemming the loss of confidence in science

Given the confusion between science and opinion, it is crucial to provide reliable, verified information.

Combating student poverty

The public health crisis exacerbated this phenomenon. The university actively supports success and social excellence.

Changing digital practices

Hyper-connectivity and new uses are transforming the services expected of libraries.

Development of artificial intelligence

AI is changing the way students and researchers produce and use information.

Environmental transition

The university puts transitions at the heart of its activities and seeks to reduce its environmental impact.

A user-centred approach

Libraries will be stepping up their continuous improvement approach to better meet user expectations.

Staff training

Ongoing training for our staff is essential if we are to keep pace with changes in technology and in our professions.

Further improvements in working conditions

By fostering a collaborative environment, libraries will help to improve working conditions.

Adapting internal organisation

Our internal organisational approach will be revised to take account of the new strategic challenges, while optimising the management of key priorities.

The multi-year strategy for our libraries and Learning Center is based on five key areas.

1. Designing spaces at the crossroads of social, digital and ecological issues

Our aim is to offer attractive, scalable physical spaces, in conjunction with digital spaces, while accounting for ecological concerns. This includes reviewing facilities, thinking about site policy and partnerships with public libraries. These locations should become student life spaces, strengthening their social role for students.

2. Developing collections adapted to new user habits

The libraries will continue to adapt their collections to the needs of the university community and the Open Science policy. Changes in borrowing practices and our environmental impact will guide the management of physical and digital collections.

3. Providing students and users with a solid foundation and the keys to analyse a rapidly changing information world

Libraries play a key role in combating misinformation and developing students' critical faculties. This involves integrating information skills into curricula and providing greater support for student training.

4. Supporting cultural and scientific openness

The University Libraries and Learning Center will offer a wide range of scientific outreach events and a cultural project in line with the university's cultural policy and will contribute to the transition from secondary to higher education.

5. Supporting the development of research

Libraries will support researchers in data management, the use of AI technologies and responsible research practices. They will also have to adapt to technological developments and new public policies on research evaluation.

The 2025-2030 strategy for the University Libraries and Learning Center is based on a collaborative and inclusive approach. It aims to reinforce their role in academic success, scientific excellence and cultural openness, while meeting the challenges of AI, the environmental transition and new information practices. Staff commitment and agile management of priorities will be crucial to the implementation of this ambitious strategy.

Agora: a new name
and identity for the
future Humanities & Social Science library

The library's new identity — the result of a process that involved the entire university community — was unveiled on 7 November at a groundbreaking ceremony attended by all of the project's driving forces and partners.

Worksite progress

Throughout 2024, work progressed at a steady pace.

The clean-up and asbestos removal was completed as planned in the spring along with several other phases:

- Structural work, with the construction of the extension areas, stairwells and lift shafts
- Drilling the openings in the facade and fitting the external joinery at the end of the year
- Partial demolition of the ground floor slab and creation of terraces leading to level -1

At the groundbreaking ceremony, participants were able to see the progress being made on the site and get a feel for the future spaces of Agora.

Building a strong, engaging identity

Echoing the building's architectural transformation, the definition of the future facility's identity was the subject of wide-ranging consultation with the university community involving individual interviews and workshops. The high point of this participatory process was the online consultation on the choice of name, which attracted more than 6,000 voters. The university was supported throughout the process by the Lille-based communications agency *Les Enchanteurs*, which was also responsible for designing the logo and its graphic design.

The main aim of such an approach is to build a strong identity around this new facility, thus firmly establishing its visibility and attractiveness not only on campus, but also throughout the metropolitan area. The example of LILLIAD is instructive in this respect.

At the end of the year, the installation of new site signs in the Agora colours gave concrete expression to this new identity in the eyes of users of the Pont-de-Bois campus, complemented by the broadcasting of a launch video on the dedicated project website.

AGORA
BU Sciences Humaines et Sociales

Find out more about the project: https://future-bushs.univ-lille.fr/

Left page
right-hand image: Carta - Reichen et Robert Associés Architectes - France Town planners / Kaupunki perspective
left-hand photo: site visit - November 2024

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Bringing you a network of world-class facilities and services

"Comfort" and "well-being" for our students were the watchwords of 2024, notably with our "nap cocoons" initiative, hailed by the press. Targeted improvement projects continued and the logistics of our front desk services were partly redesigned.

A look back *at last year*

As our front desk staff can see first-hand, as well as being a place of work and study, libraries can also be a place for students to relax, or even rest. Especially as they sometimes have to cope with a stressful and trying day-to-day life.

So it was only natural for the University libraries and Learning Center to join forces with the LIBEL'UL[1] project run by the University of Lille, which led to the installation of "cocoons" for napping. At the Law & Management library, the art of the siesta has been taken to new levels with naps accompanied by sound now an option for students in partnership with *La Mécanique des Sons*, which creates soundscapes made up of ambient noises 'gathered' in the wild.

Adapting and expanding the offering

On a more prosaic note, the University libraries and Learning Center have also been working to improve offer of non-book items. Following in the footsteps of the Healthcare and Law & Management libraries, the temporary facility on the Pont-de-Bois campus has launched a laptop loan service, while a public survey conducted at the Law & Management library confirmed student interest in this service and identified new needs: audiovisual equipment and textile panels that can be used as booths for students who need to visually cut themselves off.

In terms of team organisation, the emphasis has been on internal communication tools. The logistics teams have launched a "ticketing" tool to make it easier to monitor and deal with any problems reported. In the same vein, the Healthcare library, which employs large numbers of students to remain open in the evenings and at weekends, has set up a dedicated tool to strengthen links with day staff.

Also at the Healthcare library, the work on redesigning the signage in public areas, which was initiated internally the previous year, culminated at the start of the new academic year with the introduction of a new general map of the different spaces, which complements the subject-by-subject colour code introduced last year. These improvements were devised in conjunction with the Documentary policy department and are designed to make it easier to find what's on offer.

