

CHILDREN OF THE INFORMATION SOCIETY: A STUDENT SURVEY FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING

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Szent István University
(Hungary)

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Short history

- The library is as old as the training of veterinarians itself
- Our honoured professors have gathered and organized Hungarian and foreign publications from the beginning

This library

Is the only veterinary science library in
Hungary

Was founded in 1787

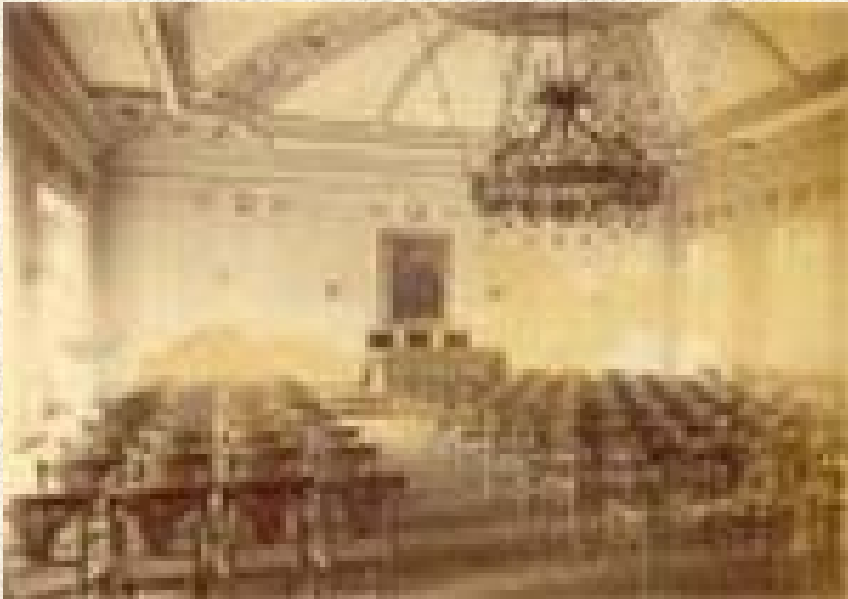
Collection: 70.000 volumes

The building...

The library was situated in the main building of the Hungarian Royal Veterinary College already in the first years of the 20th century



The reading room – in the past and today



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INFORMATION SOCIETY

Roles of the library

- Serves the students, veterinarians, researchers
- Academic library
- Special library
- Member of the National Document Provision System
- Public library >> free services
- Scientific library with national responsibilities >> collect the special literature
- University library

The idea

- Daily routine
- Electronic services on the website
- Children of the information society in the university
- Students: hungarian and from abroad

Group of the readers and their needs

- Students: place to learn, textbooks, handbooks, databases
- Professors: special needs, the newest literature, no time
- Veterinarians: live far in the country, like online (free)-accessible sources
- Others: mixed group with different, interesting question

Services in the library

- Local use
- Using information retrieval tools
- Borrowing
- Interlibrary loan
- Copying of library documents
- Scanning
- Computer lab, internet, access of digital documents via the library's website
- Reference service
- Scientific information searching

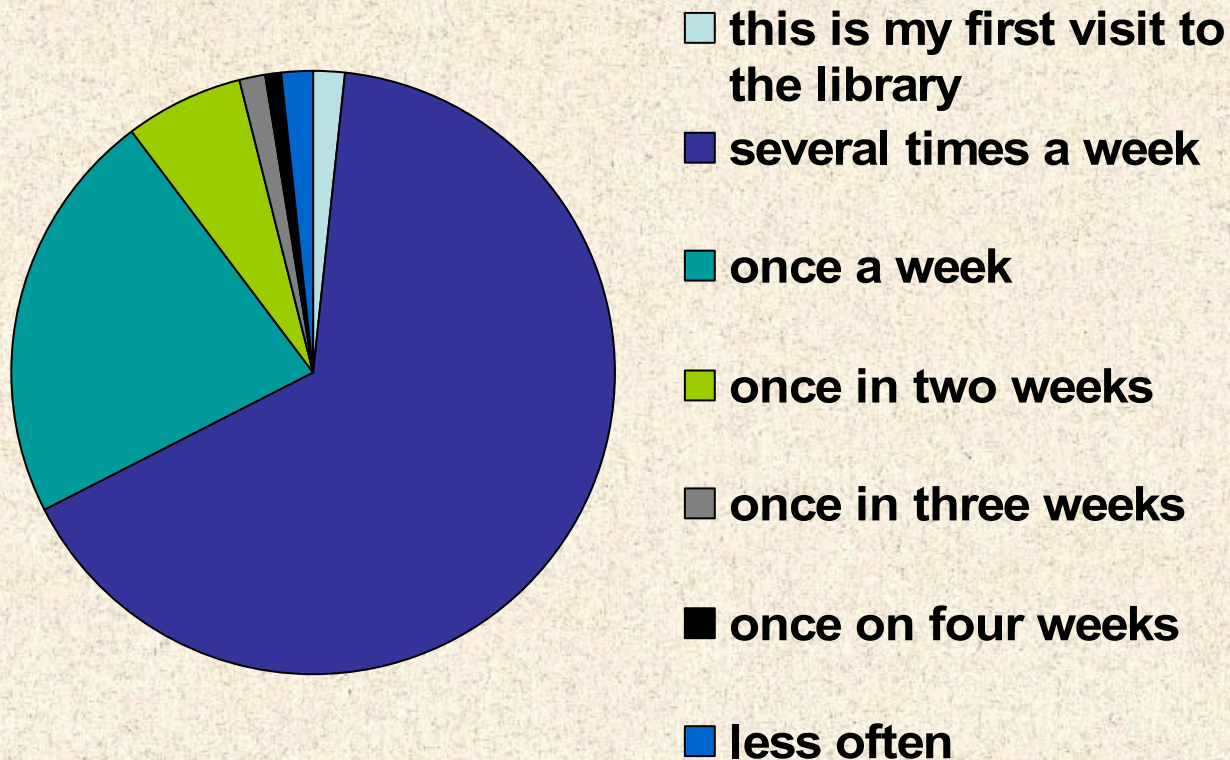
Surveys in the Veterinary Science Library

