



Summary of Zoom Meeting: 30 April 2020

Participants: Orly Simon, head of readers' services at the library
Dena Ordan, Dan Bitan, Esther Chazon, Nadia Zeldes, Susan Fraiman,
Bracha Yaniv (and an unidentified reader)

At the meeting, which was initiated by Orly, various updates were presented with respect to library activity during the Covid-19 crisis and the planned reopening of the library when conditions permit.

I Current Work

Projects

The library is continuing with its digitization project (Google has stopped in the meantime).

Some of the staff continue to work (also from home) or are engaged in projects such as corrections to cross-references in the catalogue, Ketiv, and Hebrew music, among others.

Reference Services

Reference services are provided online through chat and what's app. There has been a significant increase in the number of queries by readers from home.

Document Delivery and Copying Services

Scanned copies of articles or parts of books (contingent on copyright) can be ordered for a fee through the library website. For information and pricing, visit the library website

<https://web.nli.org.il/sites/NLI/English/library/services/interlibrary%20loan/Pages/default.aspx>



Updates to the catalog

It is now possible to see what is available online. In the "Sort by" column, the rubric "Available online" has been added

Culture and Education Division

The education division is providing online access to various cultural events and to events filmed in the past

It also offers educational materials to teachers

In addition, it has made audio books available to the public

II The New Building

Construction on the new building continues

The library is also using this period to prepare barcodes for books in the stacks (required for the move to the new building)

III Preparations for Reopening the Library

Initially, only the Judaica and General Reading Rooms will be open. The special collections will not open.

Barriers have been erected on the service counters.

Only a limited number of readers (about 50) will be allowed to enter the building. They will sit at a distance from each other in assigned seats.

Entry will be granted only to those who have ordered a seat in advance.

There will be two, three-hour sessions per day and the library will be open from 9 to 16. During the break between sessions, the library will be disinfected.

The cafeteria will be closed.

The library will beef up cleaning of the bathrooms and perhaps limit the number of stalls in use in order to maintain distancing.



The purpose of the opening of the library is to allow readers to collect and photocopy materials. It will not be possible to spend the entire day at the library.

The entrance to the campus is through the main gate. A "certificate of health" is required to enter campus; a separate certificate is required to enter the library (two certificates).

Orly also informed us that there is noise from the construction of the light rail and that parking is also greatly restricted.