



Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche
Association of European Research Libraries

LIBER ANNUAL MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS, LILLE, 2018

**Minutes of the LIBER Annual Meeting of Participants held at LILLIAD Learning Center
Innovation, Lille, France, Wednesday 4 July-Thursdays 5 July 2018**

Wednesday 4 July 2018

1. Formal opening of the Meeting of Participants

President of LIBER Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen welcomed LIBER Participants and formally opened the 2018 Meeting of Participants.

2. Announcement of Candidates for Appointment to the LIBER Executive Board

Secretary-General Mr MacColl announced the nominations received by the closing date for nominations (21 June 2018). Appointments would be made by the Meeting of Participants on Thursday 5 July 2018.

President

Candidate: Ms Jeannette Frey, BCU Lausanne, Switzerland.

Proposer: Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, National Library of Finland, Finland.

Vice-President

Candidate: Mr Julien Roche, University of Lille, France.

Proposer: Ms Jeannette Frey, BCU Lausanne, Switzerland.

Board Member

Candidate: Prof. Lars Burman, Uppsala University Library, Sweden.

Proposer: Mr Wilhelm Widmark, Stockholm University Library, Sweden.

Re-appointments

The following six Executive Board members had completed terms of office by July 2018, were eligible for re-appointment for a further term of two years and were willing to stand for re-appointment:

Dr Wolfram Horstmann, Göttingen State and University Library, Germany.

Dr Martin Hallik, University of Tartu, Estonia.

Mr Martin Svoboda, National Technical Library, Czech Republic.

Drs Anja Smit, Utrecht University, The Netherlands.

Dr Matthijs van Otegem, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Dr Giannis Tsakonas, University of Patras, Greece.

Thursday 5 July 2018

3. Opening of the Meeting of Participants and Opening Remarks

Ms Hormia-Poutanen opened the Meeting of Participants and welcomed all Participants. The pre-circulated Agenda for the Meeting of Participants was agreed. The President drew attention to LIBER's core activities this past year, noting in particular the definition of LIBER's future direction, lobbying and advocacy work on copyright reform, Open Access and EU Projects. The President also highlighted the fact that LIBER's network of libraries is growing as we now have 440 Participants (compared to 402 in 2015). LIBER is represented in the Open Science Policy Platform (OSPP) by Ms. Hormia-Poutanen, where library views have been actively discussed and as a result OSPP recommendations have been incorporated in LIBER's Open Science Roadmap. The new LIBER strategy, launched last year, is underway with LIBER's nine Working Groups all committed to it. The Open Science Roadmap launched

by LIBER is freely available online in order to support and inspire libraries from all over Europe to promote Open Science. Ms Hormia-Poutanen thanked LIBER Participants for their trust while she had served as President and said that it had been a privilege to work for LIBER as the President of the Executive Board.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of Participants held in Patras on 5 July 2017

The minutes of the 2017 Meeting of Participants, held in the Conference & Cultural Centre, University of Patras, Patras, Greece on Thursday 6 July 2017, were approved.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising which were not already covered by the Agenda.

INTERNAL BUSINESS PROCESSES (PAPERS PRE-CIRCULATED IN MAY 2017 MAILING)

6. Report of the Executive Board

Mr MacColl noted the main points from the LIBER Executive Board Report for the period June 2017 to June 2018. The full Report had been pre-circulated with the May 2018 LIBER Mailing. The Executive Board had met four times during the year.

The Board had prioritised a number of activities. A major priority had been the approval and dissemination of the new LIBER Strategy for 2018-2022. The Roadmap, which outlines actions in relation to the three new Strategic Directions, had also been developed and released. Three new Steering Committees were established (Innovative Scholarly Communication, Digital Skills and Services, and Research Infrastructure). The Executive Board had been overseeing the work of the three new Steering Committees and their Working Groups. LIBER remained active in the EU copyright reform process via its Copyright Working Group. The Open Access Working Group had produced a Statement - *Open Access: Five Principles for Negotiations with Publishers*. LIBER continued to be represented on the Open Science Policy Platform (OSPP) by Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen (President) and on the Board of Europeana by Jeannette Frey (Vice-President). LIBER has been represented on the Research Data Alliance by Dr Simone Sacchi, Head of International Projects. It is represented on IARLA, the International Alliance of Research Library Associations, by the President and Executive Director. The new LIBER website had been launched in November 2017. The Conference Programme Committee, led by Vice-President Jeannette Frey as Chair, had prepared the 47th LIBER Annual Conference for 2018 in Lille, France.

