



EB0125.4 - EB0324

## **LIBER Executive Board Meetings: October 2024 Minutes and Action Summary, Paris Nanterre University Library, France**

**Present:** Heli Kautonen (HK), Julien Roche (JR), Anja Smit (ASm), Cécile Swiatek Cassafieres (CS), Thomas Kaarsted (TK), Hilde van Wijngaarden (HvW), Adam Sofronijević (ASo), Dóra Kalydy (DK), Martine Pronk (MP) and Helen Ezeokoli (HE)

**Online:** Andreas Brandtner (AB), Anna Clements (AC), Giannis Tsakonas (GT) and Birgit Schmidt (BS)

**Absent:** Sara Lammens (SL)

### **Thursday 17 October: Strategic discussion**

1. Strategic developments and sustainable organisation  
ASm makes notes.

### **Thursday 17 October: Executive Board First Meeting**

2. Apologies (SL)
3. EB0124 minutes + Action Summary were approved
4. Matter arising
5. EB0224 minutes + Action Summary (draft)  
The minutes were approved.  
JR pointed out - that to remove on pg. 9 apologies for Lars Burman (LB).

### **Summary of actions after EB0224:**

#	Who	What	Status
1	HK; MP	Include explanation of Open Science in relation to new LIBER training programme in next draft.	Keep
2	MP	Draft LIBER – LQ communications content plan.	Done
3	MP	Investigate potential Participants and EOSC Association members overlap.	Keep
4	MP	Contact CISC for more information about their Participant category.	Keep
5	ASm	Discuss creating confidentiality policy at future meeting Pg.6 is not included.	Keep
6	MP	Add testimonials and contact details from former local hosts to the website.	Keep
7	Executive Board	Suggest CPC candidates to GT.	Remove
8	MP	Set up Taskforce to prepare for the LIBER Office move in 2028.	Keep
9	MP	Add a short overview of each projects output and benefits to the LIBER website.	Keep
10	HK; MP	Compile and publish an overview of all LIBER training activities on the LIBER website.	Keep
11	AC; CS; AB; BS; MP	Define the Libraries impact on Open Science proposal's angle and scope and make long list potential partners for the libraries.	Keep
12	GS; AB; AC; HK; BS	Ask Working Group for feedback about embedding workshops in the main Annual Conference programme.	Done
13	Executive Board	Review the factsheet template before Oct 2024.	Keep
14	MP; HvW	Risk Assessment Report: to update the Board Members in Feb 2024.	Done
15	ASm	Draft takeaways from the discussion slot 'LIBER Governance and implementation strategy' and prepare follow up.	Keep
16	HvW	Schedule a discussion about sponsorship and further dialogue on financial risk assessment of the Annual Conference.	Done





17	MP; BS; CS	Hold further conversation on the FOR-EU LIB re EU Project.	Keep
18	Executive Board	Approve the budget and participant fees for the Winter Event 2024 in Maribor.	Done
19	Executive Board	Approve the budget and participant fees for Lausanne Switzerland in 2025.	Keep
20	Executive Board	Hold further discussion on suggested candidates to fill the upcoming open positions in the Executive Boards.	Keep > include Feb 25
21	Executive Board	Hold further conversation on the possibility of Cambridge as the next host of LIBER AC or WC in 2027.	Remove
22	MP	Define the impact of the Annual Report and make a long list of potential stakeholders for future uses.	Keep
23	Executive Board	Sign the Barcelona Declaration statement and take a photo for the LIBER website.	Done
24	AC; Executive Board	Explore more on how to use the ICOLC statement on AI.	Keep > include in Feb 25
25	Executive Board	Hold a comprehensive discussion on the evaluation of the OCLC – LIBER partnership before further proceeding with the partnership.	Done
26	AC; MP	Request from the CS-WG to provide a proposal on their Masterclass business model for approval.	Keep > include Feb 25
27	HK: MP	Ask the Leadership WG to draft a proposal on the financial structure of the ELP for approval.	Done
28	AB; MP; GT	Ask the OA WG to prepare a paper on a strategic level with input from other WGs to be used in the mid-term evaluation.	Done
29	AB; GT; AC; BS	Request strategic-level feedback from all WG – to be included in the mid-term evaluation of the current strategy.	Keep > include in Feb 25
30	Executive Board	Explore further collaboration possibilities between LIBER and CENL regarding the discussion slot held in the July EB meeting 2024.	Keep

HvW advised HE to always connect action points to a person rather than to the entire Executive Board.

## 6. Finance Committee report and recommendations

Recommendations from the FC were based on the following papers listed below which were included in the agenda for approval.

### 6.1 2024 Profit & Loss + Explanatory notes

No comments were made.

### 6.2 Proposed termination memberships by Board decision

Proposal approved.

Regarding the Campus Condorcet, the Office will contact them.

### 6.3 Overview of Participants October 2024

AC to contact JISC to reconsider their cancellation request. HE to send JISC contact information to AC.

