



Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche
Association of European Research Libraries

AUGUST 2015 LIBER MAILING

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CHAIR: Reshaping the Research Library SC

- **SUMMARY**

The Steering Committee has four Working Groups:

1. WG on Digital Collections. Chair: Jeannette Frey, succeeded by Andreas Degkwitz. It works on libraries' requirements (organisational, financial, technological) to address the increasing need to publish, manage and preserve digital collections.
2. WG on Rankings. Chair: Marc Martinez. The working group works on advocating for library indicators to be included in university and research and education rankings.
3. WG on Leadership and Workforce Development. Chair: Julien Roche. The working group works on developing training to foster the leadership skills of librarians in senior management positions. The Leadership Development programme has been running since 2011.
4. WG on Research and Education. Chair: Ulla Nygren. It works on positioning research libraries as a key partner in supporting research and education.

- **ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

GOAL 1: WG on Digital Collections

STATUS: in progress

SUMMARY:

A workshop was held on the morning of 24 June 2015 during the LIBER Annual Conference in London, entitled 'Digitisation of current newspapers in European libraries'.

A European survey of the general public accessibility of current digitised newspapers has taken place. The questionnaire has been sent to libraries focusing on the digitisation of newspapers such as national and regional deposit libraries, libraries with big newspaper collections, etc. The National Library of Norway is running and evaluating the survey. The results are expected in autumn 2015.

GOAL 2: WG on Rankings

STATUS: activity transferred

SUMMARY:

Given the lack of success so far in trying to include some indicators connected to libraries in UMultirank, it has been decided to take a broader approach to research libraries' value assessment by including in the scope the European commission Open Science initiative, which could provide a fruitful approach for a research-oriented set of indicators. The decision has been made to transfer this activity to the Scholarly Communication and Research Infrastructures WG.

GOAL 3: WG on Leadership and Workforce Development

STATUS: done

SUMMARY:

The two main actions of the Working Group are:

- The Leadership seminar 'Emerging Leaders' – London (2015) and Helsinki (2016);
- The 'LIBER Journées' for Directors (2015)

Leadership seminar 'Emerging Leaders' – London session (2015)

In 2011 LIBER launched an ambitious 2-year international LIBER leadership development programme for high-level librarians in a second tier position. The initiative has been repeated in 2015, with 23 candidates selected. The leadership seminar is now part of the LIBER brand.

The 2015-2016 seminar programme is divided into four parts:

- A first session in London (June 2015, 21st to 23rd), with courses, hosted by UCL;
- A year for tutorship, supervised by skilled members of the WG;
- Action Learning during the year between the two courses;
- A second session in Helsinki (June 2016), with courses and shared experience.

Twenty-three people attended the London session in June. Tutorship is now in progress.

The 'LIBER Journées' for Directors (2015)

LIBER has run a new leadership initiative in addition the leadership seminar: a LIBER Leadership Programme for library directors: 17 people worldwide though mainly from Europe. This new programme for LIBER libraries has focused on global strategy and the role of the library leader in reshaping the research library, one of the strategic goals of LIBER. It took place in Sciences Po, Paris, from 20 to 22 May 2015.

GOAL 4: WG on Research and Education

STATUS: in progress

SUMMARY:

A survey will be conducted on the use of LibQUAL+ in LIBER libraries (use, advantages and drawbacks), also collecting best practices and ideas on how LIBER libraries evaluate research and education services / customers' views. A workshop is expected during the LIBER 2016 Annual Conference on this topic.

August 2015