



EB0224

LIBER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS: JULY 2024, CYPRUS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Monday 1 July: First Meeting

Present: Heli Kautonen (HK), Julien Roche (JR), Anja Smit (ASm), Swiatek Cassafieres (CS), Giannis Tsakonas (GT), Hilde van Wijngaarden (HvW), Birgit Schmidt (BS), Adam Sofronijević (ASo), Andreas Brandtner (AB), Anna Clements (AC), Lars Burman (LB), Sara Lammens (SL), Dóra Kalydy (DK), Martine Pronk (MP) & Helen Ezeokoli (HE)

1. Apologies
2. EB0124 minutes
3. Matter arising

4. Summary of actions after EB0124

Carried forward from EB meetings in February 2024:

#	Who	What	Status
1	HK; MP	Include explanation of Open Science in relation to new LIBER training programme in next draft.	Keep
2	MP	Draft LIBER – LQ communications content plan.	Keep
3	MP	Investigate potential Participants and EOSC Association members overlap.	Keep
4	MP	Contact CSIC for more information about their Participant category.	Keep
5	SC Chairs	Review SC reporting format.	Remove
6	MP	Set up Rights & Values task force consisting of LB, ASo, AB, AC, HK, BS, GT, JR and AV.	Remove
7	ASm	Discuss creating confidentiality policy at future meetings.	Keep
8	MP	Add testimonials and contact details from former local hosts to the website.	Keep
9	Executive Board	Suggest CPC candidates to GT.	Keep
10	MP	Set up task force to prepare the LIBER Office move in 2028.	Keep
11	MP	Add a short overview of each project’s output and benefits to the LIBER website – result in sept	Keep
12	HK; MP	Compile and publish an overview of all LIBER training activities on the website.	Keep
13	HK; BS; ASm	Look into non-contributing LQ Editorial Board members.	Remove
14	AC; CS; AB; BS; MP	Define the Libraries impact on Open Science proposal’s angle and scope and make long list potential partners for the libraries.	Keep
15	AB; AC; HK; BS	Ask Working Groups for feedback about embedding workshops in the main Annual Conference programme.	Keep
16	MP	Plan a mtg about the factsheet “Re- creating Europe in the near future” and to call Birgit about the factsheet	Remove
17	Executive Board	Review the factsheet template before Oct 2024	Keep

18	MP	To get a list of LIBER members and align with EOSC	Remove
19	HK	Research studies: preview in a year to see how progress is going for internal analysis, end 2024	Remove
20	MP; HvW	RAR: to update the board members in Feb 2024	Oct 24
21	HK	Upskilling: Provide an update in February	Remove
22	ASm	Draft take aways from the discussion slot 'LIBER Governance and implementation strategy' and prepare follow up	Keep
23	MP	Present clarity regarding the difference in financial and net result presented in the Annual Accounts 2023, and if clear, prepare to proceed with the procedure for approval of the Account by email	Done
24	MP	Prepare proposal 'Indexing membership fees per 1 January 2025' for the Meeting of Participants 2024	Done
25	MP	Prepare proposal 'Reclassifying Tiers Membership fees' for the Meeting of Participants 2024	Done
26	HvW	Schedule a discussion about sponsorships in EB	Oct 2024
27	MP, BS, CS	Further conversation FOR EU LIB re EU project	Keep
28	CS	Discuss possible further collaboration with LARreferencia after 2nd webinar	Done
29	MP	Update ED report Feb 2024 with accurate data	Keep
30	NG	Amend Paper EB0124.7.1.0.4: replace Heli by Sara for reappointment	Remove
31	ASm; MP	Amend Code of Conduct according to comments, communicate via website and implement at events	Remove
32	GT	To organize a 3rd review on papers Annual Conference if needed, EB members volunteer to help	Done
33	MP	Inform NTNU Trondheim Offer to hold Annual Conference 2026 is approved, dates 1-3 July	Done
34	HK; BS	Give feedback to the colleagues proposing AI WG to give feedback on proposal and take further steps	Done
35	HK, AB, HvW	Further explore topic 'Open Science in the broader view' and prepare for July or October EB meetings	Oct 2024
36	AB, HK, BS, AC	Discuss OCLC Engagement Programme and come back on this	Remove
37	AC	Report on Master Class Citizen Science in July EB	Done

5. Finance Committee report and recommendations

As the FC was held online in May, HvW give a brief overview of all papers then dive straight into the recommendation. A summary of the FC meeting including recommendations of the FC to the EB were sent to the board in preparation to the EB0224 meeting. Only the papers which were for approval or comments were made on - are listed below.

