Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche
Association of European Research Libraries

**SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION AND RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES
STEERING COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015**

1. SUMMARY

Over the last year, the Steering Committee and its Working Group have continued to act as a forum for regular exchange about strategies for and the implementation of research data management support in libraries. For LIBER 2015 the SC is organising two workshops which address the main goals of the SC and establish collaboration with external parties:

– a full day Workshop 'Libraries and Research Data: Towards a New Leadership Role" and a joint workshop of LIBER in collaboration with the EU-funded project FOSTER and the Digital Curation Centre, and
– a LIBER/DARIAH-EU Workshop 'From Digital Collections to Digital Scholarship: New Takes on Research Support'.

It is envisioned to develop these workshops further into joint training modules which are embedded into a wider curriculum for RDM training.

Other collaborations in the context of RDM-related topics have been developed further, e.g. with the Research Data Alliance (RDA) and ARL/CARL/COAR, as well as with a group of LIS schools.

2. ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

GOAL 1: Support policy development and implementation
STATUS: *In progress*
SUMMARY: The SC has created a factsheet on libraries and research data which aims to assist libraries in making the case for the library's role in research data management.
The SC workshop at LIBER 2015 will incorporate a session on how to translate research data policies into support services. The results in this area will be summarised in the form of a 'How To' paper. It is further envisioned to evaluate and develop this workshop session into a training module about data policy development and implementation.

GOAL 2: Support with data management planning
STATUS: *In progress*
SUMMARY: The SC workshop at LIBER 2015 will include a session on advice for data management planning and plans. It is further envisioned to evaluate and develop the workshop session into a training module about support for data management planning.

GOAL 3: Support skilling and staffing
STATUS: *In progress*
SUMMARY: Members of the SC have contributed to the preparation of a Horizon 2020 proposal on raising awareness of new skills and competencies, the development of careers and curricula for e-infrastructures and engaging with data (eProceed). The consortium was formed by LIS schools, the Digital Curation Centre, COAR and LIBER. Unfortunately, the proposal was not selected for funding (18 proposals were submitted). The group will carefully assess the reviewers' comments and explore opportunities for re-submitting a revised proposal.
The LIBER 2015 Workshop aims to raise awareness and knowledge about skills sets through presentations and interactive sessions (translating policies into support for RDM, RDM training, guidance for data management planning).

GOAL 4: Liaison activities

STATUS: *In progress*
SUMMARY: The SC continues to collaborate with ARL, CARL and COAR in the area of competencies and skills. The task force is creating a growing collection of competency profiles in support of e-research and scholarly communication. In addition the group is collecting information about restructuring processes.

Wherever possible, activities in the SC have been linked to the activities of the Research Data Alliance (RDA), e.g. the Libraries for Research Data and the Long Tail Interest Groups interest groups. The L4RD IG has produced two briefing papers (How to Establish Solutions for Research Data in Libraries, How to Maximize Research Data Skills in Libraries)[1]. Topics covered at the last two RDA Plenaries included skills, service deployment and organisational models. LIBER has become a member in RDA and is represented on the Organisational Advisory Board.
Work of the SC has been presented at international events, e.g. a research data management workshop in Ankara.

3. FUTURE ACTIVITIES
Before the Workshop, the SC will survey participants' expectations and activities in the area of RDM support. After the Workshop, the SC will evaluate its outcomes and develop a strategy on how to transform the two sessions on policies and data management planning (see goal 1 and 2) into training modules. In addition, it will explore whether LIBER in collaboration with others (e.g. DCC) can offer training on-demand (fee-based).
COAR has engaged its members in drafting an overview of how funding policies cover research data. In the context of the RDA, this will be developed further into a paper about library policies around research data. The SC will engage LIBER members in contributing to this exploration and provide input on good practices.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
As decided by the LIBER Executive Board, the connection between relevant LIBER projects and the SC needs strengthening by associating relevant projects with the Steering Committee, e.g. in the form of links to projects from SC websites, pro-active information about selected project activities and outcomes, as well as a general advisory and oversight role for associated projects.

5. INVITATION TO JOIN AND HOW TO SEND FEEDBACK TO THE SC
If LIBER members would like to participate in the Steering Committee's work, in particular to share experiences with implementing RDM policies, data management support and training, please get in touch with the chair of the SC and/or the chair of the working group.

Wolfram Horstmann
Chair
Steering Committee on Scholarly Communication and Research Infrastructures

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[1] https://rd-alliance.org/briefing-papers.html