

Annual report

10

EPFL Library



## 2019 Library activities at a glance: watch the clip!

[go.epfl.ch/video2019](https://go.epfl.ch/video2019)



### Back to 2019

This annual report is the opportunity to come back to the key moments and accomplishments that made 2019. In September, we celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EPFL federalization. On this occasion, the Library team welcomed several thousands of visitors during the School Open Days.

Throughout the year, the Library team continued its missions by serving the EPFL community and beyond. The provision of online and printed collections, user training or even the teaching and research support services remained at the heart of the Library activities.

More than ever, the Library took part in the EPFL fights to ensure excellence in research and teaching, by actively supporting *EPFL Open Access Policy* signature, or the negotiations with scientific publishers for a more open dissemination of science.

1 Key figures

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4 Research Data Management

5 Publishing Support

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8 Public space provision

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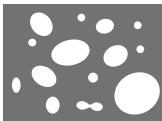


1 day  
at the Library

1 year  
at the Library



68  
requests at the online  
and on-site desks



827'962  
entries at the Library



17  
opening hours  
from 7am until midnight



2'657'650  
subscribed journal article  
downloads



654  
searches in BEAST,  
the Library catalog



76'254  
document loans



3'396  
document prints and scans



CHF 4'665'763  
acquisition expenses



## Open Science at EPFL: Information and tools video



The Library team released a short 3-minute video presenting an overview of services and tools for EPFL researchers. The aim is to support them in the Open Science approach during the research process.

## Open Access policy



In February, EPFL has adopted its Open Access Policy clearly setting out the School position concerning scientific publication dissemination, following the Open Access principles. The Library was strongly involved in the policy development, and introduced its components to researchers during information sessions. The School has also provided an amendment to the publishing copyright transfer agreement to assist authors in their negotiations with publishers.

## Institutional and national projects

The Library is highly involved in the Open Science community, both at the institutional and at the national level. It takes actively part to different projects and working groups, as for example:

- the [EPFL Open Science Strategic committee](#), that advises EPFL President and Management Board on the pragmatic implementation of Open Science initiatives on campus;
- the [Open Access Working Group \(AKOA\)](#), appointed by the Swiss Library Network for Education and Research (SLiNER) as official group of experts on the subject, under the auspices of *swissuniversities*;
- the [preparation of a national Open Research Data strategy](#), under the coordination of *swissuniversities* (appointed by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation), expected to take effect in 2021;
- the [Open Science Delegation](#), that advises the *swissuniversities* committee on Open Science issues. It acts as reference point for the higher education institutions in order to support et coordinate Open Science services and infrastructures in Switzerland.

## Newsletter Open Scholarly Communication

In 2019, the Library has prepared and sent on a regular basis to the EPFL scientific community a newsletter about scholarly communication and Open Science. Among the addressed subjects: latest news, policies, training, infrastructures and services.

# Survey among EPFL researchers

In 2019, the Library launched a satisfaction survey among EPFL researchers to collect their feedback on its services, in order to improve the offer and better meet the needs of its community.

Traditional services, as collections and working spaces, are well used by users, while the research support services are less used. This under-usage is mainly due to the lack of awareness of the services, and not by the fact that they are unsatisfactory.

In 2021, a satisfaction survey especially dedicated to students will be launched to complete this analysis.

Among the **4'741** targeted researchers, **8%** completed the survey

**70%** of respondents **use the Library services** (on-site and online) **at least once a month**

### Satisfaction rate



**55%**  
very satisfied



**33%**  
satisfied



During the Love Data Week, the Library organized its fifth Noon Talk dedicated to [Research Data licensing](#)



### New *Data Champions* community



The Library launched a call to EPFL researchers to build a **Data Champions** community. Some thirty volunteers have come forward to promote RDM good practices on the campus.

**92** requests submitted to [researchdata@epfl.ch](mailto:researchdata@epfl.ch)

**22** Data Management Plan (DMP) preparations

**35** DMP reviews



### New tools and webpages



A new practical tool, the [RDM Fast Guides](#), have been created to provide a quick overview of RDM good practices. In parallel, [new webpages](#) have been published to promote the services and tools offered by the Library.