Food services: feedback from LILLIAD

At LILLIAD, issues relating to the catering offer on the Cité Scientifique campus once again required hands-on involvement of staff teams. To compensate for the closure of the Pariselle university restaurant for works, the CROUS came up with a temporary takeaway service in the immediate vicinity of the Learning Center. Unsurprisingly, students tended to come and eat their meals in the social spaces made available, creating a situation that was detrimental to the comfort of other users: an upsurge in rubbish, damage to floors and furniture, and excessive noise at mealtimes. An action plan was implemented that gradually remedied the situation: communication campaign, microphone announcements and consultation with the departmental deans on campus to extend the lunch break. The reopening of *L'(S)pace Pariselle* at the end of 2024 may prove helpful in improving the situation.

In the run-up to the opening of Agora, which will house a cafeteria, the experience acquired by LILLIAD is invaluable. Staff on the Pont-de-Bois campus mobilised through the various working groups that have been set up are drawing on feedback from all teams on site to reflect carefully on the future range of services. This pooling of experience and professional backgrounds is extremely valuable and helps to strengthen the network dynamic.

[1] LIBEL'UL : an inclusive licence for students at the University of Lille

The art of
library napping

One of the aims of the LIBEL'UL project for undergraduates is to help improve the facilities available to students by equipping the University libraries and Learning Center with nap cocoons on an experimental basis.

The University of Lille won the 3rd wave of the MESR[1] "Excellence in all its forms" call for projects. Entitled "Inclusive licence for all students at the University of Lille" (or LIBEL'UL for the French acronym), the university's €12.6m project focuses on the first cycle. Nearly 34,000 students are enrolled in the university's undergraduate courses. The project is organised into 4 areas, the first of which focuses on supporting the individual undergraduate experience, in particular through initiatives aimed at improving stress and emotional management.

This is how the idea of setting up nap cocoons in libraries came about. This is not a new idea, as many university libraries in France and abroad have been offering this type of service to their students for several years now. In the Lille area, for example, such a facility is offered at the Sciences Po library and, in our own network, at the Healthcare library.

" The project will be a success if it helps students attend classes more effectively and complete their year."

Esther DEHOUX, Undergraduate Vice President, LIBEL'UL project leader

The two nap pods installed at LILLIAD at the start of the new academic year were a big hit with the university community and the media: *20 minutes, France bleu, France 3 Régions, BFMTV, Ouest France* and *Les univers du livre* all came to admire these ultra-contemporary cocoons. The Law & Management library opted for a more traditional design, but one that was just as popular with students.

With the exception of the temporary Humanities & Social Science library, whose modest surface area means that it cannot accommodate cocoons for naps, and in anticipation of Agora, which will include several areas dedicated to relaxation and rest, all the network's facilities now offer students the chance to enjoy a well-deserved break**.**

Opening times:
"open better"

Reinventing the opening hours at the University libraries and Learning Center to better meet user needs: how best to adapt services while optimising resources and guaranteeing access to library items?

Throughout the 2023-2024 academic year, the managers of the University libraries and Learning Center worked hard to adapt opening hours to the real needs of users, while optimising the resources available. This reflects the objective of maintaining continuity of service and facilitating access to workspaces and library items. The aim was to avoid simultaneous closures of all the libraries: each site remains open at all times, with the exception of the 10-day period between Christmas and New Year and the two and a half weeks during the summer.

Opening hours tailored to users' needs

To do this, a detailed analysis of visitor numbers, both over the year and during specific periods such as examinations, has enabled us to draw some key conclusions. It emerged that attendance is highest at the beginning of the year and varies from site to site. The study led to the introduction of adjusted opening hours that take these variations into account, such as LILLIAD closing late at 10pm during revision periods, or opening on Saturdays from 9am to 5pm, targeting busy periods at LILLIAD and in the Law & Management library.

Decisions were taken collaboratively, involving site managers, planning teams and staff representatives. The proposed scenarios were carefully refined to meet the needs of users, while taking into account human and logistical constraints. After constructive discussions with all stakeholders, a consensus was reached. The final proposal was validated by the steering committee and submitted to the Documentary board for deliberation.

A review of these new opening arrangements will be carried out in the spring of 2025 so that, if necessary, the opening schedules for the next academic year can be modified.

2 Facilitating *academic* success

2024 was a pivotal year for library training staff, with ongoing efforts to foster academic success among students, while at the same time taking new initiatives to provide the best possible support for changes in teaching methods.

A look back *last year*

Upgrading tools to better meet student needs

The year 2024 saw the completion of the Ioké2 project, with the overhaul and improvement of the platform dedicated to exam papers and teaching resources. A new interface, based on Omeka-S software, was made available to users. To ensure optimum adaptation to student needs, a UX/UI[1] audit was carried out by an external service provider, including usability tests. This analysis led to graphic and software fixes, enhancing the platform's ergonomics and accessibility. In addition, following the reform of healthcare studies, the ACTE[2] module has been completely redesigned and updated. It now offers a specific course for hospital pharmacy interns, with help writing their dissertation. This new module went online in December 2024.

Extending existing schemes

The start of the 2024-2025 academic year provided an opportunity to continue developing the interactive visits of the temporary Humanities & Social Science library. After an initial year of experimentation and based on feedback from users, some of the mechanisms have been adjusted and communication around the system has been strengthened. Nearly 500 students explored the library using this innovative approach. To build on this success, an adapted version was created for the Law & Management library, where it is now offered to 1st-year law students as part of their orientation process.

Another new feature in 2024: for its 7th edition, the Xperium Challenge at LILLIAD opened its doors not only to students from general secondary schools but also, for the first time, to students from vocational secondary schools, who took part in an brainstorming event around the theme "Let's talk sport!" Finally, as far as professionals are concerned, the User training department's newsletter continued to expand. In 2024, it added a special section devoted to Open Education issues, confirming the teams' commitment to this dynamic.

Exchanging, sharing and developing skills

Across the University libraries and Learning Center, 2024 marked the return of the RedCat[3] workshops, meetings dedicated to all library training staff. The first workshop was held at the end of the year on the use of quizzes in training, paving the way for other sessions to be held over the rest of the academic year.

Discussions also continued with training players from the Lille area and the Hauts-de-France region. The highlights included:

• An exchange of best practices with the Université Polytechnique Hauts-de-France on university library visits.

