



Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche
Association of European Research Libraries

LIBER ANNUAL MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS 2015

MINUTES OF THE LIBER ANNUAL MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS HELD IN SENATE HOUSE LIBRARY,
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, UK, ON WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE AND THURSDAY 25 JUNE 2015

AGENDA: WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2015

1. FORMAL OPENING OF THE MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS

Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, President of LIBER, welcomed members and formally opened the 2015 Meeting of Participants.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE LIBER EXECUTIVE BOARD AND APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS

Dr Ann Matheson, Secretary-General, announced the nominations received by the closing date for nominations (11 June 2015). Appointments would be made by the Meeting of Participants on Thursday 25 June 2015.

Board Member (One (1) Vacancy): Nominations:

Candidate: Drs Anja Smit, Utrecht University Library, The Netherlands

Proposer: Dr Janet Wilkinson, University of Manchester and Director of the John Rylands Library, UK

Candidate: Mr Thorsten Meyer, ZBV - German National Library of Economics, Kiel, Germany

Proposer: Professor Klaus Tochtermann, ZBV - German National Library of Economics, Kiel, Germany

Candidate: Ms Kate Robinson, University of Bath Library, Bath, UK

Proposer: Dr Jessica Gardner, University of Bristol Library, Bristol, UK

Re-appointments (3) to the Executive Board:

Mr Lluís Anglada, CSUC, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

Dr Claudia Fabian, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek (BSB), Munich, Germany

Mr Andris Vilks, National Library of Latvia, Riga, Latvia

Three Tellers were appointed by the Meeting of Participants to oversee the closed ballot held on the morning of 25 June 2015: Mr Svend Larsen, Statsbiblioteket, Aarhus, Denmark; Ms Anna Rovira, Biblioteca de Catalunya, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain; and Dr Ulrich Niederer, Lucerne University Library, Switzerland.

AGENDA: THURSDAY 25 JUNE 2015

3. OPENING OF THE MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS AND OPENING REMARKS

Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, President of LIBER, opened the Meeting of Participants and welcomed participants. The pre-circulated Agenda for the meeting was agreed.

4. MINUTES OF THE 2014 MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS

The minutes of the 2014 Meeting of Participants, held in the National Library of Latvia, Riga, Latvia, on Thursday 3 July 2014, were approved.

5. MATTERS ARISING

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

INTERNAL BUSINESS PROCESSES

6. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dr Ann Matheson, Secretary-General, noted the main points from the LIBER Executive Board for the period June 2014 to June 2015, which had been pre-circulated in full with the May 2015 LIBER Mailing. The Executive Board had met on four occasions during the year: on the final day of the Annual Conference in the National Library of Latvia, Riga, in July 2014; in the Bibliothèque Cantonale Universitaire (BCU), Lausanne, in October 2014; in the National Library of Finland, Helsinki, in February 2015; and earlier that week in Senate House Library, London. The Board's main priorities during the year 2014-2015 had been: implementing LIBER's Strategy 2013-2015 through the three Steering Committees (Scholarly Communication and Research Infrastructures, Reshaping the Research Library, and Advocacy and Communications) and Working Groups and the two LIBER Fora (Digital Cultural Heritage and Architecture); EU Projects and Advocacy and Lobbying (principally on copyright and text and data mining); preparing the 2015 Annual Conference; and maintaining the LIBER Office in The Hague to serve LIBER Participants' needs.

The number of LIBER Participants at June 2015 was 404, comprising institutional members: 373; organisational members: 17; associate members: 8; and individual members: 6.

Nine awards were made from the Annual Conference Fund in 2015 (one could not be taken up for personal reasons). The nine recipients were: Giannis Tsakonas, University of Patras, Greece; Alenka Kavčič, National and University Library, Slovenia; Lenka Nemeckova, Czech Technical University, Czech Republic; Kristina Pai, University of Tartu Library, Estonia; Javier Clavero, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain; Gyöngyi Karácsony, University of Debrecen, Hungary; Adriana-Elena Borună, National Library of Romania; Milan Ojsteršek, University of Maribor, Slovenia; and Besa Hysa, University of Luarasi, Albania.

