



Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche  
Association of European Research Libraries

## **LIBER ANNUAL MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS 2016**

**MINUTES OF THE LIBER ANNUAL MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS HELD IN THE PAASITORNI CONGRESS HALL, PAASITORNI CONFERENCE AND CONGRESS CENTRE, HELSINKI, FINLAND, ON WEDNESDAY 29 JUNE AND THURSDAY 30 JUNE 2016.**

### **AGENDA: WEDNESDAY 29 JUNE 2016**

#### **1. FORMAL OPENING OF THE MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS**

Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, President of LIBER, welcomed LIBER Participants and formally opened the 2016 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 (16 June 2016). Appointments would be made by the Meeting of Participants on Thursday 30 June 2016.

##### *Treasurer*

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

*Proposer:* Dr Matthijs Van Otegem, Rotterdam University Library, The Netherlands.

##### *Board Members (Two (2) Vacancies)*

*Candidate:* Dr Matthijs van Otegem, Rotterdam University Library, The Netherlands.

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

*Candidate:* Dr Giannis Tsakonas, Library and Information Centre, University of Patras, Greece

*Proposer:* Dr Adam Sofronijevic, Belgrade University Library, Serbia

*Candidate:* Dr Søren Bertil Fabricius Dorch, University of Southern Denmark

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

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

*President:* Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, National Library of Finland

*Vice-President:* Ms Jeannette Frey, BCU, Switzerland

##### *Board Members:*

Dr Wolfram Horstmann, Göttingen State and University Library, Germany

Mr Wilhelm Widmark, Stockholm University Library, Sweden

Dr Martin Hallik, University of Tartu Library, Estonia

Mr Martin Svoboda, National Technical Library, Czech Republic

Three Tellers were appointed by the Meeting of Participants to oversee the closed ballot to be held on the morning of 30 June 2016: Dr Sylvia Van Peteghem, Ghent University Library, Belgium; Mr François Cavalier, Sciences Po, Paris, France; and Ms Emilija Banionyte, Lithuanian Research Library Consortium, Lithuania.

## **AGENDA: THURSDAY 30 JUNE 2016**

### **3. OPENING OF THE MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS AND OPENING REMARKS**

Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, President of LIBER, opened the Meeting of Participants and welcomed all participants. The pre-circulated Agenda for the meeting was agreed. The President drew attention to the recent user satisfaction survey carried out by LIBER, the results of which indicated that LIBER Participants appreciated LIBER services but also suggested that there was still room for improvement. A feedback action plan was being put in place, and a further survey would be carried out in 2018. She also noted LIBER's work on text and data mining, copyright and EU Projects during the year.

### **4. MINUTES OF THE 2015 MEETING OF PARTICIPANTS**

The minutes of the 2015 Meeting of Participants, held in Senate House Library, London, UK, on Thursday 25 June 2015, were approved.

### **5. MATTERS ARISING**

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

### **6. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Dr Ann Matheson, Secretary-General, noted the main points from the LIBER Executive Board for the period June 2015 to June 2016: the full report had been pre-circulated with the May 2016 LIBER Mailing. The Executive Board had met on four occasions during the year: on the final day of the Annual Conference in Senate House Library, London, in June 2015; at CSUC in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain in October 2015; in the Library and Information Centre of the University of Patras, Greece in February 2016; and earlier in Annual Conference 2016 week in the National Library of Finland. During 2015-2016 the Executive Board had concentrated on implementing the extended LIBER Strategy 2015-2017; planning for the next LIBER Strategy 2018-2022; supporting the three Steering Committees (Scholarly Communication and Research Infrastructures, Reshaping the Research Library, and Advocacy and Communications) and their associated Working Groups, and the two LIBER Fora (Digital Cultural Heritage and Architecture); introducing the first (2015) annual report to LIBER Participants on progress with the LIBER Strategy; EU Projects; preparing the 2016 Annual Conference; building international alliances and relationships; and running the LIBER Office in The Hague to serve LIBER Participants' needs.