• A visit to the teaching facilities at the Catholic University of Lille in July, providing an opportunity for enriching discussions with the school's teaching engineers.

Finally, the library training staff from the University of Lille continued to showcase their expertise on a national scale. Seven trainers attended the 2024 JNF[4] in Reims, where they led three workshops on the theme of "Their needs, our training".

[1] UX-UI: *User Experience / User Interface*
[2] ACTE: Support for completing a practical thesis
[3] RedCat: Feedback and discussions: advice, learning and transfer
[4] JNF: National event for library training staff

Left page, right-hand photo: Challenge Xperium - December 2024

A Learning Lab for Agora

Throughout the 2023-2024 academic year, staff teams from the University libraries, Learning Center and DAPI[1] worked on the early plans for the future *Learning Lab* spaces at Agora. At the heart of the project are two key objectives: unite teaching practices around a space designed for HSS[2] and involve future users at every stage of the process.

From the outset, it became clear that the priority was to ensure that the *Learning Lab* was consistent with the University of Lille's teaching policy, as well as with the Agora project and the identity of the Pont-de-Bois campus. The choice was therefore made to focus on the concept of 'object-based learning', a teaching practice that is particularly relevant in the field of social and human sciences and fits seamlessly into a university environment where library collections offer an almost inexhaustible source of usable materials. After validating the concept, the SCD and DAPI teams worked on formalising the functional aspects of the *Learning Lab*.

A user-centred approach

To draw up this programme, the working group decided to work closely with future users (teaching staff, librarians, educational engineers, etc.) through a co-design process. Using a design thinking approach, a collaborative work schedule was set up around four key stages:

• **Discover :** assessing needs and expectations through 16 semi-structured interviews with members of the faculties concerned.

• **Define:** data analysis, creation of 6 persona types representative of future users and identification of tangible problems to address.

• **Develop:** generating ideas and solutions through 2 collaborative workshops using creativity techniques to explore key issues.

• **Deliver:** prototyping of the solutions selected during 2 targeted workshops, resulting in the production of 4 functional mock-ups.

All of these exchanges fed into and refined the project, culminating in an operational programme which was handed over to the architectural consortium in the summer of 2024.

A service project yet to be developed

Now that the functional aspects have been determined, efforts to design the layout plans for the Agora *Learning Lab* and integrate it into the construction schedule for the future building are now underway. Building on the success of this first stage, the working group has decided to continue involving users in the design of the service project. The work will take place throughout 2025 and should continue until Agora opens in 2026.

The Agora Learning Lab zone will offer modular and reconfigurable spaces focusing on "object-based learning", specifically documentary objects, with the aim of promoting the acquisition of skills in the humanities and social sciences.

Fancy a cup of OER?

University libraries across France are committed to Open Education, and the Libraries and Learning Center at the University of Lille are no exception. In December 2024, the user training department organised two events to enable library training staff to discuss this subject and share their teaching resources. Here's a look back at OER Tea Time!

These events are part of a wider initiative by the user training department staff teams, keen to affirm their collective and concrete commitment to Open Education, and more specifically to OER[1]. Their aim is to play a facilitating role by uploading resources produced as part of information literacy training to the Zenodo open archive.

This approach is based on three types of action:

• **Active communication,** with in-house training on Open Education and OER, as well as a biannual newsletter on the subject.

• **The development of clear procedures** to guide and structure the process.

• **The creation of a team of advisers,** responsible for assisting both committed and more hesitant colleagues in the transition to the use of OER and their contribution to the movement.

Two "Upload Party" events were held to bring this initiative to a close, lending it visibility not only at the University libraries and Learning Center, but also at a national level. During these two OER Tea Times, organised in December 2024, 21 librarians came to find out about OER, receive advice and, above all, share their resources on Zenodo's "ADBU Information Literacy Skills" community.
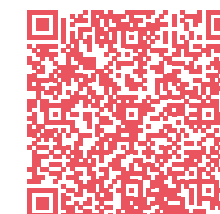
Finally, all the documents produced by the working group that organised these events have also been uploaded to Zenodo, so that schools wishing to reproduce this initiative can draw inspiration from them or re-use them.

Je suis plein de ressources !

Je dépose mes **RESSOURCES ÉDUCATIVES LIBRES** sur Zenodo

Le Département Formation des publics m'accompagne, étape par étape.

Université de Lille

A total of 30 teaching resources were shared by library training staff from the University of Lille during the OER Tea Time.

