

The Technological Education Institutes (TEI) in Greece and Their Libraries

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The legal framework for the foundation of the Technological Education Institutes (TEI) in Greece is presented. A short history of the education of the librarians in Greece and some

general information about all the Institutes and their libraries is given. Data for the organisation, automation and personnel of the libraries are presented.

Purpose

This article provides general information for all Technological Education Institutes (TEI) in Greece. An earlier work done in 1988 by the TEI of Athens included only eight institutes (Ministry 1989). It is also the first attempt to present the status of the TEI libraries and to draw some conclusions. This work also wants to initiate discussion among the TEI students, TEI faculty, TEI administration and the academic community. The paper is not intended to evaluate or to criticise the libraries and library personnel.

General characteristics of the TEI and their libraries

Historically, the TEI schools are the successors to the Anotera Schools that started in 1966. The current design of the TEI finds its beginning in 1970 when the Centres of Higher Technical Education (in Greek, KATE) was established. In 1977 the Centres of Higher Technical and Professional Education (in Greek, KATEE) were founded; thus, the KATE became KATEE. Finally, in 1983 the KATEE was deployed and the Technological Education Institutes (TEI) were

founded.

In 1977 the first Library Science Department was founded in KATEE of Athens (Moreleli-Cacouris 1993). In 1981 the Department of Library Science in the TEI of Thessaloniki started functioning. Finally, in 1983 the Department of Archeonomy & Library Science was founded at the Ionian University in Corfu. This school started to accept students in 1993.

There are fourteen TEI located in twenty different towns. Six TEI are regional campuses of other TEI. The institutes differ from each other in size of student body and in number of departments. The TEI of Karpenisi has only one department with 180 students; on the other hand, the TEI of Athens has 32 departments and 20,000 students. Most of the TEI are located in suburban areas or outside of the towns. It has to be noted that there has been significant improvement in buildings in the last ten years. Some have newly built campuses. There is only one campus for each TEI. The TEI of Athens, Piraeus and Thessaloniki have a few other buildings in locations outside the central campuses.

The limited interest in TEI libraries in Greece is more obvious from the lack of legislation and the lack of library standards. Article 9 of the 3971/

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1959 decree has a reference to the establishment of "a library with a reading room" in each school, with no more details. Article 20 of the 383/1978 decree foresees the creation of an administrative library department in each KATEE that is responsible for the faculty libraries. The 1404/1983 law has a reference to the "Publishing and Library Department", meaning that the libraries are not autonomous departments in each TEI.

Most of the libraries started functioning in the 1980s, some after 1990. The TEI of Arta and Chania have small, unorganised book collections without a person completely responsible for them. In each TEI there is only one library, with the exception of the TEI of Thessaloniki that has two – the Central library and the library of the Faculty of Administration and Economics (spoudastirio SDO) – and the TEI of Herakleio which has a central library and a branch library in the Faculty of Health and Caring Professions (in Greek, SEYP). In the case where a TEI is a regional campus of another TEI, then their libraries are independent and there is no co-operation between these.

Data collection

A questionnaire was sent to all TEI libraries. For the library of the TEI of Thessaloniki, the personal experience of the writers was used. For the libraries of the TEI in the towns of Drama, Larisa, Kozani and Herakleio, a personal visit was made. A telephone contact was used for the TEI in the towns of Karditsa, Lamia, Arta and Chania. The data were collected from March 1995 to April 1996. The data collected is summarised in the Appendix.

Organisation of library materials

The majority of the TEI libraries have small collections; the big ones are the libraries of Herakleio, Athens, Patra, Piraeus and Thessaloniki. All of them have open stacks and lend their materials except that Piraeus has closed stacks.

For cataloguing, several libraries follow the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, second edition (AACR2). Six of them do not apply any rules. The same situation occurs for classification systems. The libraries that process their materials are using the Dewey Decimal Classification

(DDC) system, except the library of Herakleio and its SEYP branch where the Library of Congress Classification scheme is used. Two libraries do not classify their materials. The libraries of the TEI in Drama and Karditsa are applying the Oxford Classification System, which is designed for forestry materials.