- 25 years ago: Mary Cserey: information searching habits (students)
- 2004: Éva Orbán: information needs of vets (countryside)
- 2004: nationwide project in Hungarian libraries

Methods

- read literature
- designed the survey
- made a pilot study
- distributed a questionnaire
- made interviews

How often do students visit the Veterinary Science Library?



Habit's of computer use

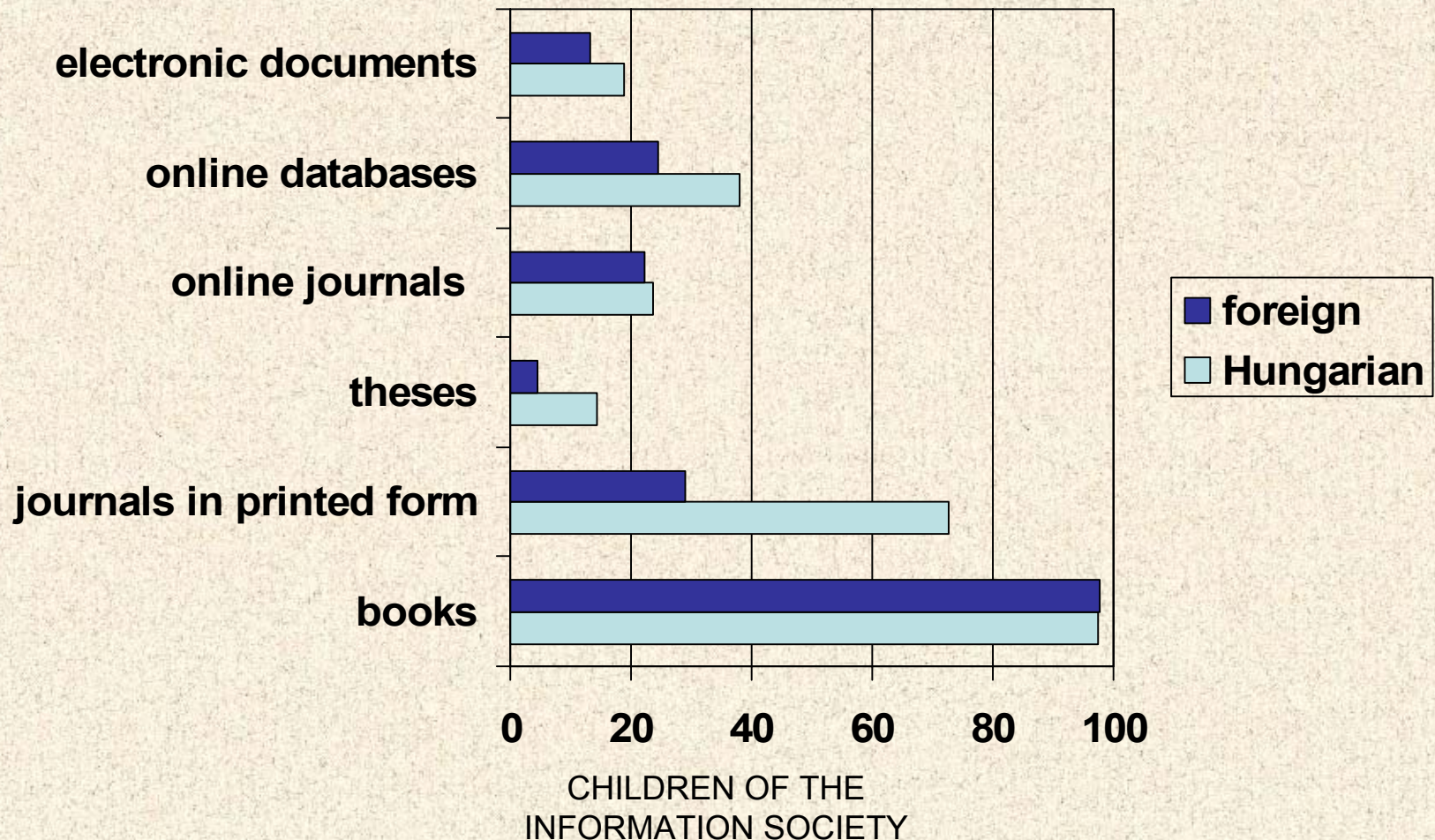
Hungarian

- 2.4% do not use any computers
- 75% use the internet from the library, too
- 26.5% have a laptop