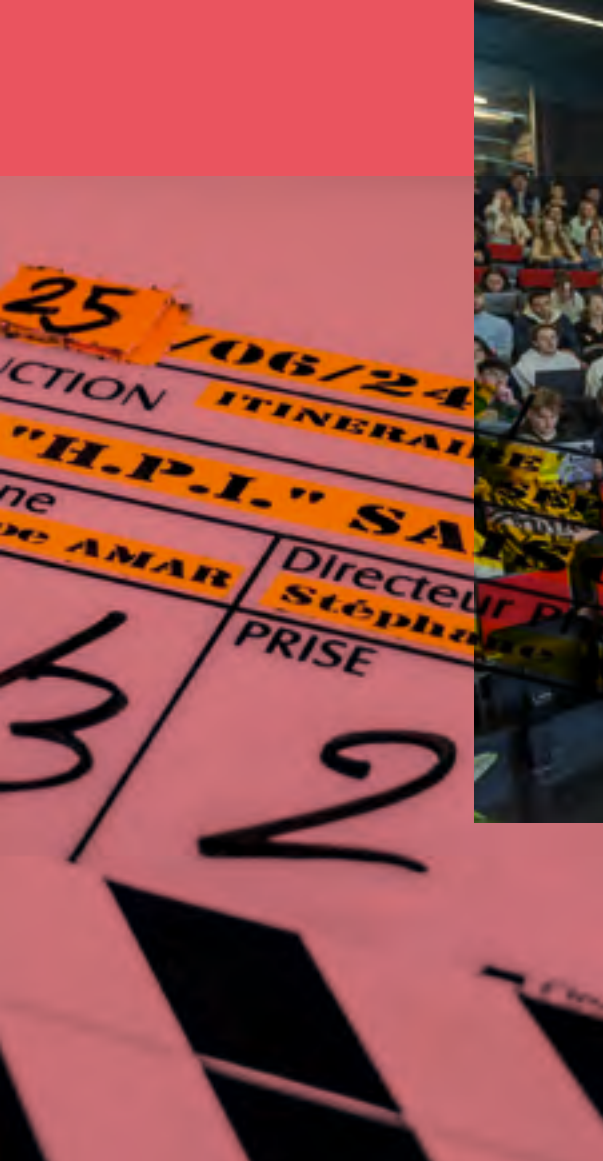**Scan this QR code for more info.**

Knowledge *sharing*

3

By supporting original approaches to training and knowledge mediation, the University libraries and Learning Center want to help prepare for the challenges of today and tomorrow and give voice to certain sensibilities in a more collaborative dimension for experiences rich in meaning: 21,000 participants were present for more than 230 events co-programmed or hosted.

A look back *at last year*

A cultural programme rooted in teaching, where the vision of those working in the field on major social issues is also given its rightful place.

The Law & Management library has considerably developed the scope of partnerships for its events, as demonstrated by the *Restorative Justice* screening & debate (a forum for dialogue between prisoners and victims) jointly organised with the criminal justice department of the student association *Clinique Juridique de Lille* with a focus on Jeanne Herry's film *"Je verrai toujours vos visages"*, which won several Oscars. Nearly a hundred students from the criminal law and criminal sciences masters course, led by the joint director of the Institute of Criminology, were in attendance to hear the analyses and testimonies of well-known professionals and volunteers. This type of initiative helps to bring bibliographic tools to life.

Moments and spaces of inspiration for student artistic creation

What better way to inspire students engaged in language studies than with live performances and personal accounts? As part of the Humanities & Social Science library's off-site *L'instant C* events, over 200 students were able to let their imaginations run wild as they listened to poet and playwright Bob Beagrie's 'neo-medievalist' tales combining history, myth and folklore, and German novelist Paula Fürstenberg's account of her personal and historical experiences on the 35th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

To mark the 10th anniversary of the city's *Nuits des bibliothèques* initiative, the Law & Management library opened its doors to a 'cabinet of curiosities', original works created by students from the Art and Law course on the themes of the body, the restitution of works of art and censorship.

Adaptability and versatility at the LILLIAD events centre

As well as hosting events that make it a key venue in university life (conferences, study days, graduation ceremonies, forums, etc.), the centre has diversified and showcased its adaptability and versatility.

Echoing current events

The events department hosts occasions that are as topical as possible, in collaboration with the university's various departments, as demonstrated by the "And tomorrow's Games? Involving, celebrating, inheriting", organised to mark the Olympic and Paralympic Games in France. It was an opportunity to understand the roles of our institutions and to decipher the efforts deployed to get the French people on board in celebration of the Olympic dynamic. A few months later, sport was once again centre stage, with a seminar for elite student athletes from higher education.

2024 was also the year of physics, celebrated at LILLIAD with the exceptional attendance of Anne L'Huillier, winner of the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physics. Invited by the Atoms and Molecules Laser Physics Laboratory and the physics department, part of the university's Faculty of Science and Technology, she shared her expertise at a conference, then took part in a round table discussion devoted to "the place of women in science".

A change of scenery

The centre's modular spaces mean that it can be used outside the university setting to host extraordinary events. One evening, the events centre was transformed into a rehearsal hall for the University of Lille chamber orchestra: 45 musicians and 5 singers had to fit onto the stage in lecture theatre A — no mean feat!

Finally, how could we fail to mention the filming of the final episode in season 4 of the television series HPI? It was produced in cooperation with the University libraries and Learning Center logistics and communications teams over a period of several weeks, with the rooms transformed into ophthalmology surgeries for the purposes of the episode.

Adaptation and optimisation

Communication tools have been updated and our business model will be revised in 2025, with the aim of better adapting to industry trends and sustainability requirements. Over the past year, the teams have supported the development of a number of user-centred event formats to create ever more collaborative and participatory experiences. Hybrid events (designed for both on-site and live remote audiences), which have enjoyed strong momentum for several years, still account for a significant proportion of the centre's activity.

173 events
hosted in 2024 (including 57 hybrid events)

Photo: Rehearsal of the Lille university orchestra - March 2024

Scène Libre : breaking down barriers between creative literary methods

Breaking down barriers, hegemony and the limitations on creativity, expression and dissemination: this is the guiding principle behind *Scène Libre*, a project with inspiring messages for young artists

Once again this year, organising off-site events proved a highly creative affair for the Humanities & Social Science library as its transformation continues: *Scène Libre*, a collection of four literary programmes recorded live, is the result of a long-term collaboration between the facility's cultural events staff, the artistic director of Onde Théâtrale[1], an association that emerged from Lille's student community, and the coordinator for contemporary writing at the Lille Rectorate, herself a poet and playwright.

A living experience of the senses

How do you write to be represented? With storytelling, physical or digital performance, whispered or declaimed slam readings, hybrid texts for the stage ...? How does the multi-trade experience permeate the act of creating a text "to be seen, heard and touched", when their creators are often also directly involved in the actual design of the cultural product itself, whether printed and/or digital?

Seven novelists, poets, playwrights and storytellers, some of them also publishers, translators and teachers, many of them published in the Hauts-de-France region, took part in a series of questions — at times intimate, at times technical — on the themes of *Storytelling and Publishing, Women and Territories, Bodies in Search of Identities*, and *Crucial Life Choices.*

This event also showcased the richness of the sustainable, demanding and inclusive cultural ecosystem of the regional book chain[2], with the highest-quality scenography thanks to the University's audiovisual team.

The 3,000 or so readers counted so far on the third programme's Instagram reel have made no mistake ... and there's more to come, as all the programmes are of course available on the *Knowledge-Sharing* page of the Humanities & Social Science library website[3].