There is a significant differentiation in the subject headings that the libraries are using. They use the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) or the Sears List of Subject Headings (SLCH) translated into Greek. Each library does the translation. Seven of the libraries translate the LCSH and five the SLCH and one library uses both of them. Three libraries are applying in-house developed subject headings and four do not use subject headings at all.

In most of the libraries, the responsibility for acquisition is with the faculty. In libraries of Piraeus, Kavala, Drama, Kozani, Larisa, Karpenisi, Mesolongi and Patra, the students and the library staff are involved in the selection of library material. In Kalamata there is a committee of two faculty members and two librarians. In the library of SDO (Thessaloniki), one librarian is responsible for acquisitions.

Automation

The ABEKT automation system is used in seven libraries. The ABEKT system is developed by the National Documentation Center (in Greek, EKT) and is freely distributed in public and state libraries. The 4th edition of ABEKT has the following modules: cataloguing, OPAC (supports Boolean operators), acquisition, authority control and circulation. ABEKT system is written in the PASCAL computer language and runs on PCs (DOS environment, using a Novell local area network).

The library of SDO in Thessaloniki uses CDS/ISIS distributed by UNESCO. CDS/ISIS is used for cataloguing and runs on PCs. The bibliographic database is based on UNIMARC.

The Central library and the branch library of SEYP in Herakleio use PTOLEMEOS II. The PTOLEMEOS II system is developed at the University of Crete and covers all the functions of a library. It is based on the INGRES database management system. It runs on platforms such as Unix and VMS. The bibliographic database is

based on USMARC. The character set is in Greek and Latin characters ELOT 9.28 (Krikelas & Tzekakis 1993).

The TEI in Kozani uses the PLAS system that is developed at the University of Patra. PLAS is an integrated system using the ORACLE database. PLAS runs on a variety of operating system platforms and the bibliographic database is based on UNIMARC (Pantelodimou 1993).

Four TEI libraries use some kind of automation and the other five libraries do not use any kind of automation system.

Library personnel

The libraries of the biggest TEI have a sufficient number of employees. The majority of them are small libraries and there are one or two employees in each. There is no employee that holds a PhD or a Master's degree. Six hold a university title but not a library science degree (two have also a TEI library degree). Thirteen of twenty existing libraries share one or more librarians holding a degree from the Department of Library Science of TEI. The biggest number of TEI librarians is found in the branch Library of SDO in Thessaloniki, but none of them has tenure. Four libraries have TEI graduates with degrees other than library science working in them.

The institutes and their libraries

First the three TEI libraries in big cities are reviewed. Then the others starting from Northern to Southern Greece follow.

TEI of Athens

The TEI of Athens was founded in 1970 and has 25,000 students. It consists of five faculties with a total of 32 departments. The main campus is located in the area of Aigaleo. Its library was established in 1979. The director holds a TEI Library Science degree. Four more library employees hold high school diplomas. The library has a collection of 14,000 books and 100 serial titles and it is organised according to AACR2 and DDC. The subject headings are based on LCSH and SLCH. It is automated with the ABEKT system and has PCs, CD-ROMs, and access to the Internet.

TEI of Piraeus

The TEI of Piraeus was founded in 1977. It serves a student body of 11,000 students. The main campus is located in Aigaleo but in a different location from the campus of TEI of Athens. It consists of two faculties and nine departments. The library started functioning in 1989. Five employees are working in the library (one with a university degree, two TEI-graduated librarians and two with high school diplomas). It has a collection of 5500 books and 50 serial titles. The materials are organised according to AACR2, DDC and LCSH. The library functions are automated with the ABEKT system and the library has a mini-computer and a few PCs.

TEI Thessalonikis

TEI Thessalonikis was founded 1970 and started to admit students in 1973. It is composed of five faculties (20 departments in all), with 18,000 students. The main campus is located in the area of Sindos and it has two other buildings at the centre of the city. It has a Central Library and one branch in the Faculty of Administration and Economics (SDO).

