



Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche
Association of European Research Libraries

LIBER STRATEGY 2013-2015 EXTENDING THE CURRENT LIBER STRATEGY TO 2017

As announced in the November 2014 LIBER Mailing to LIBER Participants (i.e. members), it is proposed to extend the current LIBER Strategy period 2013-2015 to 2017. In order to provide a means for LIBER Participants to assess how the implementation of the LIBER Strategy is supporting LIBER institutions, four high-level strategic directions for European research libraries will be incorporated into the Strategy.

These Strategic Directions are currently under development and will be made available for discussion and endorsement by LIBER Participants during the LIBER Annual Conference in London in June 2015.

All LIBER Participants are invited to provide feedback in the following ways:

1) **Online open discussion platform, June 2015**

The Strategic Directions will be published online on an open discussion platform one week before the LIBER Annual Conference in June 2015. LIBER Participants will be able to vote and comment directly on each of the Strategic Directions.

2) **'Strategy Pub' session at the LIBER Annual Conference, June 2015**

The 'Strategy Pub' session at the LIBER Annual Conference will take place after the close of the first day of the LIBER Conference on Wednesday 24 June 2015. This informal one hour session will be open to 100 participants to discuss the four strategic directions and propose potential key initiatives or areas of activity to support each of the directions.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

The draft version of the four Strategic Directions is outlined below:

1. Developing Leadership in Changing Times

Research libraries are operating in an era of unprecedented change and opportunity. In order to respond, library leaders need to understand the changes in the environment that will impact on the shape of libraries to come and embrace new ways of leading in order to harness these opportunities and meet new challenges. Trends in education and research need to be identified in order to help library leaders plan programmes for change and develop their spaces, services and people accordingly. At the same time, future leaders must be developed and equipped with the skills and knowledge to be able to recognise and address the major challenges that they will face in the future.

2. Supporting the Case for Research Libraries

Research libraries need to be empowered to advocate, communicate, connect, and represent their community and researchers' interests. Advocacy programmes, evidence gathering for policy creation, strengthening internal and international networks, sharing of best practice, and strong representation are all required to ensure that LIBER libraries are empowered to help reshape research libraries.

3. Enabling Innovative Research and Open Science

Research libraries have a role in enabling open science to support increased transparency, better quality research, a higher level of citizen engagement, and accelerating the pace of scientific discovery through the facilitation of data-driven innovation. Libraries are key



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players in enabling open science. They can help build ‘commons’ ensuring the long-term availability of research results, foster new forms of publishing, enable new methods of knowledge discovery, and open up metadata. As well as the development of supporting infrastructure and services, libraries are key in supporting advocacy and metrics open science, and building partnerships. Research libraries can and should provide access to cultural heritage and collections and offer them for use beyond institutional boundaries and enable innovative use and reuse e.g. in the digital humanities.

4. Fostering New Models for Libraries

Research libraries will need to adopt new models in order to remain relevant to the future research paradigm and to support world class research. This requires the provision of an environment to support reflection and agile development of tools and services. Such environments will be a blend of both the physical library and virtual environment. This requires the development of blended services and identifying the needs of students and researchers working in virtual environments.

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