The recommendations of the FC to the Executive Board are:

- Reassess sponsorship overview, potential alternatives, and opportunities starting in October.
- Approve the Profit & Loss 2024 and explanatory note.

5. 1 Profit & loss 2024

EB approved the Profit & Loss 2024.

5.2 Explanatory note

EB approved the explanatory note.

5.3 Outstanding payments

Comments were made on the list of outstanding payments. MP explained that LIBER office is making effort to reduce this, and that the situation is similar to previous years. A difference will be seen during the EB meeting in October.

5.5 Draft 2023 Annual Accounts and Auditors Report

The Executive Board has noted the prepared financial statements.

2023 and the auditor's report in their meeting in February 2024 (EB0124). After this meeting the Executive Director presented clarification regarding the difference in financial and net result presented in the Annual Accounts 2023 and proceeded with the procedure for approval of the Account by email. As a result, the Executive Board adopted the financial statements by email which was confirmed by the Treasurer by email on 15 April 2024 to the EB. The EB will present these financial statements to the Meeting of Participants.

5.6 Indexing Annual Participant Fees 2025

Communication follows after the Annual Conference.

5.7 Proposal Reclassifying Tiers Participant Fees

Proposal will be presented for approval to the Meeting of Participants.

5.8 Sustainable LIBER Organisation – Update

- Promoting the Supporting Membership Fees starts during the Annual Conference and will proceed in August, September and October.
- EB decides on a discussion on Sponsorship during the October Board meetings.
- EB takes into consideration to have a discussion on the aspect of financial risk of the conference – Oct 2024

6. 2024-2025 Events – Budget

The recommendations of the FC to the Executive Board are:

- Approve the budget and participant fees for the Annual Conference 2025 Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Approve the budget and participant fees for the Winter Event 2024 in Maribor.

6.1 LIBER Winter Event 2024

The budget and registration fees for the event and the dinner were approved.

6.2 LIBER Annual Conference 2025

MP presents the preliminary budget for the LIBER Annual Conference 'for information' with the following comments:

- To avoid unexpected deficits, the final budget will be based on 400 attendees.
- Expectation is that the registration fee will be less than € 400.
- Registration fee for the dinner is not known yet.

7. Internal Business Processes

7.1 2024 Appointment and Reappointment Executive Board

Four EB positions are eligible for reappointment but three, and the position of Treasurer will be open per July 2025. Soon the process is needed to start to look for new SC chairs. EB members need to consider and make a recommendation to ASm and JR, with further discussion scheduled for October.

7.2 Strategic Component Right & Values: Succession Lars Burman

ASm recommended looking into EB's vacant positions, who will replace Lars, and how this can be materialized. EB should reflect and send an email to ASm. More discussion is needed.

8. Future hosts LIBER Events

8.1 Future host LIBER Event 2026

Apologies were made for not following up with Cambridge. It was suggested that hosting in Cambridge would be fine for Winter events or the Annual conference in 2027.

Journees is looking for a new host: the call will be launched during the final day of the conference. Suggestions are welcome.

8.2 Proposal NSK Croatia Host Winter Event 2026

The event proposal was approved but there will be a need to check/reduce number of the plenary sessions due to small components of the rooms.

9. Executive Director

9.1 Executive Directors' Report

MP suggested to use this timeslot to focus on project update - EOSC. No further questions.

9.2 Communication Report

The report shows the results on Q1. There is concrete progress but there was also a general outlook toward the future.

9.3 LIBER Annual Report

The Annual Report will be approved by the MoP. MP recommended using the report to reach a wider audience through stakeholders. It was suggested to incorporate more pictures from LIBER to increase engagement. There were concerns about the cost of making the report more specific for sharing with stakeholders, but it may still be achievable. A request is made to think about ways to assess the impact. A list of suggested stakeholders will be prepared and stored on Google Drive.

10. Discussion slot Global Development: Situation Middle East

A colleague at the LIBER Office raised a question about LIBER's vision for collaborating with partners from Israel and handling the situations in the Middle East. After a fruitful discussion, the EB proposed organizing effective dialogues, ensuring library involvement, and emphasizing non-discrimination as a guiding principle. The discussion emphasized maintaining LIBER's values when collaborating with organizations and handling membership applications. The conclusion stressed the importance of aligning with LIBER's values in discussions and interactions.

Tuesday 2 July Second Meeting

11. EU Activities and Partnerships

11.1 International Project Report

The board thanked MP for the informative and useful update but suggested that it would be helpful to have a comprehensive list of all past and future projects, along with their overviews, timeframe, and numbers for easy visual reference.