Central Library

The Central Library has operated since 1977. The library staff consists of eight employees, the director who holds a high school diploma, five graduates of Library Science of TEI and two other high school graduates. The library has a collection of 9000 books and 240 serial titles. It is organised by AACR2 and DDC. It holds author as well as subject card catalogues. Since 1992 subject headings are based on LCSH and one of the library's plans is the retrospective conversion of the older subject headings to LCSH. It also receives five newspapers, the *Efimerida tis Kyverniseos* (FEK) and the Greek edition of the Official Newspaper of European Union.

Branch of SDO

It has been in operation since 1989, separately from the Central Library and it is located in the SDO building. The Faculty has four departments (among them is the Department of Library Science), 5000 students and 176 teachers. It func-

tions under the supervision of the Library Science Department and employs ten librarian graduates of TEI. Some of them in addition to their duties in the library work as assistants in laboratory classes of the Library Science Department. The library holds a collection of 6500 books, 43 serial titles and audio-visual material. It is organised by AACR2, DDC and LCSH. Since 1992, the library functions are automated with the Micro CDS/ISIS System. A mini-computer and 11 terminals are available for the library's personnel and users. The library also installed a network and it has access to the Internet.

The Branch of SDO has also another section, in an independent room. Since 1992 a lending picture gallery has been in operation, that has 150 copies of works by Greek and foreign painters and photographers. In the same room are the audio-visual material, the art books and the bound periodicals. There is no connection between the Central Library and the Branch of SDO. These are two independent libraries, without a common catalogue. There is a future plan for connecting them with the participation and help of the Computer Science Department of TEI.

TEI Kavallas

The TEI Kavallas has operated since 1976 with two faculties and a total of five departments – accounting, business administration, mechanics, and electrology and oil technology – with 2500 students currently enrolled. It is located in the area of Agios Loukas. Its library, operating since 1988, employs three Library Science graduates of TEI. The library holds a collection of 6500 books and subscribes to 120 serial titles, one technical and four financial newspapers, as well as to the Greek edition of the Official Newspaper of European Union. It is organised using AACR2, DDC and SLSH. It has all the necessary card catalogues.

TEI Dramas

The TEI Dramas was founded in 1985 as a regional campus of TEI Kavallas. It is located in the area of Proastio. It consists only of the Department of Forestry with 410 students enrolled. The library started functioning in 1987 with one employee, a graduate of the accounting

department of the TEI. It has a collection of 1600 books, 30 periodicals, maps and videotapes. An in-house developed programme automates it and it doesn't use any cataloguing or subject heading rules. For the classification of their materials, the Oxford Classification Scheme is used.

TEI of Serres

The TEI of Serres was founded 1979. It consists of two faculties (four departments in all) – the departments of civil works technology, of mechanology, of business administration and accounting – with 2500 students enrolled. Its library started functioning in 1985 with two employees, graduates of the accounting and nursing departments of the TEI and a part-time graduate in library science of the TEI. It has a collection of 7000 books and 50 serial titles. Classification is based on DDC; for cataloguing and subject headings; it doesn't apply any rules. They have developed an in-house automation system for their staff use only.

TEI Kozanis

TEI Kozanis was founded in 1976. It is composed of two faculties with a total of five departments: mechanology, electrology, mining, accounting and business administration. It is located in the area of Koila with 3500 students enrolled. The library was established in 1978, but it has functioned as a completely organised library only since 1986. The library staff consists of four employees: the director, who is an economics science graduate; two librarians who are graduates of the TEI; and one high school graduate. For the automation of its materials, six more librarians, graduates of the TEI, have been employed. It has a collection of 6500 books and 30 serial titles. It is organised according AACR2, DDC and SLSH, in conjunction with the Greek Subject Headings of the National Library (Katalogos 1991), and also using specialised subject headings in collaboration with teachers of its departments. The library has also purchased the PLAS software. There is installed a network of IBM-compatible personal computers for employee use and two personal computers for library users. It has access to the Internet.

