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# LIBRARY OF THE LAW FACULTY, ZURICH UNIVERSITY. SANTIAGO CALATRAVA'S MASTERPIECE

The article contains the information about Library of the Law Faculty (Zurich University, Switzerland) which is considered to be the one of the most unique libraries of the World. It is interesting as architectural building and also as scientific space.

**Keywords**: Library of the Law Faculty, Zurich University, funds, Santiago Calatrava, scientific space.

Library plays a very important role in the life of each university and each city. In this small paper I would like to provide some information about one of the most unique libraries I have ever been and ever worked. This is the library of the Law Faculty, Zurich University, Switzerland.

This is the public library: its materials can be used not only by students, researchers or professors of the Zurich University, but also by all people who are interested in its materials and S. Calatrava's masterpiece. The library in its recent view was opened to the public in 2004 and became a very attractive destination not only for students, but also for tourists. They come not only to read, but also to make a picture of the library. It was created by the engineer and architect Santiago Calatrava (Strehler & Niederer, 2006, Picture 1). The building process took place in 1989–1999 and 2000–2005 (Facts and figures about the Library, 2018).

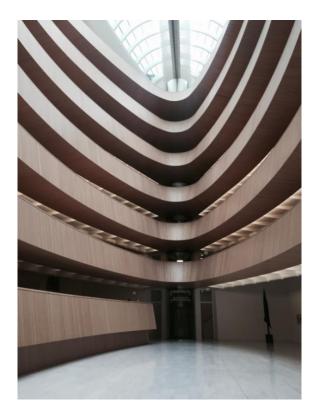
The building of the library was integrated in the courtyard of an existing building of the Law Faculty and it is strictly separated from the old building of the Law Faculty from an organizational point of view as well. At either end of the gallery are an elevator, the staircase, and the access to the building services. There are a total of 500 study places, 250 of which are connected to the electricity mains and have IT access. The lighting can be switched on individually at every study

place. On the rear side of the galleries (the library backpack) there is one "parlatorium" on each of the five stories where students can meet to exchange ideas as well as one room for photocopying (Strehler & Niederer, 2006).

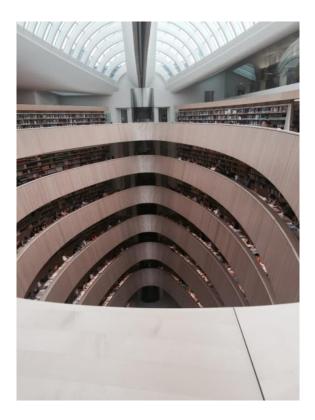
The library includes a total of 5000 running meters of bookshelves, ca. 200.000 books, 600 Periodicals. In the area at the back of the old building an addition takes up the study places for research and PhD students as well as the administration of the Law Faculty (Facts and figures about the Library, 2018). All students and the faculty of the Zurich University have a remote access to electronic materials of the Library (Remote Acess-VPN).

If you enter the library, you will see the view that it provided in Picture 1.

From the first glance, it could seem that the library is empty. But actually it is full of students. The following picture from another angle shows working students (Picture 2).



**Picture 1**.
Library of the Law Faculty, Zurich University



**Picture 2**.
Library of the Law Faculty, Zurich University

Picture 1 also shows that the use of the inner courtyard necessitated a roof. This reduced the outside surface substantially, which in turn brought about massive energy savings – up to 47%! But this new inner space has to be aired. For this, the thermal lift is exploited: warm air – 4 to 6 degrees Celsius warmer than the air on the outside – concentrates in the area of the cupola and leaves the building through vents. It draws up fresh air that is sucked in at the bottom of the building (Strehler & Niederer, 2006).

There are a lot of facts and interesting stories can be explained about this library. I think that it is a very interesting place to visit if you are in Zürich and of course, it is a very interesting library to work in if you are in Switzerland.

## References

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#### Моннет-Лукаш Анастасія

Бібліотека Юридичного факультету Університету Цюріха— витвір мистецтва Сантьяго Калатрава

Надано інформацію про публічну бібліотеку юридичного факультету (Університет Цюріха, Швейцарія), яка вважається однією з унікальних бібліотек Світу. Вона цікава і як архітектурна споруда для туристів, і як середовище для науки.

**Ключові слова**: Бібліотека юридичного факультету, Університет Цюріха, фонди, Сантьяго Калатрава, середовище для науки.

### Моннет-Лукаш Анастасия

# Библиотека Юридического факультета Университета Цюриха – произведение исскуства Сантьяго Калатрава

Предоставлена информация про публичную библиотеку юридического факультета (Университет Цюриха, Швейцария), которая считается одной из уникальных библиотек Мира. Она интересна и как архитектурное сооружение для туристов и в качестве научного пространства.

**Ключевые слова**: Библиотека юридического факультета, Университет Цюриха, фонды, Сантьяго Калатрава, научное пространство.