No further questions.

12. Steering Committees report and recommendations

12.1 Advancing Open Science

The SC meeting will be scheduled after the Annual Conference. AR, along with the Working Group, will explore further the various emerging themes on open access. It is crucial to focus more on the emerging topics and how they relate to the LIBER strategy and vision.

The Executive Board recommended the paper on “***Understanding the open textbook landscape across Europe: a focus on discoverability***” but suggested that it would be beneficial to have more high-quality papers on open access. This recommendation applies to all members of the Steering Committee.

12.2 Engaged and trusted hubs

AC reported that the masterclass evaluation has been completed to assess its success. The EB commended the WG for their good work. There was a discussion about encouraging the Architecture Working Group, particularly focusing on how LIBER can better support the logistic and sustainability of its membership within the WG.

The EB recommended proposing a solid internal framework as the next step. Furthermore, they suggested exploring how the ICOLC Statement on AI and the Barcelona Declaration statement can further benefit LIBER. The EB plans to discuss this statement further in the upcoming IARLA meeting.

The Executive Board preliminary approved to host of the 2025 Citizen Science Masterclass in Budapest but based on the following conditions listed under *12.5 (recommendations)*.

12.3 State – of – the – art services and trusted hubs

BS reported there will be a stepping down of one of the RDM WG co-chair and the WG has successfully found a replacement. The Executive Board approved Elisa Rodenburg from VU Amsterdam as the incoming co-chair of the RDM working group after the LIBER conference.

During the meeting, HvW suggested that the Executive Board (EB) should review and reconsider the existing Working Groups (WGs) as most of them have been around for a long time. HvW encouraged the WGs to explore new topics in line with the LIBER strategy. GS emphasized that the SC is central to the LIBER strategy and suggested seeking their input and recommendations

towards the end of the strategy. DK proposed inviting the chairs of the WGs to an EB meeting to discuss their plans.

12.4 Upskilling the library workforce

HK highlighted the need for a mid-term evaluation to prepare the working group for a change of leadership.

HK also commended the collaboration of the DS-DCHC WG with Digital Science WG and suggested that the Digital Science working group conduct an evaluation to determine if they want to continue with it. Additionally, SC will be conducting an upskilling analysis.

12.5 Recommendations

The Steering Committee (SC) has made the following recommendations to the Executive Board:

Regarding the WG Copyright and Legal Matters:

- Recommend that LIBER signs the ICOLC statement on AI in Licensing, followed by outlining a good action plan document.

Regarding RDM WG new co-chair:

- To approve Elisa Rodenburg from VU Amsterdam as the incoming co-chair of the RDM working group after the LIBER conference.

Regarding the OCLC – LIBER Multi-annual Engagement Programme:

- To perform a comprehensive evaluation with OCLC before proceeding with the partnership.

Regarding the Citizen Science Masterclass:

- To approve the March 2025 event in Budapest, and continue the Masterclass CS on a yearly base under the following conditions:
- To provide Executive Board with more information on the business model for a multi annual approach
- To consider a masterclass to be self-sustainable, which means to not support the activity financially from the LIBER budget.
- To ask the CS-WG to provide the Executive Board with a separate proposal for approval of a multi-annual approach.

Regarding the proposal Future Emerging Leaders Programme:

- To continue the Emerging Leaders Programme.
- To start the process of recruiting trainers and program directors (library leaders).
- To ask the WG to draft a proposal for the financial structure of the ELP to be approved in the LIBER Board meeting on 17-18 October 2024.

Regarding the OA WG:

- To ask the OA WG to prepare a paper on strategic level with input from the WG about urgent issues in the field of scholarly communications / open access and present this in an upcoming board meeting for further discussion.

13. Rights and Values

ASo introduces the paper.

- Preliminary conclusions from the discussion were:

- We value the topic; this was underlying to the changes to the LIBER rights and values as this one intrigue part of our Strategy.
- Focus on library-related content and encourage open discussion without making a public statement for now.
- The Executive Board agrees to have more discussion on this topic in Executive Board in October.
- Proposal approved.

14. LIBER – DFFU study

14.1 Status update DFFU -LIBER Study July 2024

HK reported that the report has been published. DFFU will have a workshop at a Danish library in October, and after this, the project can come to an end. No further questions or comments.

14.2 DFFU -LIBER Report

The report was approved. The Executive Board expresses gratitude to the team. It emphasizes the importance of having a plan to circulate the report and obtain the necessary license. It is necessary to discuss who will be responsible for the follow-up. This discussion is scheduled for the next SC meeting.