TEI Florinas

The TEI Florinas was founded in 1979. Now it operates as a regional campus of the TEI of Kozani. It consists of two departments, crop and animal production, with 700 students enrolled. Its library has been operating since 1994 and employs a graduate of Democritus Vocational School. It has a collection of 1200 books. The staff of the TEI of Kozani according to its rules has done the organisation of its material.

TEI of Epirus

The TEI of Epirus was founded in 1994. The headquarters of TEI are in the town of Arta and it has a regional campus in Ioannina.

TEI Artas

The TEI Artas has operated since 1986 as a regional campus of the TEI of Mesolongi. Since 1994, its status changed with the foundation of the TEI of Epirus. It has become the main campus of the TEI with three departments, crop and animal production and the department of floriculture and landscape architecture. It doesn't have a library but there is a small room with 750 books and no serial titles, handled by the secretariat of the Institute.

TEI of Ioannina

The TEI of Ioannina was founded in 1984. From 1985 to 1994, it has operated as a regional campus of the TEI of Mesolongi. Since 1994 it has been in operation as a regional campus of the TEI of Epirus. It is composed of two departments – nursing and baby/infant care – with a student body of 800 students. Its library was established in 1985 and employs a high school graduate. It has a collection of 3000 books.

TEI Larisas

The TEI Larisas was founded 1970 and began admitting students in 1973. It is composed of four faculties with a total of eleven departments and 8500 students. The library has been operating since 1976. Its staff consists of four employees, a director who holds a university degree and he is graduate of the Library Science

Department of the TEI, one more librarian graduate of the TEI, a high school graduate and a clerk. The library holds a book collection of 7300 volumes and 35 serial titles. It is organised according AACR2, DDC and SLSH. The library's functions are automated with the ABEKT system and it has a mini-computer and a network of four PCs.

TEI Karditsas

The TEI Karditsas was founded in 1981 as a regional campus of the TEI Larisas, but has been in operation since 1985 with the department of forestry and 320 students enrolled. Its library, operating since 1985, employs one graduate of the forestry school of the university. It has a collection of 700 books and 15 serial titles. It is automated using the same software as the TEI of Drama. For classification it applies the Oxford Classification Schemes and it doesn't use any cataloguing and subject heading rules.

TEI Lamias

The TEI Lamias was founded in 1982 as a regional campus of the TEI Larisas. Since 1994, it has been an autonomous Institute. It consists of four departments – electrology, electronics technology, nursing and physiotherapy. The number of students enrolled is almost 2000. The library was established in 1995 and employs three librarians who are graduates of the TEI (one of them holds also a university degree). It has a collection of 2000 books and 15 serial titles. It is organised using AACR2, DDC and SLSH. It is in process of automation with the ABEKT system.

TEI of Karpenisi

The TEI of Karpenisi was founded in 1981 as a regional campus of TEI of Mesolongi. In 1994, its status changed and it became a regional campus of the TEI Lamias, with only the department of forestry with 180 students. Its library has been in operation since 1986, with an employee who is a graduate of high school. It has a collection of 300 books and 10 serial titles. There is only an author card catalogue. There are no rules for cataloguing, classification and subject headings.

TEI Chalkidas

The decision for the foundation of the TEI Chalkidas was taken in 1977. Its status changed in 1981. It is located in the area of Psachna and is composed of two faculties, with a total of four departments – mechanics, electrology, accounting and business administration. It has 3000 students. The library started functioning in 1988, with one employee who is a graduate of the business administration department of the TEI. It holds a collection of 500 books, mainly textbooks. It doesn't apply any cataloguing or subject heading rules. There is an in-house developed software that provides catalogues and circulation.

TEI of Mesolongi

The TEI of Mesolongi was founded in 1981. It is composed of two faculties with a total of four departments – accounting, fishing and fisheries, co-operative unions and farm administration, green house cultivation and floriculture. It serves a body of 1200 students. The library has been in operation since 1987 and employs two Library Science graduates of the TEI. It holds a collection of 4000 books and 50 serial titles. It is organised using AACR2, DDC and in-house developed subject headings. The data is computerised with the ABEKT system, into which 15 to 20% of its material has been entered.