The number of LIBER Participants at June 2016 was 423, comprising institutional members: 389; organisational members: 16; associate members: 10; and individual members: 8. Ten awards were made from the Annual Conference Fund in 2016 (in the end, one award was not taken up). The ten recipients were: Bojan Macan, Rudjer Boskovic Institute, Croatia; Panos Georgiou, Library and Information Centre, University of Patras, Greece; Nicoleta-Roxana Dinu, National Library of Romania, Romania; Vasilije Milnovic, Svetozar Markovic University Library, Serbia; Cem Özel, Sabanci University, Turkey; Sina Mater, Koç University Suna Kiraç Library, Turkey; Ismet Ovčina, National and University Library of Bosnia & Herzegovina; Yeznik Mirzoyan, Sarkis and Marie Izmirlian Library, Armenia; and Radostina Todorova, New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria

The Executive Board expressed its appreciation of the assistance of LIBER's sponsors during the year 2015 to 2016, which were: Gold Sponsors: Ex Libris, bestlist.nl, Springer and Ebsco; and Silver Sponsors: Tind Technologies, Royal Society of Chemistry and ProQuest. The Board also warmly acknowledged OCLC's support for the LIBER Award for Library Innovation in 2016.

The 2017 Annual Conference would take place in the University of Patras in Patras, Greece. The Annual Conference dates would be Wednesday 5 July to Friday 7 July 2017, with the Excursion on Saturday 8 July 2017. The Annual Conference in 2018 would take place in Lille, France, hosted by the Université Lille 1 Library.

The Executive Board thanked Ms Susan Reilly, Executive Director, and LIBER Office staff for all their work and commitment to LIBER. The Board expressed its thanks to the National

Library of The Netherlands, and its Director-General, Dr Lily Knibbeler, for support to LIBER during the year.

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 2015 to 2016. He confirmed that LIBER's overall financial position remained strong. He thanked LIBER Participants for remaining with LIBER after the increase in the annual contribution fee in January 2015, and for the prompt payment of annual contribution fee invoices.

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

#### **8. LIBER ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2015 AND AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Dr Matthijs van Otegem, LIBER Treasurer, presented the Annual Report and Accounts for 2015, and the Auditor's Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2016 LIBER Mailing. The Accounts for 2015 had been audited by Oosterhuis & Partners B.V., The Netherlands, and had been approved by the Executive Board at its first meeting in Helsinki on Tuesday 28 June 2016. The Annual Report and Accounts had been signed by the President, Treasurer and Secretary-General at the first Executive Board meeting in Helsinki on Tuesday 28 June 2016, as required by the Statutes.

The Treasurer observed that there was a surplus of €753.000 arising from EU Projects this year, and underlined that EU Project funding was now clearly separated from daily operating business funding in LIBER's accounts. This sum, which arose from overheads on EU Projects, was being put in a special fund for EU Projects.

There were no questions from the floor about the Annual Report and Accounts for 2015, and the Auditor's Report, and they were both noted by the Meeting.

The President thanked Dr van Otegem for his sterling work as Treasurer from 2012 to 2016, and the Meeting of Participants warmly expressed its appreciation.

#### **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 2015, February 2016 and May 2016 LIBER Mailings, as required by the Rules and Regulations. The appointments were dealt with in order:

##### *Treasurer*

There was one nomination at the closing date for nominations (16 June 2016):  
Drs Anja Smit, Utrecht University Library, The Netherlands, proposed by Dr Matthijs van Otegem, Rotterdam University Library, The Netherlands

Drs Anja Smit was appointed LIBER Treasurer by the Meeting of Participants.

##### *Two (2) Vacancies on the LIBER Executive Board*

There were three nominations at the closing date for nominations (16 June 2016):  
(1) Dr Matthijs van Otegem, Rotterdam University Library, The Netherlands, proposed by Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, National Library of Finland  
(2) Dr Giannis Tsakonas, University of Patras, Greece, proposed by Dr Adam Sofronijevic, Belgrade University Library, Serbia

(3) Dr Søren Bertil Fabricius Dorch, University of Southern Denmark, proposed by Mr Wilhelm Widmark, Stockholm University Library, Sweden

A closed ballot, supervised by the three Tellers appointed at the Opening of the Meeting of Participants on 29 June (Dr Sylvia Van Peteghem; Mr François Cavalier; and Ms Emilija Banionyte), had been held at 09.00 on the morning of Thursday 30 June 2016. The Secretary-General announced that as the result of the ballot, Dr Matthijs van Otegem, Rotterdam University Library, The Netherlands and Dr Giannis Tsakonas, University of Patras, Greece, had been appointed to the two vacancies on the LIBER Executive Board.

Warm thanks were expressed by the Meeting to the three Tellers appointed by the Meeting of Participants, who had overseen the closed ballot: Dr Sylvia Van Peteghem, Ghent University Library, Belgium; Mr François Cavalier, Sciences Po, Paris, France; and Ms Emilija Banionyte, Lithuanian Research Library Consortium, Lithuania.