The assistance of LIBER's sponsors during the year 2014 to 2015 was warmly acknowledged: Gold Sponsors: Ex Libris, Springer and bestlist.nl; and Silver Sponsors: ProQuest, Ebsco and Tind Technologies. OCLC's support for the LIBER Award for Library Innovation was specially mentioned.

The 2016 Annual Conference would take place in Helsinki, Finland, hosted by the National Library of Finland, Helsinki University Library and the Finnish Research Library Association. The Annual Conference dates were Wednesday 29 June to Friday 1 July 2016, with the Excursion on Saturday 2 July 2016. The Annual Conference in 2017 will take place in the University of Patras, Greece, and that in 2018 in Université Lille 1, France.

The Report of the Executive Board was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

7. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Dr Matthijs Van Otegem, LIBER Treasurer, gave his Report for the year 2014 to 2015. He reported that LIBER's financial situation continued to be sound. He was glad to report that following the increase in the annual contribution fee agreed at the Meeting of Participants in 2014, which had come into effect from January 2015, there had been no appreciable reduction in the number of LIBER Participants. The LIBER Executive Board had recently reviewed the countries eligible for a discounted annual contribution fee with a view to implementing these changes with effect from January 2016.

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

8. LIBER ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2014 AND AUDITOR'S REPORT

Dr Matthijs Van Otegem, LIBER Treasurer, presented the Annual Report and Accounts for 2014, and the Auditor's Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2015 LIBER

Mailing. The Accounts for 2014 had been audited by Assist Registeraccountants B.V. Apeldoorn, The Netherlands, and had been approved by the Executive Board at its meeting in London on Tuesday 23 June 2015. The Annual Report and Accounts had been signed by the President, Treasurer and Secretary-General at the Executive Board meeting in London on Tuesday 23 June 2015, as required by the Statutes.

The Treasurer noted that there had been a small loss of €28,000 in 2014 but this was less than estimated. He stressed the importance of the annual contribution fee to the smooth running of LIBER, and referred to LIBER's success with EU Projects, although he stressed that these sources of income were clearly differentiated in LIBER's Accounts.

There were no questions from the floor about the Annual Report and Accounts for 2014, and the Auditor's Report, and they were noted by the Meeting.

9. LIBER FOUNDATION: APPOINTMENTS TO THE LIBER EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dr Matheson, Secretary-General, 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 2014, February 2015 and May 2015 LIBER Mailings, as required by the Rules and Regulations. The appointments were dealt with in order:

One (1) Vacancy on the LIBER Executive Board

There were three nominations at the closing date for nominations (11 June 2015):

- (1) Drs Anja Smit, Utrecht University Library, The Netherlands, proposed by Dr Janet Wilkinson, University of Manchester and Director of the John Rylands Library, UK
- (2) Mr Thorsten Meyer, ZBV – German National Library of Economics, Kiel, Germany, proposed by Professor Klaus Tochtermann, ZBV – German National Library of Economics, Kiel, Germany
- (3) Ms Kate Robinson, University of Bath Library, Bath, UK, proposed by Dr Jessica Gardner, University of Bristol Library, Bristol, UK

A closed ballot, supervised by the three Tellers appointed at the Opening of the Meeting of Participants on 24 June, was held on the morning of Thursday 25 June 2015. The Secretary-General announced that as the result of the ballot, Drs Anja Smit, Utrecht University Library, The Netherlands, was appointed to the vacancy on the LIBER Executive Board.

Warm thanks were due to the three Tellers appointed by the Meeting of Participants, who had overseen the closed ballot on the morning of 25 June 2015: Mr Svend Larsen, Statsbiblioteket, Aarhus, Denmark; Ms Anna Rovira, Biblioteca de Catalunya, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain; and Dr Ulrich Niederer, Lucerne University Library, Switzerland.