TEI Patras

TEI Patras was founded 1970 and began admitting students in 1973. It has three faculties (10 departments in all) and 6000 students. The library staff consists of five employees: the director who is a graduate of the Library Science Department of the TEI; a second TEI librarian; a high school graduate; and two graduates of vocational schools. It holds a collection of 10000 books (6000 Greek titles and 4000 foreign), 200 serial titles (50 Greek and 150 foreign), the *Efimerida tis Kyverniseos* and the Greek edition of the Official Newspaper of European Union. It is organised using AACR2, DDC and LCSH. It doesn't have card catalogues since the data is computerised (ABEKT) with a network of four IBM compatible PCs for employee use and two PCs for library users. It also has access to the

Internet.

TEI Kalamatas

The TEI Kalamatas has operated since 1988 as a regional campus of the TEI Patras. Since March 1990, it has been an autonomous Institute. Today, it is composed of four departments – crop production, green house cultivation and floriculture, local government unit administration, and health and caring unit administration. 1100 students are currently enrolled. Its library, in operation since 1993, employs two Library Science graduates of the TEI. The library holds a book collection of 5500 volumes, maps, and audio-visual material and also subscribes to 25 periodicals. It is organised using AACR2, DDC and LCSH. It doesn't have any card catalogues since the data is computerised (ABEKT 3.0). A mini-computer and three PCs are also available; two PCs are for the library's employees, and one for library users.

TEI of Herakleio

The TEI of Herakleio was founded in 1970, and is located in the area of Stavromenou. The TEI of Herakleio is composed of four faculties (10 departments in all) and 7000 students are currently enrolled. It has a Central Library and one branch in the faculty of SEYP. The Central Library has operated since 1977 and holds 5200 Greek titles and 2000 foreign titles. Including multiple copies for some titles, the total number of volumes is 20,000. The Library also subscribes to 230 periodicals (130 Greek and 100 foreign) as well as to seven finance newspapers, to the *Efimerida tis Kyverniseos*, and since 1994, it also receives the Greek edition of the Official Newspaper of European Union. The library staff consists of five employees: the director, who is a political science graduate, an accounting and a business administration graduate of the TEI, a graduate of the Library Vocational School of the YMCA and a high school graduate. The library materials are organised using AACR2, LCC and LSCH. It has author as well as title card catalogues. To improve cataloguing, the library has also purchased the PTOLEMEOS II software from the University of Crete, and thus far, 1500 entries have been recorded. The library also installed a network of five IBM-compatible PCs for employee use and two PCs

for library users. The library has access to the Internet and an online connection with the library at the University of Crete. The only problem at the TEI of Herakleio is that besides the Central Library and the branch in SEYP, books, which are not entered in the Central Library's catalogue, are also stacked in instructors' offices. However, recently, some attempts are being made to rectify the situation.

Branch of SEYP

The branch of the Central Library in the Faculty of SEYP has been in operation since 1992 and holds 1500 volumes, 2 periodicals and theses written by the faculty's graduates. The branch employs a full-time high school graduate, and a part-time library science graduate of the TEI. The library material is organised by AACR2, LCC and LCSH. Both author and title card catalogues are available at the library. The reading room of SEYP has a PC that is connected with the Central Library's catalogue through the PTOLEMEOS II system.

TEI of Chania

The TEI of Chania was founded in 1982 as a regional campus of the TEI of Herakleio. Only the department of electronics technology is in operation. The number of students enrolled is 300. It doesn't have a library but there is a budget for books, handled by the Secretariat of the department. The existing 500 volumes are stacked in the Secretary's office.

Beginning in September 1996, a new regional campus of the TEI of Epirus will be operating in the town of Hegoumenitsa, with the department of fishing and fisheries, and a new regional campus of the TEI of Kozani will be operating in the town of Kastoria (department of international trade).