**365** requests submitted to [publishsupport@epfl.ch](mailto:publishsupport@epfl.ch)

**906** requests submitted to [infoscience@epfl.ch](mailto:infoscience@epfl.ch)

### Institutional repository *Infoscience*



**Uploads** **7'745** new references (articles, theses...) **2'859** new fulltexts

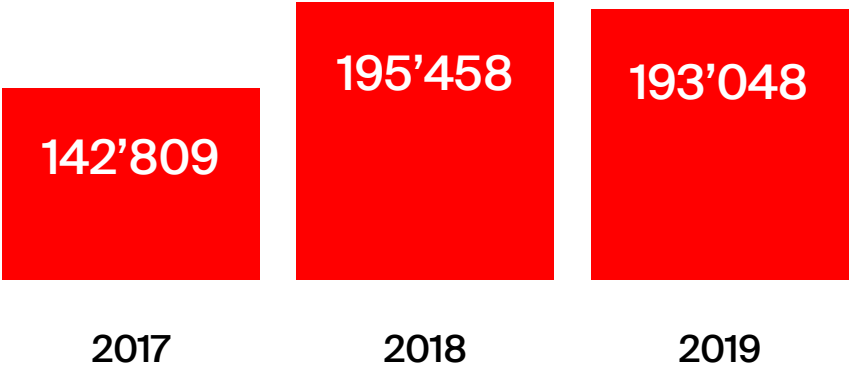
The repository collects **148'174** references with an Open Access rate of **40%**. New members joined the *Infoscience* team to better support EPFL researchers.

**5'851'754** downloads

### Gold Open Access support



#### Invested amount (CHF)



The Gold Open Access fund contributed to finance the publishing fees of **62** articles, **3** books, **2** data papers and **4** conference papers.

**8** agreements with publishing houses have been renewed to reduce or to finance EPFL authors publishing charges.



Presentation during the [Global Issues](#) course



**2019 participants**

**1'956** BA-MA students

**271** PhD students

**233** researchers

**149**

training  
hours

**80**

workshops, training  
and seminars

**45**

one-to-one personalized training,  
including some organized via [Book a Librarian](#),  
the Library appointment platform.

## New training



The Library has widened its training offer to meet the diverse needs of our users, in particular on code management:

- [Software Carpentry #02](#), skills for basic coding
- [Beyond Google: find scientific information with advanced tools](#) in databases
- [Introduction to LaTeX](#), skill development for document preparation

## Rational Bibliographic new edition



A new version of the [Rational Bibliographic](#), the bibliographic references formatting guide, has been published.

## Zotero duty period



Dr Zotero, the EPFL Library specialist for Zotero, the free reference management software, put her surgical gown. Dr Zotero went around the campus, looking for students who needed help in citing sources and managing their bibliography.



## New students' welcome days



**2'000**

students took part in the welcome activities and discovered the Library between 6 and 13 September. Video games have been the main theme of the *Welcome Week*, with new presentations and a completely redesigned treasure hunt.





## Journal loans



Along with the *Science and Society* journal collection, the **Architecture** and **Mathematics** journal collections are more easily accessible: all NEBIS network users can now borrow them.

## Geodata



In collaboration with the ENAC faculty, the Library simplifies the access to geodata related to Switzerland. In particular the **GeoVITE** service allows EPFL members to download geodata from *Swisstopo* by selecting the type of data (national maps, digital elevation models, territory models and orthophotos), as well as scale, format and year.

## 420 new theses in Infoscience



The Library preserves and disseminates all EPFL theses, since the first one published in 1920. More than 420 full-text theses have been added this year to the institutional repository Infoscience.

## Negotiations with major scientific publishers



In the context of the national Open Access strategy, the Library is closely involved in the negotiations started in 2019 by *swissuniversities* with the publishers **Elsevier**, **Springer Nature** and **Wiley**. The Library has also created [a dedicated webpage](#) to inform its community about the negotiation evolutions and about alternative solutions to access papers in case of restrictions due to possible no-deals.

## New ebooks



The Library has considerably enriched its ebook offer in 2019, with more than **80 new collections** in the different EPFL research fields. It has also implemented a new acquisition model called *Patron Driven Acquisition* allowing ebook consultation and rental before triggering a purchase.



