REBIUN, The Spanish Academic Libraries Network
The Spanish Academic Libraries Network, REBIUN (Red de Bibliotecas Universitarias) was created in 1988 upon the initiative of the Spanish University Library Directors. REBIUN was one of the eight special committees to be incorporated in 1998 into the Conference of Spanish University Rectors, CRUE (Conferencia de Rectores de las Universidades Españolas).

REBIUN’s main mission is to form a reliable cooperation body that represents all Spanish university libraries.

REBIUN’s primary goals are to improve services and library infrastructures, and to also assist the users of Spanish university libraries, through cooperation. As well, it seeks to network with different bodies and promotion of staff exchange and training.

The main activities promoted through the network are the improvement of communication in university libraries and the network connection of automated library information systems, as well as the use of information technologies in library services and the incorporation of book stocks from research projects to university libraries. REBIUN also oversees the creation and publication of a comprehensive catalogue of academic libraries and of a statistical yearbook of Spanish academic libraries.

All these activities are carried out by different permanent work teams (Union Catalogue, Interlibrary Loan, Statistical Data and Bibliographic Heritage) or groups related to the current Strategic Plan (REBIUN in the Area of Learning, REBIUN in the Area of Research, REBIUN and Quality, REBIUN as an Organization).

If you have just joined REBIUN, the following document will help you find out more about how the network works.

Carlos Berzosa, President of REBIUN
REBIUN is a special committee of CRUE that carries out its activities through the following governing bodies:

**General Assembly**

The Assembly or Plenary is made up of the President, who must be a Rector appointed by the CRUE, and of a Library Director from each and every university that belongs to REBIUN, as well as the Director of the CSIC Libraries Coordination Unit, the CRUE Secretary-General and a member appointed from the Council of University Managers.

The duties of the Assembly are as follows:

- Planning the organization, implementation and activities of the Network.
- Choosing the Members of the Executive Committee.
- Creating and suppressing Work Teams, under supervision of the Executive Committee.
- Using relevant protocols to determine admission of collaborative members to the network.
- Approval of the Activity Report.
- Monitoring and controlling the implementation of the Commission’s objectives.
- Approving the Regulations.
Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is made up of the President, four members chosen by the Plenary, one member appointed by the Conference General Assembly from the Council of University Managers, the CRUE Secretary-General and the REBIUN Technical Coordinator, who acts without voting rights.

As long as REBIUN activities are conducted within the framework of the Strategic Plan, the number of members chosen by the Plenary can be modified according to the number of strategic lines which are adopted.

The Executive Committee has the following duties:

- Programming and developing the proposals of the Plenary.
- Suggesting the starting of Work Teams to the Plenary and promoting their coordination.
- Carrying out the duties proper to the Plenary, in cases of extraordinary and urgent need, and reporting the decisions made in the first session held by this body.
Recolecta

http://www.recolecta.net/buscador/

The web portal RECOLECTA (Open Science Harvester) is an initiative of REBIUN, funded by the Spanish Science and Technology Foundation (Fundación Española para la Ciencia y la Tecnología, FECyT). Its principal aim is to promote the open-access publication of research works undertaken in different Spanish academic institutions and to facilitate the use and visibility of such works, as well as providing tools to promote the development of open-access contents.

At the moment it contains approximately 400,000 open-access, full-text records of all the documents held in the institutional repositories of our universities (or in other institutions that publish quality open-access information in Spain).

Because we participate in the European Project DRIVER (Digital Repository Infrastructure Vision for European Research), we are included in the European repository.

RECOLECTA also has a section containing links to publishers’ policies on copyright and self-archiving. This is a great help in finding summaries of the permits that are normally granted as part of the copyright transfer agreement (Sherpa Romeo). The site also uses color codes to distinguish publishers according to their self-archiving policy:
Among the goals of its First Strategic Plan (2003-2006) and of the Second one (2007-2010), is REBIUN’s maintenance of updated observatories on key issues:

**ALFARED (Information Literacy) Observatory:**

The main goal of this observatory is to promote and support policies, so that Information Literacy training typology is transmitted in a professional way in all the curricula that have to be modified by 2010.

Further aims include coordinating and creating common projects related to the communication and transmission of virtual training (virtual subjects, virtual campus, etc.), and materials and tutorials (guides, orientations, programmes, etc.) related to teaching Information Literacy to users. The ALFARED observatory also develops projects to train librarians for remote teaching.

Our participation in the *Alfared* project, an initiative of the Spanish Ministry of Culture, is centered on creating and maintaining the section on Information Literacy in REBIUN’s website. This has enabled us to share information resources on pre-existing “Information Skills” (a databank of pedagogical materials, a bibliography on Information Literacy, projects, etc.).

**Quality Observatory**

The Quality work team has gathered a collection of documents that constitutes an important source of information on issues related to quality in both Spanish and international university libraries. The content of this collection, together with its links, is displayed in the following:
INDEX

- Introduction
- Best Practices
- Forum on Quality of University Libraries
- Directory of Strategic and Improvement Plans
- Directory of Service Offer
- Tools
- Documentation
- Quality Statement
- Diary

Training Observatory

This observatory was initiated under the previous strategic plan. It is maintained by the University of La Rioja and includes the following major sections:

- Literature
- Best practices for University Libraries
- Professional Training
- Training Web Resources (Guides, Tutorials, Tools, Standards...)
- Jobs
- Courses, Congresses
REBIUN Union Catalogue

Since the year 2000, REBIUN has provided the public with the largest on-line Union Catalogue of Spanish Libraries.

The REBIUN Union Catalogue contains information from 26 million titles and 40 million volumes that comprise all of the library collections participating in REBIUN.

Access to this information has enabled the promotion of interlibrary loans and has increased researchers’ knowledge of universities held collections.

Our catalogue has been chosen by specialists in the development of book-information access tools such as Google Scholar or Karlsruhe Virtual Catalogue.

Along 2007 the catalogue received more than 4 million enquiries.
REBIUN, the network of university and scientific libraries

**Bibliographic Heritage**

REBIUN has worked hard to make Spanish universities’ rich bibliographic heritage available to the whole society. This heritage consists of:

- 3,951 incunabula;
- 374,423 manuscripts;
- 584,230 pieces of printed material previous to the 19th century;
- 659,754 pieces of printed material of the 19th century.

**Statistics**

With the help of a tool we have been developing since 2006, library users can make statistical enquiries about our libraries for the period 1994 onwards. Different searches and combinations can be carried forward, using terms/keys as: library Groups, years, regions, etc.

You can link to this tool by clicking on the term: “Statistical inquiries”.
### Some REBIUN statistical figures in 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Libraries</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total of Volumes</td>
<td>39,577,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volumes Bought in 2008</td>
<td>1,467,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Places</td>
<td>173,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers for Public Use</td>
<td>15,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total of Loans</td>
<td>14,182,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inquiries to the Library Catalogues</td>
<td>109,959,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total of Loans from other Libraries</td>
<td>211,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library User Training Courses</td>
<td>9,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure on books</td>
<td>€36,134,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs in journals, databases and other materials</td>
<td>€74,990,494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Librarians</td>
<td>5,807</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REBIUN 2009 events in chronological order

- 2nd Symposium on RECOLECTA (Madrid, December 2008).
- 1st REBIUN Symposium on Interlibrary Loan (Toledo, March 2009).
- 1st Meeting on Information Literacy (Madrid, April 2009).
- 7th Symposium on CRAI (Learning and Research Resources Centre) (Madrid, June 2009).
- 9th REBIUN Workshop on Digital Libraries (Salamanca, October 2009).
- 17th REBIUN General Assembly (León, November 2009).