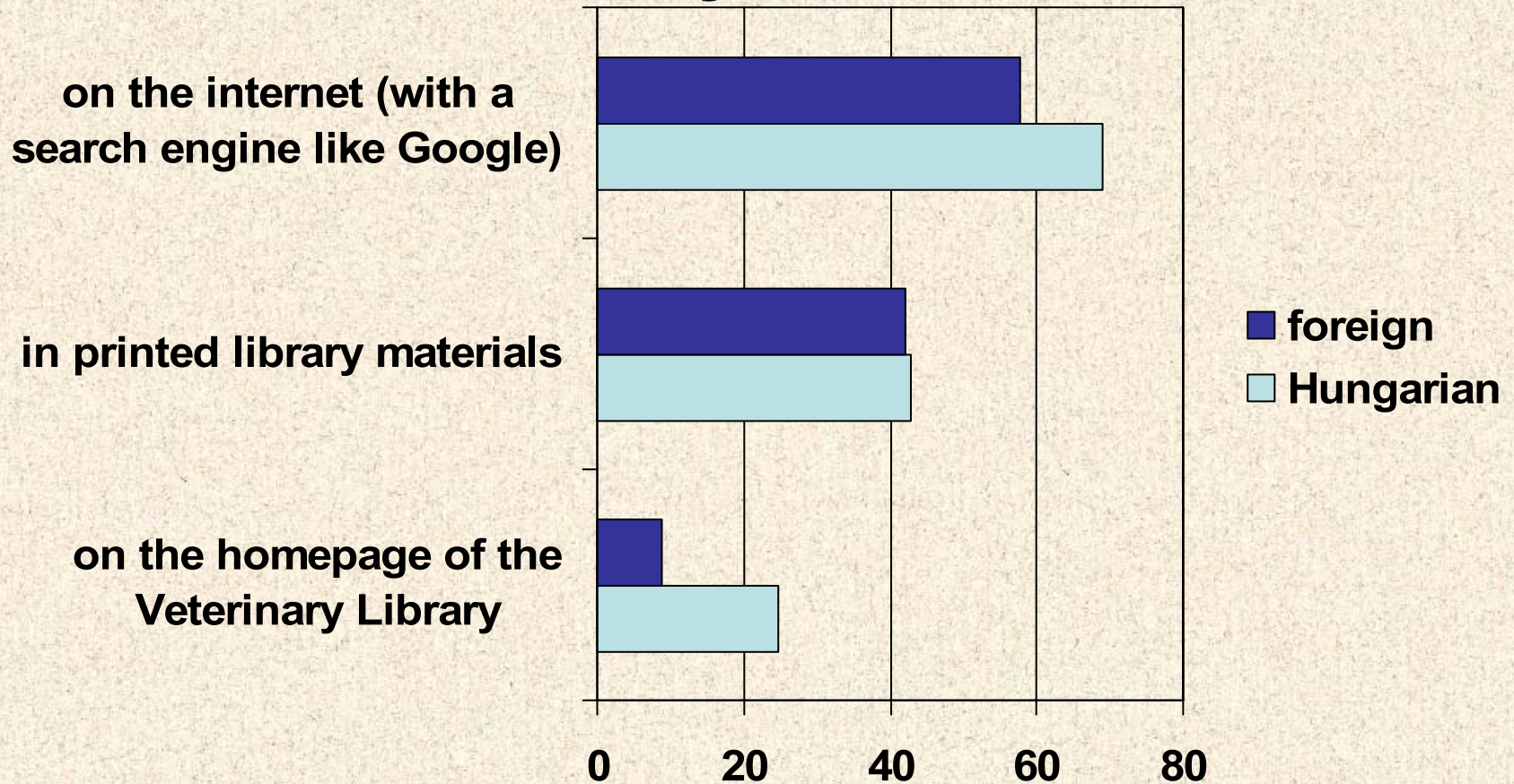
Foreign

- 11.1% do not use any computers
- 58% use the internet from the library, too
- 85% have a laptop

Which of the documents below have students used at the Veterinary Science Library?



When searching for professional information where do students usually find it?



How do students verify the accuracy of information found on the Internet?

- do not verify it, just believe it is true
- check it in some other source
- trust the publisher/organization
- trust the author

Problems:

- Expensive databases → Not full text all of them

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- Expensive databases → Not full text all of them
- Own website → Lots of students do not know we have it
- Online information → Students do not know how to search the information
- Online information → Almost all of students like print it out

Criticism or suggestion:

- More books
- More computers
- More online information
- More online journals
- More printed journals
- Wireless connection
- Satisfied with our services

Conclusion:

- The majority of the results of the survey corresponded to international trends.
- Our homepage, and the information provided by us through it is not known and used enough.
- Students like our Library, but we must improve.

Thank you!

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Thank you!

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