## Launch of the digital library PLUME

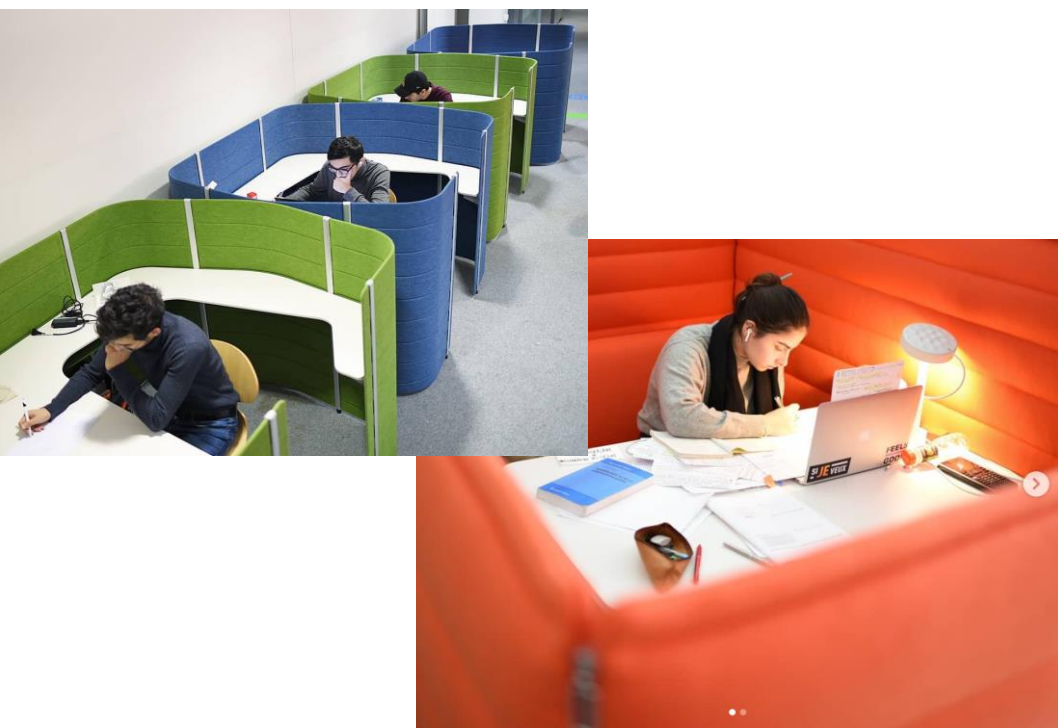


EPFL Library owns a collection of about **600 precious books**, published between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, illustrating the history and philosophy of science. Thanks to the gradual digitalization of the books, the Library has launched a digital platform to share these resources widely. Thousands of images can now be freely consulted and downloaded on [plume.epfl.ch](http://plume.epfl.ch).



## New furniture

To meet the diverse needs of its users, the Library acquired new equipment to provide space both for individual or group study.



## New gaming station



Since 2017, the Library provides its users with a video-game collection. The *ZERO GRAVITY* station is the result of a collaboration between the Library and the student association *Robopoly*. The station provides two gaming computers, clearly separated from other computers dedicated to work.

# Internal lifelong learning

## 56 events:

- 23 conferences
- 22 external training sessions
- 7 internal training sessions
- 4 study trips

All **47 employees** of the Library took part to one or more training events, either on-site or online.

