

Success Story

FORSCHUNGSSTELLE KULTURIMPULS

Bibliography

Anthroposophy, a philosophy founded by Rudolf Steiner (1861–1925), is a worldwide represented spiritual belief. Its stated goal is to consider man (human) in his relationship to the supernatural. It combines elements of German idealism, the belief of Goethe, the Gnosis, far eastern teachings, as well as the scientific knowledge of its time. It's not just a doctrine, but also a method to conduct independent research in the psychic world.

Anthroposophical ideas have been applied practically in many areas including education/special education (Waldorf Education, Waldorf School, Camphill), medicine (anthroposophical medicine), biodynamic agriculture, social (Threefolding the social organism), art of movement (Eurythmy), religion (the Christian community) and ethical banking (The GLS CommunBank, for Loans and Gifts, Free Community Bank). (Source Wikipedia)

In order to realize a project like ours you need many helpers. This is how the platform independence of LIMBAS inspires us because everyone can access the system without problems. With LIMBAS, we make database changes and administrate our system on our own. For questions or further developments, the LIMBAS team is at your disposal with competent contact persons, especially when it comes to programming. This direct contact is a real plus. For us LIMBAS is a WORLDBESTSELLER!"

*Herr Robin Schmidt (Leiter der Forschungsstelle Kulturimpuls)
(Translated by LIMBAS!)*

The research center 'Kulturimpuls' in Switzerland has taken on the task of collecting and publishing biographies about people who are connected with anthroposophy. It also maintains an extensive historical archive with countless original historical texts and images.

Requirements

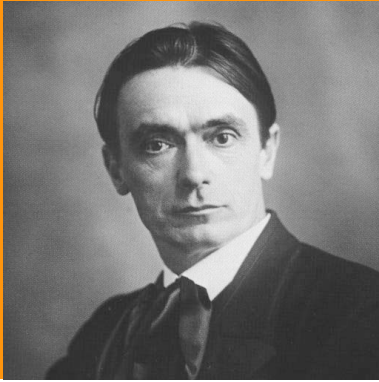
The goal was, after the publication of a book with the collected data of well-known anthroposophist to publish the same information on the internet. In addition the aim of the 'Kulturimpuls' research center was to decentralize the management of the data, to enable the administration from different offices and locations. Not only text, from the individual biographies, but also photographs of the anthroposophist should be stored, linked and provided in the central database.

The data should be made available to the public via a website. Important was also a fast retrieval of requested biographies, both for the public and for internal use to keep track of the current state of research.

The new system had to handle various data types such as long text fields, selection lists or date fields. A full indexing of database content and documents with keyword search also had to be available.



The Goetheanum in Dornach (Schwitzerland)



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Conclusion

The system includes about **40,000 biographies**, of which about **3,000** are published on the Internet.

<http://biographien.kulturimpuls.org/>

Solution

The Forschungsstelle Kulturimpuls decided, to use LIMBAS. The networking among the various branches was a given, as LIMBAS is a web based application. It was also an easy task to connect the newly designed Internet page with LIMBAS, using the SOAP interface.

All authorized data from the biographies including related photos, are directly passed on to the website through this interface. Through an integrated full-text search, all data are similarly easy for the visitors to find as with a search engine,. More search parameters complete this feature such as highlighting of search terms or combined search of date and name fields.

During the implementation a strong focus was put on the dates, to assure a correct management of the historical data. An integrated image archive enabled the storage of the many photos associated via links to the respective biography.

Release of single documents and publication management are integrated in the system. This means that only a part of the data will be released on the Internet.

Go Live

The system includes about 40,000 biographies, of which about 3,000 are published on the Internet. On request, researchers can receive all data records from the Forschungsstelle Kulturimpuls. In addition, over 7 million indexes are processed in LIMBAS.

The Literature Portal is adjusted to the current processes with new extensions and forms. During the course of time two other databases were added to the original version. They link historical events and institutions, with the data from the anthroposophical database to better represent the historical context.

It is planned to publish these data bases in the near future.



Extract from the biography of Maria Steiner from LIMBAS.