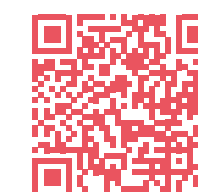**Learn more about the 4 *Scène Libre* programmes by scanning this QR code.**

Photo: Filming of the second *Scène Libre* programme

[1] https://www.ondetheatrale.fr/le-dispositif/
[2] Éditions Bel et bien, Les Venterniers, La Contre-allée.
[3] https://bushs.univ-lille.fr/partager-les-savoirs/scene-libre

4 Enriching *our offer of* library resources

Although user practices are changing, collections remain a central element of library spaces: they determine flows, contribute to zoning and noise management, and ensure the visibility and consistency of the content on offer. The collections are regularly redesigned with both accessibility and conservation requirements in mind.

A look back *last year*

Library shelves have always been arranged based on content and subject matter. However, our University libraries and Learning Center also take into account the habits of specific users, through either their reading or their appropriation of the spaces available.

Open access collections: an essential element

The distribution of the collections in the future Agora facility and how they are organised have been completely rethought, resulting in the creation of five new thematic areas. In practical terms, this new classification plan has already led to more than 26,000 documents being equipped with call numbers and other features, and work has intensified on preparing for future open access.

At the Healthcare library, restructuring has taken place to create a paramedical unit to reflect the growth of studies and the increasing importance of research in this area. This new organisational approach and the centralisation of periodicals in the reception area have resulted in better use of the collections and an improved user experience.

At LILLIAD, the available space has been rebalanced to take account of areas that have developed strongly since it opened, such as IT.

This work is set to continue in conjunction with the redeployment of training courses, as with the SEFA[1] department's move to the Pont-de-Bois campus

Making digital collections tangible

A large digital offering accessible remotely requires appropriate communication to make tangible the content that is physically absent from our spaces. This means posters, bookmarks, kakemonos and the use of dynamic screens, as well as the introduction of systems such as the series of cubes in 2024, in addition to the QR codes put in place in the Law & Management library, which is due to be rolled out across the board.

Explorez votre BU au-delà des étagères

E-books
Revues
Vidéos
Bases de données

Université de Lille

Conservation of collections in closed stacks

In 2024, following media coverage of the results of a research project by the University of Delaware in the US, staff focused on certain works published in the 19th century and stored in the warehouses of the University libraries and Learning Center. At that time, printers sometimes used an emerald green pigment to dye book covers. However, this pigment, also known as "Paris green", was peculiar in that it contained arsenic. Although this substance is known to be harmful, no case of intoxication has ever been recorded in a library. Nevertheless, following the example of heritage libraries in France and abroad, the decision was taken to implement a protocol for handling these books, with 200 titles so far identified (packaged in conservation bags, handled with gloves and only available for consultation on site).

In addition to the quality of the inks, the nature of the paper is monitored to identify any natural deterioration. For example, it was found that the paper used to print certain doctoral theses in law defended in Lille between 1939 and 1976 was of insufficient quality to preserve the ink, and the text therefore became illegible over time. To remedy this, the digitisation of 268 theses was undertaken with the ANRT[2] located on the Pont-de-Bois campus. These digitised theses will be available for consultation on a computer workstation in the Law & Management library. In the longer term, the Pépite platform will provide access to these texts subject to the agreement of the rights holders.

[1] SEFA: Education and training sciences
[2] ANRT: Digitisation and thesis reproduction workshop

Transition week: the libraries and Learning Center get involved!

Since 2018, the University of Lille has carefully developed an overarching approach to different forms of transitions (teaching, research, buildings, mobility, etc.).
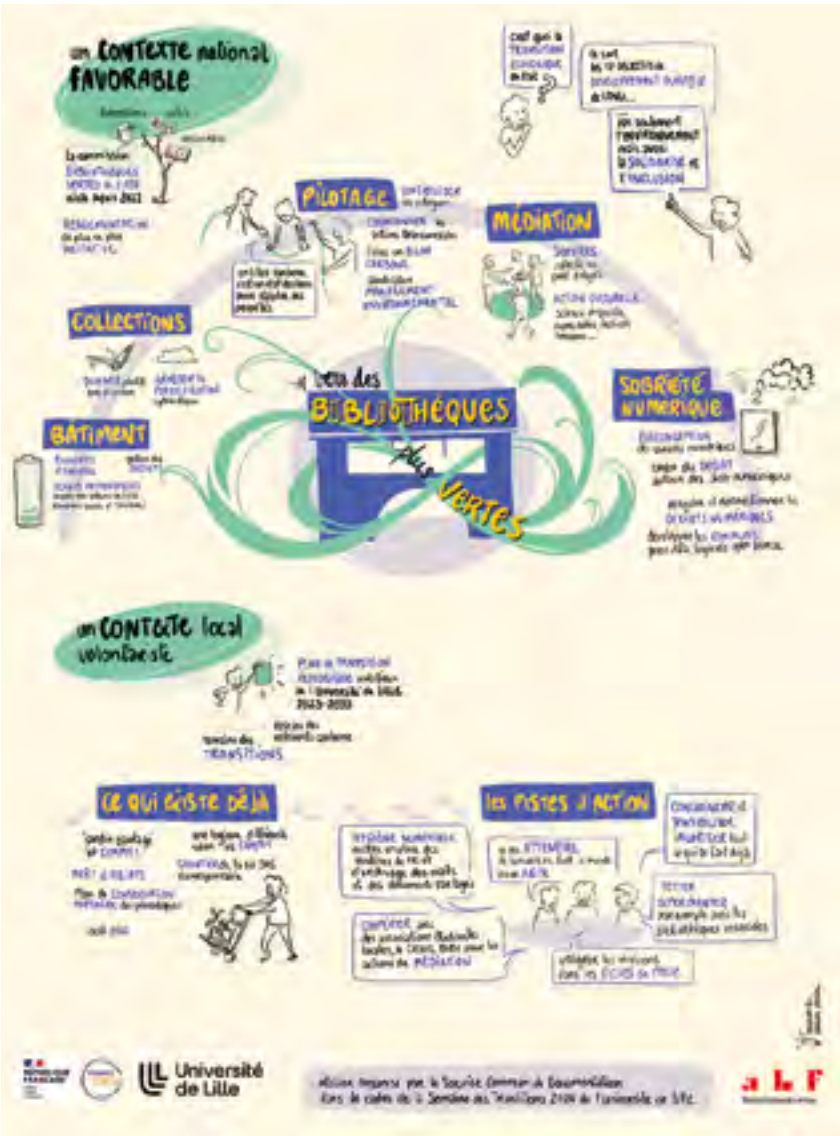
An Environmental Transition Plan, approved in 2023, involves all personnel. A staff network responsible for carbon and transition has been put in place in a number of units and departments, including the University Libraries and Learning Center. Our paper and electronic collections offer an area for reflection that is in line with the institution's objectives.