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

The President and Vice-President and four Executive Board members were eligible to stand for appointment for a further term of office, 2016-2018:

*President:*

Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, National Library of Finland

Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, National Library of Finland, was re-appointed as President of LIBER by the Meeting of Participants.

*Vice-President:*

Ms Jeannette Frey, BCU, Switzerland

Ms Jeannette Frey, BCU, Switzerland, was re-appointed as Vice-President of LIBER by the Meeting of Participants.

*Board Members (4)*

Dr Wolfram Horstmann, Göttingen State and University Library, Germany; Mr Wilhelm Widmark, Stockholm University Library, Sweden; Dr Martin Hallik, University of Tartu, Estonia; and Mr Martin Svoboda, National Technical Library, Czech Republic 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.

**10. LIBER HONORARY STATUS: CONFERRAL ON MR HANS GELEIJNSE, THE NETHERLANDS**

As proposed by the Executive Board in October 2015, and approved by the Meeting of Participants on 29 June 2016, the President conferred LIBER Honorary Status on Mr Hans Geleijnse, formerly of Tilburg University Library and the European University Institute Library, Florence, Vice-President of LIBER 2003-2006, and President of LIBER 2007-2010.

The President referred to Mr Geleijnse's role in steering the transition of LIBER to The Hague in 2008 in order to bring the then LIBER Secretariat into closer association with other similar library organisations already located there. Mr Geleijnse had been central to the policy preparations made by LIBER towards employing an Executive Director for the first time, and LIBER's first Executive Director had been appointed during his term in office. He had also played a key part in initiating and developing LIBER's role in leadership programmes for senior staff in European research libraries and, in association with Mr Julien Roche, Chair of the Steering Committee on Reshaping the Research Library, he had continued to be actively involved up to summer 2015.

Mr Hans Geleijnse accepted the LIBER Honorary Status scroll from the President and thanked her for her kind words. He said that he was very honoured to receive this award from LIBER, and he wished LIBER and LIBER Participants well in the future. He stressed his profound belief in library co-operation, which he believed was all the more vital in times of narrow national interests.

The Meeting of Participants expressed its congratulations and pleasure at the award to Mr Geleijnse by loud applause.

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS (PAPERS PRE-CIRCULATED IN MAY 2016 MAILING)**

### **11. LIBER STRATEGY 2015-2016 – ANNUAL REPORT**

Ms Susan Reilly, Executive Director, presented her Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2016 LIBER Mailing. She noted that LIBER had developed three Strategic Directions which would guide LIBER's work for the next two years, 2016 and 2017. They were: Enabling Open Science (SCRI Steering Committee); Lead in Changing Scholarship (RRL Steering Committee); and Engage in Shaping Innovative Research (A&C Steering Committee). She drew attention to the focus on Open Science during the Dutch EU Presidency, and the Conference on Open Science held on 4-5 April 2016, where LIBER had organized a successful Open Science café.

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

#### **11.1 SURVEY OF PARTICIPANTS: FEEDBACK ACTION PLAN**

Ms Reilly noted that the response to LIBER services from the recent Survey of LIBER Participants had been very positive but the feedback indicated that LIBER still needed to strengthen its communications, and that steps should be taken to ensure that its workshops and other events were open and available to all LIBER Libraries. An action plan was being put in place to implement the desired improvements.

### **12. LIBER STRATEGY ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### **12.1. LIBER STEERING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS**

##### *12.1.1. Scholarly Communication and Research Infrastructures*

Dr Wolfram Horstmann, Chair, presented the key points from his Annual Report, which had earlier been pre-circulated with the May 2016 LIBER Mailing. LIBER's Strategic Direction 'Enabling Open Science' was being carried out by his Steering Committee, with three main goals: (1) developing skills for research data management (RDM); (2) the use of metrics to enable open science; and (3) building open science partnerships. On (1), Dr Horstmann referred to the recent survey on research data services in European libraries, which had been carried out by a LIS research team (Carol Tenopir, Dane Spencer Hughes, Sanna Tajla, Elina Late). The results from the survey were now available and the report would be published shortly. On (2) the Working Group on Metrics had now been set up and had begun work. In regard to (3), the Steering Committee was working on developing partnerships and building links with DARIAH-EU.

