



**arteveldehogeschool**

LID VAN DE ASSOCIATIE UNIVERSITEIT GENT

**Lean agility:**

**how the Artevelde libraries joined  
forces and implemented a more  
efficient way of working together**

Liesbeth De Vogelaere

# GENT = HISTORIC CITY + ACADEMIC CITY

Founded 650 AC

Population today  
250.000 citizens

Out of which  
70.000 students





# Artevelde University College

12.538 students  
1297 staff  
8 campuses (7 in the city centre)  
1 administrative site

[16 Bachelors](#)

[5 Advanced Bachelor programmes](#)





# Library: 5 libraries + 1 library point



# Library team

- Total staff: 20 (16 FTE)
- Since 2013: 1 head librarian
- Aim to profile ourselves as 1 library service instead of 5 separate libraries

# How?

- Lean agility: good practices, keep it simple
- Communication: meetings culture and overload of emails is replaced by blog
- More project based work
  - Mandates: specialisation, increased visibility
  - Teamwork: joint projects, helping out
  - Not on an island: library staff are involved in other projects outside the library, Projects with students
  - Everybody can suggest ideas

# Centralization

- From Kantienberg (biggest library):
  - Book ordering
  - Journals
  - Databases
  - Interlibrary Loan
  - Supplies
- Project teams: cataloguing, social media, innovation, information literacy, etc.

# Digitalization

- <https://www.arteveldehogeschool.be/mediatheek/live/ws/>
- New website that combines our catalogue and the databases in one search engine
- Reduction collection: increased spending on digital instead of paper
- Future plans:
  - Website in English
  - Digital repository



# Outside the box

- Instagram
- Pinterest
- Actions/events



# Conclusion

- +
  - Enthusiastic team
  - Head librarian has opened many doors
- -
  - Workload
  - Quality control
  - Still a struggle to follow up news



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- De expeditie naar Lean Agility in de mediatheek van de Arteveldehogeschool



# Mandates Liesbeth

- Health librarian
- Information literacy (databases and referencing): teaching, workgroup
- Statistics: year report, benchmarking and infographic
- ILL: interlibrary loans
- International contact
- Journals