Conclusion

The fact that it is possible for some libraries to operate and serve their patrons in a satisfactory way because of the determination and work of their employees cannot be overlooked. It is difficult, however, to consider libraries like the ones of the TEI in Drama, Serres, Karditsa, Ioannina, Karpenisi and Chalkida as organised libraries.

This is not only because the size of these libraries is very small but also because the organisation of their materials is not based on any international library standard.

Presently there is only one central library in each TEI rather than libraries in each faculty or department as happens in most universities in Greece. This way, the creation of weak and unorganised libraries is avoided. Of course the existence of only one library is also dictated by reality, since some TEI are so small that they would not be able to keep more than one library. On this matter there is the perspective of the vice-presidents as discussed at a meeting that took place at the headquarters of the Institute of Technological Education (ITE) in Athens. Most of the participants at that meeting supported the view of having only one central library for each TEI. However, the view of having separate libraries for each department has also been debated (Ministry 1989). Such a proposal can only be accepted on the condition that such specialised libraries function at the same place as their respective departments and under central administration.

We believe that all TEI need to pay special attention to the organisation and development of their libraries if they want to participate in tertiary education as equal partners. Especially the two TEI that have departments of library science and computer science need to maintain not just state-of-the-art libraries but they also need to become centres of specialised information and technology. In this respect, they will provide leadership in the field and assist other TEI libraries, so that even the smallest library at the farthest point in the country would function properly and satisfactorily and be able to co-operate with the rest of the libraries.

The idea of organising and managing all of the TEI libraries, so that they are able to share a union catalogue on one network, is feasible. A good start would be the online connection and collaboration of the AEI (Academic Education Institutes) libraries that offer online services with the TEI libraries that are located in the same cities. A number of academic libraries are fully automated or are very close to the completion of their automation goals. The TEI library of Herakleio already has access to the online database of the University of Crete library. We

believe that it is possible for a number of other libraries to collaborate, such as the TEI of Thessaloniki with the Aristotle University Libraries and the University of Macedonia Library, the TEI library of Patra with the University of Patra Library, etc.

Further the ability of accessing international networks and databases (OCLC, Melvyl, etc.) would provide TEI libraries with the capacity for copy cataloguing. All of the above can help to create the appropriate conditions for the automation of the TEI libraries through co-operation in the degree to which each is capable. The administration of each TEI should undertake the task of realising such a plan and also staff the libraries with appropriate and specialised personnel (librarians, computer specialists, etc.). Such a plan could be beneficial to all libraries, especially to small and remote ones.

Among the many advantages of such a plan is its cost effectiveness. The electronic connection and co-operation of the TEI libraries, located in twenty cities (soon to become twenty-two), and their co-operation with the rest of the Greek academic libraries should be the primary goal of the TEI. This goal should also serve as the drive for the development not only of the libraries and local communities, but also of Greek education and research.

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Appendix: General characteristics of libraries

TEI	Material			Personnel		
	vol-umes	Serial titles.	B. Sc.Library Sc.*	TEI other	High sch.	Total
Athens	1400	100		1	4	5
Piraeus	950	50	1	2	2	5
Thessaloniki	900	240		5	3	8
Fac. SDO	650	43		10		10
Kavala	650	120		3		3
Reg. Drama	160	30			1	1
Serres	700	50		1	2	3
Kozani	650	30	1	2		4
Reg. Florina	120	0			1	1
Epirus/Arta	75	40				0
Reg. Ioannina	300	0			1	1
Larisa	730	35	1	1	2	4
Reg. Karditsa	70	15	1			1
Lamia	200	15	1	2		3
Reg. Karpenisi	30	10			1	1
Chalkida	50	0			1	1
Mesolongi	400	50		2		2
Patra	1000	200		2	3	5
Kalamata	550	25		2		2
Herakleio	2000	230	1	2	2	5
Fac. SEYP	150	2		1	1	2
Reg. Chania	50	0				0

* Graduates of the Library Science Department of TEI.