From 14 to 28 March 2024 , the university launched an operation called "Transition week", with around a hundred initiatives put forward by the university community. The libraries and Learning Center got involved by presenting two initiatives:

- Four "Livres à vous" stands. On each campus, books that had been removed as part of the operation called "weeding", were offered to students free of charge. To make this possible, the libraries and Learning Center collaborated with the Galillé student federation, with which an agreement was signed in 2023. The stands were a way to ensure the books would get a second life. This was an opportunity for staff in charge of zero-carbon targets to highlight actions linked to transitions (book donations, recycling, exhibitions, etc.), while librarians were on hand to explain to the students the principles behind weeding operations.

2,600 books
found new owners at the "Livres à vous" events

- Workshop, Thursday 21 March. Two speakers from the "Green Libraries"[1] committee at the ABF[2] came to the workshop to talk with professionals from the University Libraries and Learning Center. This workshop was an invaluable opportunity to find out what is being done in libraries, discuss and play a part in the environmental transition. Isabelle Bontemps, deputy director of the Lyon 1 university libraries, presented some ideas and levers relating to library collections and buildings. Jean-Marie Feurtet, from the *Agence Bibliographique de l'Enseignement Supérieur*, took the floor to talk about mediation and digital sustainability. Solenn Bihan, graphic facilitator, produced a sketch note illustrating the day's rich discussions.

[1] https://www.abf.asso.fr/4/210/981/ABF/bibliotheques-vertes

[2] ABF : *Association des Bibliothécaires de France* (French association of librarians)

The CoESciTer project

The aim of the project, funded by the GIS CollEx-Persée from September 2023 to September 2024, was to digitise sources on the history of university teaching of Earth sciences in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

CoESciTer[1] was a project run by the University Libraries and Learning Center, the François Viète Centre and the Evo-Eco-Paleo lab, in partnership with several specialist learned societies, including the SGN[2], with which the libraries and Learning Center have maintained close links since the donation of its library collection held at LILLIAD. The corpus focused on a series of handwritten lectures held in the SGN collection and at the Evo-Eco-Paleo lab palaeontology library.

The documents were digitised and put online as part of the LillOnum digital library. Part of the text was transcribed using handwritten text recognition (HTR) tools. The text obtained was structured using xml-tei tags and uploaded to a site dedicated to the project. The scientific terms used in the notes were identified to produce an index published in the form of a Heurist database. The corpus is freely accessible on LillOnum and the CoESciTer website, as is the project's complete methodology on Zenodo.

A study day was held in March 2024. The morning was devoted to presentations of projects to make sources for the history of the natural sciences available online, and the afternoon to presentations of academic work on the history of the Earth sciences. The event, given an international dimension with the presence of a colleague from Cambridge University library, was a resounding success. The papers were published in the *Annales de la SGN*.

The project was also presented at the CollEx-Persée archive programme days in December 2024, where feedback from participants was very positive.

CoESciTer has made it possible to experiment with new tools and has received strong support from partners, who have expressed a desire to see it continue. However, it has also revealed the significant investment in terms of human resources and cutting-edge skills required for this type of project, which would be difficult to run without external financial support.

Find out more about the project:
https://lillonum.univ-lille.fr/s/lillonum/page/coesciter1

[1] CoESciTer : *Corpus sur l'Enseignement des Sciences de la Terre* (Corpus on the teaching of Earth Sciences)

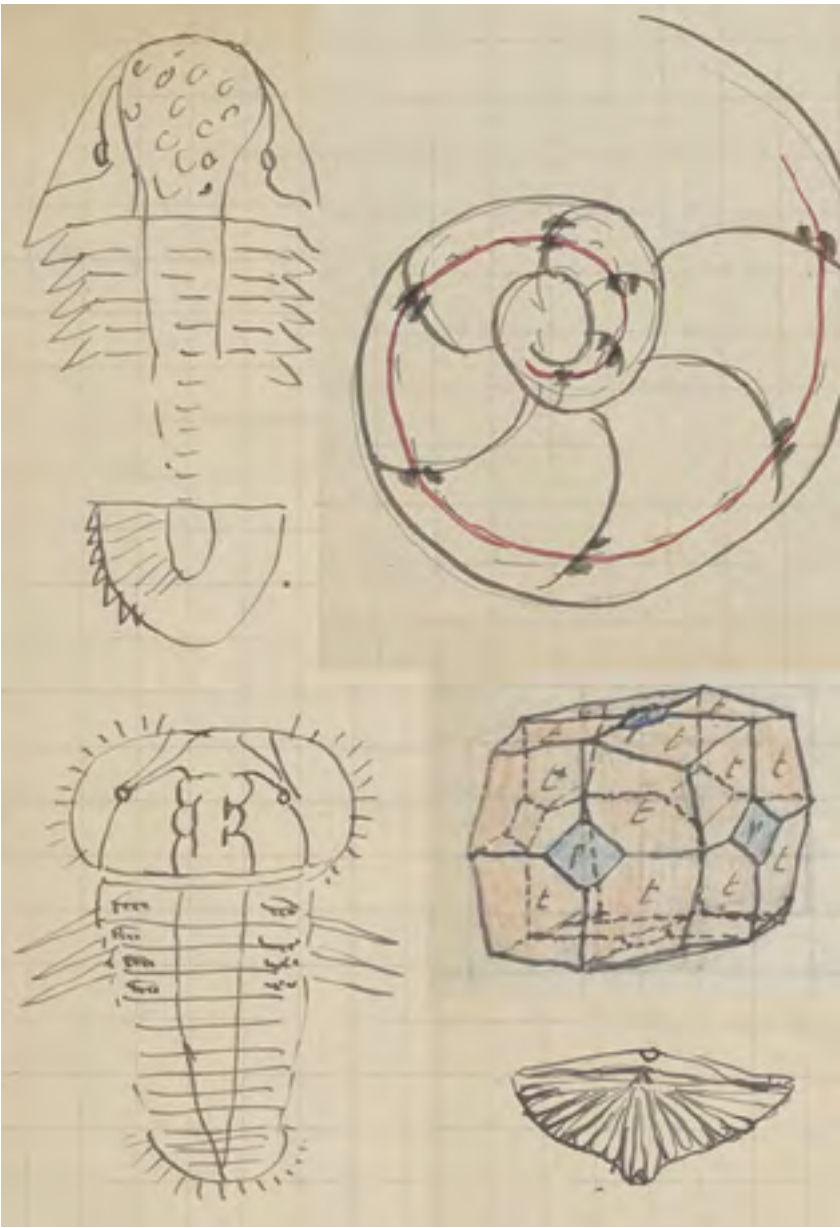[2] SGN : *Société géologique du Nord* (Geological society of the North)