15. Emerging Leaders Programme

15.1 Emerging Leaders Programme 2011 -2023 Evaluation Report

HK thanked Kira Stine Hansen and her team for the excellent report they produced. The emphasis on personal leadership and networking is the highlight of this program. MP mentioned that finding the right programme directors and trainers will be a challenge. Executive Board emphasized that the Leadership Programme will continue.

15.2 Proposal for future Emerging Leaders Programme

The proposal was approved.

16. LIBER Quarterly – Open Peer Review

HK reported that the editorial board decided to explore the possibility of open peer review. HK stressed that being aware of the possible heavy workload needs to be explored.

17. CPC Report LIBER Annual Conference 2024, Limassol Cyprus

GT reported that good work was done. Quick adjustments were made with the keynote speakers. GT emphasized that the numbers are almost the same as last year. The challenge mentioned by GT is that there will be a need for more people to manage the workload.

The meeting on Tuesday ended with the Executive Board (EB) presenting a farewell moment and gift to Prof. Lars Burman, Director of Uppsala University Library.

Friday 5 July Third Meeting

Thomas Kaarsted, a new board member, joined the meeting and introduced himself.

Apologies: Sara Lammens for her absence.

Discussion Slot:

18. Open Access and focus on National Libraries

Invited guest: Frank Scholze (FS), Director General of the German National Library and Chair of the Conference of European National Libraries (CENL) and SC prepared a discussion paper.

Summary of conclusions:

- Improve mutual understanding in both LIBER and CENL: increase collaboration and knowledge exchange.
- Take a perspective on collections as data to address opportunities and challenges and find common ground between CENL and LIBER.
- Overlapping field: cultural heritage collections.
- Explore collaboration between LIBER and CENL regarding increased accessibility and sharing research information on a European level.
- Improvement of accessibility for society of both national and research library collections.

19. CPC Report and Recommendation

GT thanked the LIBER Office for the work that had been done so far.

Proposal Theme and Topics LIBER Annual Conference 2025

EB approves the theme for the 2025 LIBER Annual Conference proposed by the CPC: ***'Engage, collaborate, innovate libraries addressing global challenges.'***

Internal Matters

- JR announced the renewal of MP contract into a permanent contract, and she was congratulated!
- Request to seek for a more centralized way for invoicing for the Annual conference or all other programs run by LIBER was made by CS. MP promised to take this into account and updates when it is possible.
- MP and HE will work on the EB0124 minutes which will be approved via email. The wording on 6.1 needs to be adjusted.
- CS was nominated for the Rights & Values with ASo, presented by Anja, and unanimously validated during the board.

Future Executive Board meeting

- CS will host the next October board meetings 2024 in Paris Nanterre: 17-18 Oct.
- Suggested rescheduling the Feb 2025 board meeting in Trondheim to the first or second week of March. MP will confirm with team NTNU. HE to create voting polls for EB to decide via email.

Actions after EB0224 July 2024:

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13	Executive Board	Review the factsheet template before Oct 2024	
14	MP; HvW	Risk Assessment Report: to update the board members in Feb 2024	Oct 24
15	ASm	Draft takeaways from the discussion slot 'LIBER Governance and implementation strategy' and prepare follow up	
16	HvW	Schedule a discussion about sponsorships and further dialogue on the aspect of financial risk of the Annual Conference EB	Oct 24
17	MP, BS, CS	Further conversation FOR EU LIB re EU project	
18	Executive Board	Approve the budget and participant fees for Lausanne, Switzerland – LIBER 2025 including with the budget and participant fees for the Winter Event 2024 in Maribor	Oct 24
19	Executive Board	Further discussions on suggested candidates to fill open positions (Treasurer & SC Chairs)	Oct 24
20	Executive Board	Further conversation on the possibility of Cambridge as the next host of LIBER AC or WE in 2027	
21	MP	Define the impact of the Annual Report, and make a long list of potential stakeholders for future uses	
22	Executive Board	Explore more on how to use the ICOLC statement on AI and the Barcelona Declaration statement including outlining a good action plan	
23	Executive Board	Perform a comprehensive evaluation with OCLC before proceeding with the partnership	Oct 24
24	Executive Board	Ask the CS-WG to provide a separate proposal for approval on their business model	Oct 24
25	HK, MP	Ask the Leadership WG to draft a proposal on the financial structure	Oct 24

		of the ELP for approval	
26	AB, MP, GT	Ask the OA WG to prepare a paper on a strategic level with input from other WGs to be used in the mid-term evaluation of the strategy	
27	Executive Board	Explore collaboration between LIBER and CENL regarding increased accessibility and sharing research information on a European level	