The LIBER Office in May 2018 comprised the following members of staff: Astrid Verheusen (Executive Director); Athina Papadopoulou (Executive Assistant); Friedel Grant (Communications Officer); Simone Sacchi (Head of International Projects); Gwen Franck (Open Access Projects Officer); Vasso Kalaitzi (Communications & Finance Project Officer); Helena Lovegrove (Advocacy Adviser); Margo de Groot-Coenen (Conference Organiser); Valentino Cavalli (Open Science Officer).

The number of LIBER Participants at May 2018 stood at 440 (405 Institutional, 16 Organisational, 12 Associate and 7 Individual). Ten applications had been made to the Annual Conference Fund in 2018, and ten grants had been awarded. The Board continued to appreciate the invaluable support of LIBER's Gold and Silver Sponsors in 2017-2018. The Gold Sponsors in 2017-2018 are EBSCO and Ex Libris; Silver Sponsors are Digital Science, Open Edition and ReTronews. The Board very much appreciated the continuing support of OCLC in sponsoring the LIBER Award for Library Innovation in 2018. The contribution of all Sponsors in advancing LIBER's work was greatly appreciated.

The 2019 48th LIBER Annual Conference will be held in Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland. The dates of the 2019 Annual Conference will be Wednesday 26 to Friday 28 June 2019, with the Pre-Conference on Wednesday 26 June.

The Secretary-General's Report of the Executive Board was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

7. Report of the Executive Director

Executive Director Ms Astrid Verheusen described the business operations of the past year. Priorities had included changes to practice in accordance with the new GDPR legislation at the LIBER Office, the provision of an Occupational Health & Safety Service, the implementation of a new approach to sustainable financial administration, LIBER's commitment to EU Projects and the organisation and preparation of the Annual Conference.

The Executive Director's Report was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

8. Report of the Treasurer

Treasurer Drs Smit presented a summary of the Annual Report & Accounts for 2017. The full version had been sent out in the May Mailing 2018. She gave a brief description of the work that LIBER does for projects, and pointed out that LIBER aims to have its projects 100% funded by the European Commission. In the course of last year, two projects had required a small percentage of their funding to be underwritten by the Foundation, and this had triggered the need for a more sustainable financial administration, which had been carried out by the LIBER Office. LIBER is financially stable and had made no significant losses.

The Treasurer's Report was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

9. LIBER Annual Report and Accounts 2017 and Auditor's Report

Drs Smit presented the Annual Report and Accounts for 2017, and the Auditor's Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2018 LIBER Mailing. The Accounts for 2017 had been approved by the Executive Board at its first meeting in Lille on Monday 2 July 2018. The Annual Report and Accounts had been signed by the President, Secretary-General and Treasurer as required by the Statutes.

The Treasurer noted that the Accounts for 2017 showed a gross operating result of €831,511 and a net income of - €69,908.

There were no questions from the floor about the Annual Report and Accounts for 2017, and the Auditor's Report, and they were both noted by the Meeting.

10. LIBER Foundation: Appointments to the LIBER Executive Board

Mr MacColl had conducted the appointments to the LIBER Executive Board in line with the Statutes and the Rules and Regulations of the LIBER Foundation (Stichting). The Call for Nominations had been pre-circulated in the November 2017, March 2018 and May 2018 LIBER Mailings, as required by the Rules and Regulations.

This year the same number of nominations as vacancies had been received, which meant that there had been no requirement for a closed ballot. Voting then took place on the nominations.

New Appointments at the Meeting of Participants

President

Candidate: Ms Jeannette Frey, BCU Lausanne, Switzerland

Proposer: Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, National Library of Finland, Finland

The Meeting appointed Ms Jeannette Frey as the new President of the Executive Board.

Vice-President

Candidate: Mr. Julien Roche, University of Lille, France

Proposer: Ms. Jeannette Frey, BCU Lausanne, Switzerland

The Meeting appointed Mr Julien Roche as the new Vice-President of the Executive Board.

Board Member

Candidate: Prof. Lars Burman, Uppsala University Library, Sweden

Proposer: Mr Wilhelm Widmark, Stockholm University Library, Sweden

The Meeting appointed Prof. Lars Burman as a new member of the Executive Board.

Reappointments at the Meeting of Participants

Six (6) Re-appointments to the Executive Board:

Dr Wolfram Horstmann, Göttingen State and University Library, Germany
Dr Martin Hallik, University of Tartu, Estonia
Mr Martin Svoboda, National Technical Library, Czech Republic
Drs Anja Smit, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
Dr Matthijs van Otegem, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Dr Giannis Tsakonas, University of Patras, Greece

These six members were re-appointed to the LIBER Executive Board by the Meeting of Participants.