Image credits:

Left: SGN Cou BAR 9
Top right: SGN Cou BAR 8
Middle right: SGN Cou DOU 4
Bottom right: SGN Cou BAR 7

Supporting
research

5

In a research environment that is constantly evolving, the teams dedicated to supporting research communities are working to implement a multi-faceted and flexible range of services that can be adapted to different needs, contexts and disciplines.

Left-hand image: Fresco of open research data,
Fabrique de la Science Ouverte - November 2024

A look back
at last year

Libraries supporting research steering

The consolidation of services dedicated to research continued in 2024, with an emphasis on support for research management: providing data and analyses to research units engaged in the HCERES[1] self-assessment process, *Lillanalytics* analyses for DémoCIS, the university's response to the AMI[2] SHS, and developing Open Science indicators. At the end of 2024, given the importance of data quality for management purposes, the *Lillanalytics* project will be transformed into a permanent mission dedicated to the reliability and analysis of data on research. In conjunction with the *Lillometrics* bibliometrics platform, a new unit dedicated to supporting research management will be created, in close collaboration with the Department of Research and the Strategy and Management Support Department.

Digitisation, a nationwide initiative

In the area of digitisation, the collaboration initiated in 2021 with the Persée research support unit and the increased focus on external communication are bearing fruit. Several of the university's journals have been supported in the process of uploading their archives to the Persée website, thereby improving their visibility and long-term viability. The Digitisation and thesis reproduction workshop is involved in new partnerships, in particular with the MEL[3], the CHU[4] and the MESHS[5]. Finally, the co-sponsorship of the national CollEx-Persée digitisation programme confirms the University of Lille's status as a major player in academic digitisation in France.

Special attention to doctoral students

Doctoral students and early career researchers are at the heart of a strong dynamic for staff at the University Libraries and Learning Center, from improving the visibility of theses on the Pépite platform and making regular tweaks to the range of doctoral courses on offer, to the design of the future research area in the new Agora on the Pont-de-Bois campus and a new offer to print copies of theses before they are defended as well printing on demand, via *Thèses à la carte*. A brochure is now available for doctoral students to help them with the issues related to documentary resources and thesis dissemination. This approach is set to continue in 2025 with a series of meetings involving the heads of graduate schools and through the OSYR[6] project on the effects of the Open Science awareness and training schemes.

[1] HCERES: Higher council for the assessment of research and higher education
[2] AMI: Call for expressions of interest
[3] MEL: Lille European Metropolis
[4] CHU: University Hospital Centre
[5] MESHS: European House of Humanities and Social Science
[6] OSYR: Open Science for Young Researchers

Supporting self-assessment in research units

As part of preparations for the HCERES assessment of research units, the University Libraries and Learning Center have developed and implemented a range of services based on Open Science, bibliometric analyses and laboratory profiling to help research units prepare their self-assessment dossier.

This support took several forms:

- Completion of the *"characterisation and production data table"* requires the presence of all assessed publications in the HAL and LillOA open archives. Library staff teams have stepped up training efforts to help researchers deposit work, set up a gateway to retrieve records from Sampra (the university's bibliometric tool), improved the quality of metadata and moderated almost 9,000 new records on LillOA.

- To help units draw up their self-assessment document, personnel from the University Libraries and Learning Center provided useful key data:

• Nature and volume of academic output;

• Bibliometric analyses (for laboratories working in the technical and medical sciences) and laboratory profiles (for laboratories in humanities and social science, law, economics and management);

• The unit's relationship with Open Science: degree of openness of publications, data, codes and software, participation of its members in Open Science training and awareness-raising activities, etc.

This major project drew on the combined expertise of the Open Science department, the *Lillometrics* bibliometrics platform shared with the Lille University Hospital and the *Lillanalytics* project.

The creation and implementation of this range of services has demonstrated the responsiveness of our staff in terms of supporting research. This tailored assistance has made it possible to strengthen relations with the research units, while providing much-appreciated help that is both useful and recognised. At the end of a HCERES campaign involving 30 colleagues from a wide range of backgrounds, two-thirds of the research units — from all disciplines — benefited from the support of the University Libraries and Learning Center.

The joint efforts of researchers and librarians have had a very positive effect on the progress of Open Science across the university.

72.6%
of academic publications that appeared in 2023 will be open access in 2024, compared with

67%
at the national level

Source : *Baromètre de la Science Ouverte* 2024

Photo: Fresco of open research data, *Fabrique de la Science Ouverte* - November 2024

Open Science: a collective endeavour

The transition of research communities to Open Science requires a collective commitment on a national, European and international scale. The University of Lille's Open Science Roadmap therefore plans to develop a contribution to the Open Science ecosystem.

The year 2024 saw the launch of this reflection, aimed at highlighting the contributions that already exist and strengthening support for Open Science players and platforms. An initial assessment and a typology were drawn up to identify the different forms of contribution. In financial terms, the approach encompasses subscriptions to electronic resources based on open models, membership of platforms such as the HAL archive and support for initiatives and associations dedicated to Open Science.