Three (3) Re-appointments to the Executive Board:

There were three Executive Board members eligible to stand for appointment for a further term of office:

- (1) Mr Lluís Anglada, CSUC, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain (3rd term)
- (2) Dr Claudia Fabian, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek (BSB), Munich, Germany (3rd term)
- (3) Mr Andris Vilks, National Library of Latvia, Riga, Latvia (2nd term)

Mr Lluís Anglada, Dr Claudia Fabian and Mr Andris Vilks were re-appointed to the LIBER Executive Board by the Meeting of Participants.

Dr Matheson concluded the appointments and handed the floor to the LIBER President.

Ms Hormia-Poutanen, LIBER President, explained to the Meeting that at the February 2015 LIBER Executive Board meeting, the Executive Board had asked Dr Matheson to continue as

Secretary-General (a Board appointment) for the period 2015-2017. Some investigations had been made in order to confirm that a reappointment would not be contrary to LIBER's Statutes, and on this basis the Executive Board would formally reappoint Dr Matheson for the period 2015-2017 at the second LIBER Executive Board meeting on Thursday 25 June 2015.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

10. LIBER STRATEGY 2014-2015 – ANNUAL REPORT

Ms Susan Reilly, Executive Director, presented her Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2015 LIBER Mailing. She reported on the Strategy for 2014-2015 and noted that Steering Committees' implementation plans were making good progress. It was very important to be able to show LIBER Libraries what was being achieved. The next step was to begin work on updating the current LIBER Strategy to 2017, in association with the four related Strategic Directions which had been identified.

The Report on the LIBER Strategy was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

11. LIBER STRATEGY ACHIEVEMENTS

11.1. LIBER STEERING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

Dr Wolfram Horstmann, Chair of the Steering Committee on Scholarly Communication and Research Infrastructures, presented the key points from his Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2015 LIBER Mailing. His Steering Committee was liaising with the Research Data Alliance (RDA) and working with COAR on competencies and skills. The key focus was on policy development and this was what libraries wanted to have. A new Working Group on Metrics was being launched and further information would be made available in due course.

The Report of the Steering Committee on Scholarly Communication and Research Infrastructures was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

Mr Julien Roche, Chair, Steering Committee on Reshaping the Research Library, presented his Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2015 LIBER Mailing. There were now three Working Groups (Digital Collections; Leadership and Workforce Development; Research and Education) attached to the Steering Committee. The Working Group on Rankings (now renamed Metrics) had been transferred to the Steering Committee on Scholarly Communication and Research Infrastructures. He highlighted the Leadership Seminars and the desire to create a network of alumni to maintain links between those who attended seminars; the 'Leadership Journées' on the role of the library leader in reshaping the research library had been held at Sciences Po in May 2015 and had attracted 19 members, 17 from Europe and 2 from North America; and a LibQUAL+ survey was being carried out by the Research and Education Working Group with a workshop on the results at the Helsinki 2016 Annual Conference.

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

Mr Wilhelm Widmark, Chair, Steering Committee on Advocacy and Communications, presented his Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2015 LIBER Mailing. He drew attention to the principal points: the Copyright Working Group had been very active throughout the year on copyright and text and data mining issues; LIBER had a guest blog spot on its website and he invited LIBER Libraries to offer guest blogs; and the Ambassadors' programme was now set up and he invited any LIBER Participant interested in becoming a LIBER Ambassador to contact him by email (wilhelm.widmark@sub.su.se).

The Report of the Steering Committee on Advocacy and Communications was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

11.2. FORA REPORTS

11.2.1. DIGITAL CULTURAL HERITAGE FORUM

Dr Claudia Fabian, Chair, Digital Cultural Heritage Forum, presented her Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2015 LIBER Mailing. She noted that for events programmes, presentations, bios, blog, picture and tweet archives were on the LIBER website <http://libereurope.eu/digitalculturalheritageforum/>. Topics covered included recording provenance, sharing digital copies of printer's devices, text recognition and OCR, image recognition, Library security, and Digital Curation. The LIBER website was being used to bring together and share information about electronic resources (tools, guidelines, policies, information or active discussions), and invited LIBER Participants to send suggestions to marian.lefferts@cerl.org.