Executive Board Appointments

Adviser to the Executive Board

Mr MacColl announced the appointment of Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen as an Adviser to the Executive Board on the Open Science Policy Platform.

Mr. MacColl handed the floor to the new President of the Executive Board, Ms Jeannette Frey.

11. New President's Opening Remarks

Ms Frey thanked the former President Ms. Hormia-Poutanen for her many years of loyal service to the Executive Board, first as a member, then as Vice-President and finally as President for the last four years.

Ms Frey then introduced Mr Julien Roche, thanked him for his service to the Board as an Adviser and welcomed him as the new Vice-President.

She also thanked Dr Paul Ayris for his service as an Adviser to the Executive Board, as well as for his many years of dedication as a Board member and former President of LIBER.

She then thanked Mr William Widmark for his work as an Executive Board member and as the chair of the Innovative Scholarly Communication Steering Committee. His previous work on LIBER Communications was also highlighted.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS (PAPERS PRE-CIRCULATED IN MAY 2018 MAILING)

12. LIBER Strategy Achievements: Steering Committee Annual Reports

Ms Frey invited the Participants to share any questions they had about the Steering Committees' Reports, which had been circulated in the May 2018 Mailing, and briefly mentioned some of their most important achievements.

12.1. Innovative Scholarly Communication

Highlights: the Metrics Working Group had produced a booklet with Scholarly Metrics recommendations for Research Libraries; the Open Access Working Group had published the *Five Open Access Principles for Negotiations with Publishers*; the Copyright Working Group had been involved in European Parliament advocacy work for a Text- and Data-Mining exception for libraries.

The Report of the Steering Committee on Innovative Scholarly Communication was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

12.2. Digital Skills & Services

Highlights: the success and popularity of LIBER's Leadership Programmes was on-going; the Digital Humanities & Digital Cultural Heritage Working Group had published a Reading List.

The Report of the Steering Committee on Digital Skills & Services was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

12.3. Research Infrastructure

Highlights: the RDM Working Group had published guidelines on *Implementing FAIR Data Principles: The Role of Libraries* and also a series of highly successful and popular webinars. The LIBER Architecture Group had held a Seminar in Vienna in April 2018 on *The Context for Library Planning: The Next Phase*.

The Report of the Steering Committee on Research Infrastructure was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

13. LIBER EU Projects: Annual Report 2017-2018

Ms Frey presented this Report which had been pre-circulated in the May 2018 Mailing.

From February 2018 project work had continued steadily on all projects with two projects coming to an end - OpenMinTeD in May 2018 and OpenAIRE2020 in June 2018. LIBER's on-going projects were AARC2, EOSCpilot, FOSTER Plus and HuMetricsHSS.

LIBER had also been actively working with partners across Europe and beyond to investigate opportunities for new projects to add to the LIBER portfolio. In spring 2018 it had been involved in the preparation and submission of two proposals for Horizon 2020 Calls under the Work Program 2018-22: Social Science and Humanities Open Cloud (SSHOC) and OPAIR (Open Access in Research).

LIBER had also been involved in the preparation and submission of a tender proposal to build and deliver the European Commission Open Research Publishing Platform.

The Report on EU Projects was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

14. Questions from the Floor

There were no questions from the Floor.

15. Invitation to the 2019 LIBER Annual Conference hosted by The Library of Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

Ms Frey welcomed Helen Shenton, Trinity College Dublin Librarian & College Archivist, and invited her to introduce the 2019 LIBER Conference in Dublin.

Ms Shenton stated that this is the first time that the LIBER Conference would be held in Ireland. She took the opportunity to congratulate Mr Julien Roche for the excellent organisation of this year's Conference in Lille. LIBER 2019 would take place during a very auspicious time for Europe as it will follow the UK's exit from the European Union. CONUL, the Consortium of Ireland's main research libraries, will postpone its annual conference next year in order to join forces and co-organise the LIBER 2019 Conference.

16. Vote of Thanks

On behalf of the LIBER Executive Board, LIBER Participants and Annual Conference delegates, the LIBER President thanked the LILLIAD Learning Center Innovation, University of Lille, for an extremely well organised and enjoyable Annual Conference. Special thanks were due to Mr Julien Roche, Director of the Library, Mr Jacques Sauteron, Local Organising Committee Coordinator, and the Local Organising Committee.

John MacColl
Secretary-General

August 2018