Two events accelerated this process. The decision to unsubscribe from Springer Link, due to excessively high fees, led to the reallocation of funds to support Open Science. In addition, the Couperin consortium drew up a memorandum of understanding to facilitate the allocation of funding to platforms.

A list of criteria was established, enabling an initial series of initiatives to be selected in 2024: the structural nature of the approach, current or potential practices within the university, open and transparent governance, etc. All the fields of Open Science were covered by this first series, from codes and software (Software Heritage) to new forms of open publication (Sci Post, Peer Community in).

The aim of the project was also to learn more about and valorise staff's commitment to pooling their efforts in the field of Open Science. These commitments are made at different levels of the organisation: governance, support services and research communities. In total, the first survey identified 18 human contributions to 13 organisations or initiatives. This process is to be continued in 2025 with a broader call to the research communities in order to build on all commitments made.

Finally, our contribution to the Open Science ecosystem includes hosting and organising events. In 2025, the libraries and Learning Center will host and run the CasuHAL days, the association of users of the HAL open archive. The commitment of the libraries and Learning Center and the university as a whole to Open Science is thus being built up at many levels, both locally and globally

€25,000 ⬀ dedicated
to supporting Open Science initiatives in 2024 (not including electronic resources)

Open Science Passport Collection, illustrations by 4 minutes 34, licence CC-BY-SA

Major projects
in 2025

CollEx-Persée:
a GIS[1] under construction

As a founding member of the GIS CollEx-Persée, which will co-sponsor the digitisation programme, the University of Lille will contribute to the design and life of this scientific interest group, dedicated to making collections of excellence and services available to research communities.

Xperium season 6:
"Our worlds in transition(s) - Together, let's explore solutions for the future"

Humanity is facing an acceleration of transitions, be they environmental, economic, technological, digital or societal. These transitions are putting certain models under pressure, but they are also sources of innovation. At the University of Lille, a great deal of research is being done on the issues surrounding these transitions, from the way we identify them to their consequences. From October 2025, season 6 of Xperium will showcase the richness of this research with 8 new stands.

A circle for reflection and action on artificial intelligence

From the beginning of 2025, the University Libraries and Learning Center will be launching their own discussion circle dedicated to artificial intelligence as part of the 2030 strategy. The aim of this internal meeting place is to consider the role of artificial intelligence in the discovery of knowledge, user services and librarians' practices.

Information skills training as part of the 2026-2030 accreditation process

As part of the renewal of the University of Lille's training offer, beginning in 2025, training staff from the libraries and Learning Center will be working to consolidate and strengthen the presence of information skills training in the teaching curricula.

Agora *Learning Lab* areas

Detailed planning of the future Agora *Learning* Lab will continue in 2025, with work on how its different spaces will operate and the services on offer. Future users will once again be closely involved in the discussions on the service project. Work will start in the spring of 2025, after a preliminary phase to define the various issues to address.

A new documentary charter for the University Libraries and Learning Center

The aim of this new documentary charter is to propose a transparent acquisition policy for all the disciplines represented at the University of Lille. As part of the SCD's 2030 strategy, particular attention will be paid to promoting Open Science.

[1] GIS: Scientific Interest Group

Key indicators

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
BUDGET & STAFF					
Budget in € (excl. payroll costs for permanent positions)	5,826,591	6,334,303	6,273,956	6,181,485	6,229,383
Annualised number of full-time-equivalent staff members*	187.68	189.54	193.17	195.49	197.26
USER NUMBERS					
Seated capacity	3,633	3,868**	3,868	2,868***	2,868
Number of entries	940,991	1,148,061	1,914,711	1,859,355	1,863,787
Number of hours open weekly in normal period (average)	68	73	73	73	73
TRAINING & MEDIATION					
Number of users trained in information literacy	19,810	20,461	20,898	25,231	22,723
Number of pedagogic resources and exam topics available for consultation on IOKE platform	35,250	38,592	40,673	42,776	10,669****
Number of events hosted or organised	135	130	226	169	232
Number of visitors to Xperium	1,248	953	1,557	2,704	3,807
LIBRARY ITEMS					
Expenditure on library items	€4.25 M	€3.53 M	€3.72 M	€3.96 M	€3.90 M
Share of library item expenditure allocated to electronic resources	77%	73%	77%	77%	77%
Overall volume of printed books and journals (in linear km)	51.47	50.90	50.57	50.43	50.45
Number of consultations of electronic items	10,778,156	10,625,222	8,373,565*****	9,087,187	7,087,043******
Number of items loaned	120,393	140,692	130,562	123,071	121,469
Number of digitised pages available for consultation in the LillONUM digital library	1,675,607	1,714,207	1,762,321	1,799,321	1,845,893
SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH					
Number of files freely available in open archives (LillOA and U-Lille HAL portal)	11,394	15,483	20,458	27,497	36,143
Rate of open access U-Lille publications published in year N-1 *******	50.8 %	66.8 %	66 %	71 %	73 %
Number of theses and dissertations available for consultation on the PEPITE platform	19,203	19,614	21,927	23,895	25,610
Number of research projects given support	66	81	87	137	103

* This variable takes into consideration the staff member's workload as well as their work duration during the year (e.g. a person employed full-time for six months is counted as 0.5 full-time-equivalent).
** The rise in this variable is due to the partial refurbishment of furniture in the Law& Management library in 2021 (installation of tables with electrical sockets), which enabled new workstations to be added through changes to the occupancy plans.
*** The fall in this variable is due to the closure of the Humanities & Social Science library (capacity of 1,200) for renovations. The temporary facility has a capacity of 200.
**** This fall is due to the removal of topics deemed obsolete from the exam platform.
***** This fall is due to technicalities that affected the calculation method for consultations of theses and dissertations (-1.7M visits).
****** This fall is due to technical problems affecting the Cairn and ScholarVox platforms.
******* This indicator presents freely available publications as a proportion of the University's output in a given year. Given that the embargo timeframe before open-archive dissemination is possible can range from 0 to 12 months, it was deemed preferable to only account for publications in year-1.