Ongoing activities included: the LinkedIn page [Heritage Collections and Preservation](#), a sub-group of the LIBER LinkedIn page, which people were regularly joining; participation on the Early European Books Library Advisory Board, to advise and support the development of ProQuest's EEB (Early European Books) collections; developing the programme for 4th LIBER Workshop on Digital Curation (2016); developing a high-level overview of technical issues and presenting these as factsheets (e.g. on digital curation, image recognition, viewers for cultural heritage material, etc.); and aiming to raise awareness of these activities to ensure that work is not duplicated and to stimulate collaboration rather than parallel developments. Anyone wishing to join the Forum was invited to contact Drs Marian Lefferts (marian.lefferts@cerl.org).

The Report of the Digital Cultural Heritage Forum was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

11.2.2. ARCHITECTURE FORUM

Dr Ulrich Niederer, Chair, Architecture Forum, presented his Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2015 LIBER Mailing. He reported that the Architecture Group's 17th Seminar had been held in Helsinki, Finland, from 7 to 9 May 2015, with a pre-seminar tour of library visits on 6 May 2015. The Seminar presentations were online on the Architecture Group's website: <http://147.88.230.242/liber-lag/lageps.htm>. A further documentation of new library buildings in Europe had been produced and this was now included in the LAG Database (the digital resource for new library buildings in Europe) at <http://liber-lag.techlib.cz>.

Planning for the Library Architecture Group's 18th Seminar in 2016 had begun: the Seminar will take place in Freiburg, Germany, from 13 -15 April 2016, with a pre-seminar tour of library visits on 12 April 2016.

The Report of the Architecture Forum was approved by the Meeting of Participants.

11.3. LIBER EU PROJECTS: ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

Ms Melanie Imming, Projects Manager, presented her Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2015 LIBER Mailing. She reported that in 2015 three EU projects were due to finish (APARSEN; Europeana Newspapers and Recode); there were three current projects (Europeana Cloud; Pasteur4OA; and FOSTER); and there were six new projects (Openaire2020; EUDAT2020; AARC; LEARN; OpenMinted; and FutureTDM). She highlighted some developments from specific projects: Europeana Newspapers (Roadmap for Future Development in Newspaper Digitisation); Openaire (FP7 post-grant Open Access publishing funds pilot); and LEARN (further development of the LERU Roadmap for Research Data).

She noted that all projects were now aligned with one of the three LIBER key performance areas. The goals in 2015-2016 were: to build on the significant progress already made now that projects have come to fruition; and to continue to keep the focus on benefits for LIBER Libraries during the whole lifecycle of projects and in alignment with LIBER working groups.

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

11.4. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no questions from the floor.

12. INVITATION TO THE 2016 LIBER ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN HELSINKI, FINLAND

Ms Hormia-Poutanen introduced Dr Kimmo Tuominen, University Librarian, Helsinki University Library, who warmly welcomed LIBER Participants to the 2016 Annual Conference in Helsinki, Finland, and presented a short video on Helsinki and the Annual Conference venue. Dr Tuominen noted in his remarks that Finland had as its goal to be one of the most open countries by 2017.

The dates of the 2016 LIBER Annual Conference would be Wednesday 29 June to Friday 1 July 2015, with the Saturday excursion on the following day, 2 July 2016. The Annual Conference would be co-hosted by the National Library of Finland, Helsinki University Library, and the Finnish Research Library Association.

The 2015 Annual Conference organisers in London handed over the LIBER flag to the Helsinki organisers for the 2016 Annual Conference.

On behalf of the LIBER Executive Board and LIBER Libraries, Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, LIBER President, thanked the Directors of Senate House Library, Imperial College Library, LSE Library and UCL Library Services for arranging a most enjoyable Annual Conference in Senate House Library. A special vote of thanks was due to all the members of the Local Organising Committee in London and, in particular, to Ms Elaine Walters and her colleagues for their work in preparing the Conference, and to Mr R. Hughes, for the excellent Conference IT facilities. The Meeting of Participants showed its appreciation by applause for the Conference Hosts.

Ann Matheson
Secretary-General

June 2015