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

##### *12.1.2. Reshaping the Research Library*

Mr Julien Roche, Chair, presented his Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2016 LIBER Mailing. He reported that this had been a very busy year for the Steering Committee's work, and he thanked the Secretary and members of the Steering Committee, and the Chairs and members of Working Groups. The results from the survey of newspapers carried out by the National Library of Norway were available on the LIBER website: <http://libereurope.eu/committees/reshaping/working-group-on-digital-collections/>. The fourth Leadership Seminar would commence in 2017, and the second LIBER Journées would be

held in Science-Po, Paris, in 2017. Mr Roche introduced Dr Martin Hallik, University of Tartu Library, as the next Chair of the Steering Committee, and Mr John Tuck, Royal Holloway Library, London, as Chair of the Working Group on Leadership and Workforce Development.

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

#### 12.1.3. *Advocacy and Communications*

Mr Wilhelm Widmark, Chair, presented his Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2016 LIBER Mailing. He drew attention to the Steering Committee's two Working Groups: the Copyright Working Group, which had been very active during the year; and a new group, the Working Group on Open Access, co-chaired by Dr Matthijs van Otegem and Mr Lluís Anglada, which was beginning work on a range of issues, including licensing and promoting open access.

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

## 12.2 FORA REPORTS

### 12.2.1 DIGITAL CULTURAL HERITAGE FORUM

Dr Claudia Fabian, Chair, Digital Cultural Heritage Forum, presented her Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2016 LIBER Mailing. She noted that *Jeffrey Schnapp*, Founder/Faculty Director of metaLAB at Harvard University, was reported to have said that he saw 'Special Collections as central to the 21<sup>st</sup>-century research library'. Special Collections called for a presence in the digital world, and LIBER played a part in enabling this to happen. She reminded the meeting that the former LIBER Security Network was now run by CERL but that it remained open to all LIBER Participants. The fourth Digital Curation Workshop was being planned for 2017, and the Helsinki 2016 Annual Conference workshop had been used to identify themes.

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

### 12.2.2 ARCHITECTURE FORUM

Dr Ulrich Niederer, Chair, Architecture Forum, presented his Annual Report, which had been pre-circulated with the May 2016 LIBER Mailing. He reported that the Architecture Group's 18th Seminar had been held in Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany, from 12-16 April 2016. The venue for the 19th Seminar in 2018 had not yet been settled. He referred to the documentation on library buildings produced by the Forum every two years, from which it was possible to witness the large number of new libraries in Europe over recent years.

Dr Niederer explained that he was stepping down as Chair of the Architecture Forum in June 2016, and that Dr Sylvia Van Peteghem, Ghent University Library, had agreed to become Chair from June 2016 to June 2019, when Ms Marie-Pierre Pausch-Antoine, Luxembourg University Library, would succeed her as Chair.

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

## 12.3 LIBER EU PROJECTS: ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

In the absence of Ms Melanie Imming, Projects Manager, who had had to return to Brussels for a project review, Ms Reilly presented the Annual Report on EU Projects, 2015-2016. The full Annual Report on EU Projects had been pre-circulated with the May 2016 LIBER Mailing. Ms Reilly took the meeting through the report, noting, in particular, progress on the FOSTER and OpenAIRE projects. She encouraged LIBER Libraries to speak to LIBER Office project staff about involvement in EU Projects.

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

### **13. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

There were no questions from the floor at the meeting.

### **14. INVITATION TO THE 2017 LIBER ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN PATRAS, GREECE**

Ms Hormia-Poutanen welcomed Dr Giannis Tsakonas, University of Patras, Greece, and his colleagues, who, on behalf of the Library Board of the University of Patras, expressed a warm welcome to LIBER Participants to attend the 2017 Annual Conference in Patras, Greece. Dr Tsakonas presented a short video on Patras, the University of Patras and the Annual Conference venue.

The dates of the 2017 LIBER Annual Conference would be Wednesday 5 July to Friday 7 July 2017, with the Saturday excursion on the following day, 8 July 2017. Preliminary information was available on the website: <http://liber2017.lis.upatras.gr/>.

The 2016 Annual Conference organisers in Helsinki handed over the LIBER flag to the Patras organisers for the 2017 Annual Conference.

On behalf of the LIBER Executive Board and LIBER Libraries, Ms Jeannette Frey, LIBER Vice-President, thanked the National Library of Finland, Helsinki University Library and the Finnish Research Library Association for organising an excellent Annual Conference in the Paasitorni Conference and Congress Centre. Special thanks were due to the Chair and members of the Local Organising Committee in Helsinki, and, in particular, to Ms Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, Chair, and Ms Heli Kautonen, Conference Co-ordinator. The Meeting of Participants showed its appreciation by sustained applause for the Conference Hosts.

Ann Matheson  
Secretary-General

July 2016