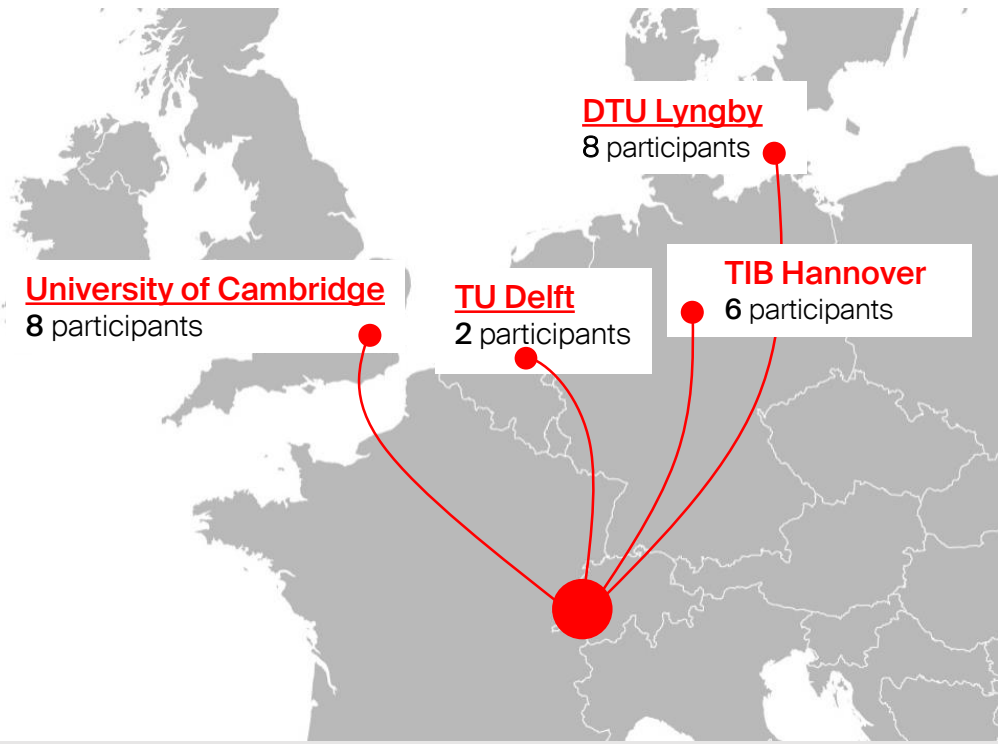
## Study trips

The Library has organized **4 study trips** in 2019. The aim is to allow Library staff to visit academic and scientific libraries to exchange with colleagues and establish new collaborations. This in order to offer to our respective users cutting-edge services that meet their ever-changing needs. In practice, it means selecting a few institutions according to their field of excellence and establish a program based on well-defined subjects. These trips take place over 2-3 days, in small groups.

## Heures de l'apéro

**6 Heures de l'apéro** (peer-to-peer training in the work space) have been organized and brought together **183 participants**:

- EPFL Open Access Policy
- Peer education
- Open Science
- Standards
- Understanding scientific publication through gamification
- Records management





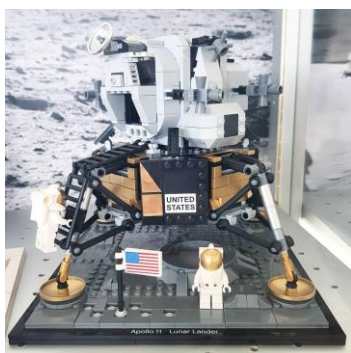
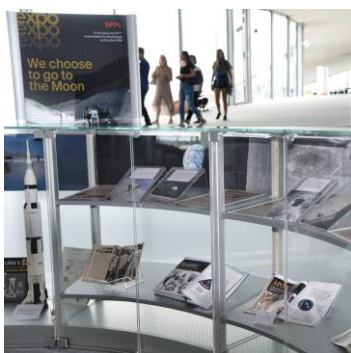


## Exhibitions



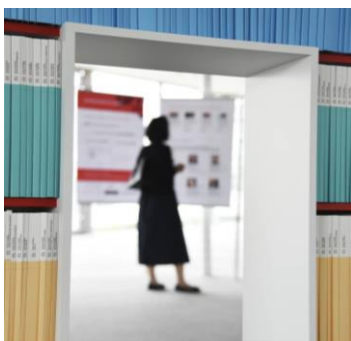
June 1<sup>st</sup> – August 20<sup>th</sup>

To celebrate Apollo 11 moon landing 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
[We choose to go to the moon](#)



August 28<sup>th</sup> – November 10<sup>th</sup>

On the occasion of Open Days organized to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EPFL federalization  
[50 ans de thèses EPFL](#)



## New website



The Library launched its new website. Former websites library.epfl.ch, citation.epfl.ch and researchdata.epfl.ch are now merged in one single website:  
[epfl.ch/campus/library](http://epfl.ch/campus/library)

**258'569** visits on the website

## Conferences



On April 8<sup>th</sup>, during the *Printemps de la Poésie*

[De la Poésie aux Etoiles](#)

with **Jean-Pierre Luminet**, astrophysicist, lecturer, author and poet

June 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, during the exhibition *We choose to go to the moon*

- [Les missions Apollo et le retour sur la Lune](#)  
with **Chloé Carrière**, Space@yourService
- [Les 50 ans de l'Homme sur la Lune](#)  
with **Claude Nicollier**, astronaut and Professor Emeritus
- [Trous noirs et premières images](#)  
with **Pascale Jablonka**, Professor Emeritus
- [Demandez la Lune !](#)  
with **Georges Meylan**, Professor Emeritus

## Movie screening



March 11<sup>th</sup>

[Paywall: The Business of Scholarship](#)

June 4<sup>th</sup>

[Films documentaires made in EPFL](#)

## Online community



**6'552**

followers on @EPFLlibrary accounts on social media\*

**204'073**

views on video and stories published by the Library on Youtube and social media\*, which **50'000** on Instagram stories.

\*cumulative on December 31, 2019



- Creation of ACOUA, the archiving tool for EPFL research data.
- Migration to ALMA, the forthcoming Library System Management (LSM), and the new Library network SLSP.
- Continued negotiations with scientific publishers to support Open Access.
- Creation of new webpages and tools for Publishing Support.
- Realization of a new Library tour, and organization of activities and events for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Library.



## Annual report 2019 EPFL Library

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