MP suggested that we should add to the agenda for the SC meeting - how to best communicate through WGs about the consequences of canceling LIBER membership. This is the responsibility of the SC chairs.

## 7. 2024-2025 Events - Budget

### 7.2 LIBER Annual Conference 2024 Limassol – Final settlement

The final settlement for the Annual Conference 2024 was approved.

### 7.3 2025 Annual Conference Fund Proposal

The proposal was approved.

### 7.4 Preliminary Budget LIBER Annual Conference 2025 Lausanne

Sponsorship deals are anticipated.

No other concerns were made.

### 7.5 LIBER Winter Event 2024 – (Maribor, Slovenia) Budget



As the budget was initially approved during the EB0224 in July, this was for information because the figures in the initial document included in the July meeting were not readable.

## 8 Events: CPC & Events

### 8.1 LIBER Events Report

GT thanked (Anxhela Dani, Lorenza Gallo, and MP) for their work on creating a comprehensive report. The programme and structure for the Limassol 2024 Annual Conference proceeded smoothly. The team has begun developing themes for the 2025 Annual Conference and for the Winter Event. The LIBER Office has prepared a manual for the Winter Events with the plan to align it with the Annual Conference Manual and the following questions/comments were made:

HvW raised the question about the Annual Conference reduction in evaluation grading and asked how the Limassol Host received the evaluation and what will be our response to it. In response, MP said that the LIBER Office is now working on drafting a sustainability proposal and potential ideas which will be in the MoA with future hosts.

GT further noted that this has been incorporated into the Annual Conference manual but emphasised the need to remind future hosts about the post-evaluation impact of the Annual Conference especially during preliminary discussions with future hosts.

HK highlighted the need for a structured approach based on a creating distinguishing badge for the Executive Board members. This will make it more visible for sponsors/LIBER members to approach them for questions during the events. JR and HvW supported the idea and referred to the IFLA as an example.

In conclusion, JR suggested including this recommendation in the future reports.

### 8.2 On The Road to Lausanne – First Report of the LIBER Conference Programme Committee for the LIBER 2025

Regarding the Report, GT highlighted there have been significant changes proposed in the new programme structure. Therefore, we need to think of a better way of evaluating the workshops to avoid overloading the CPC, and the following questions/comments were made:

Regarding the overloading of the CPC and the creation of the taskforce, HvW suggested that there needs to be further clarification on the current CPC responsibilities (in order not) - to run into the risk of over-creation of the task force. In clarification to HvW, GT indicated that the focus for the creation of the taskforce is for reviewing conference submissions.

JR recommended looking into Swiss AI and inviting speakers on this topic and he further raised the issue of room size potentially leading to duplicating workshops, GT responded that this might be unlikely and suggested investigating this during the post-conference evaluations.

CS suggested exploring collaboration topics from UNESCO to enhance the programme.

### 8.3 Proposal: Formation of a Taskforce for the LIBER Winter Event

As the discussion on this has already begun in 8.2, It was agreed not to create a new taskforce but to seek two potential candidates from the CPC.

### 8.4 Future LIBER Event Host

ASm noted the urgency of securing a host for the Winter Event 2025, and made two proposals which were included in the paper; she then asked for response from the Board members.

The following course of action were agreed upon,



- GT and MP will take further action.

Below are additional updates that MP was happy to share with the Executive Board:

- Three potential hosts are interested in hosting the next LIBER Journees, and MP is optimistic that this will work out well.
- One institute expressed interest in hosting the 2027 Annual Conference

CS and HvW recommended that the Board leverage its network to seek potential hosts or explore host options by geographic location that might be of interest to LIBER.

#### **Thursday 17 October: Executive Board Second Meeting**

##### 9 Internal Business Processes

###### 9.1 Appointments and re-appointment LIBER Board

ASm highlighted upcoming board vacancies (including open positions within the SC Chairs) and proposed announcing the positions early. The proposal includes using a single profile with a priority on finding a replacement for the position of treasurer within the Board or outside the Board.

The proposal was approved.

In addition, JR emphasised the importance of avoiding last-minute expressions of interest and urged the Board to explore potential interested candidates within their network proactively.

The process should be open: ASm invited current board members to contact her and express their interest (also for the role of Treasurer.)

The following actions were agreed:

ASm highlighted the need for clear role descriptions; anyone interested in joining the LIBER Board can contact her directly for more information.

There will be a need to address succession soon for the president as JR's presidency will end in 2026.

It was agreed to start advertising the current open positions in November 2024 and finalised at the Executive Board Meeting in February 2025

##### 10 Executive Director

###### 10.1 Executive Director's Report

The report highlighted LIBER international collaborations. MP indicated that she has been considered to apply for the EOSC Association Board of Directors which will be a valuable opportunity for LIBER, and she is working on applying.

HvW inquired about EU funding opportunities with BS mentioning that the prospects of funding are uncertain but worth monitoring.

###### 10.2 Communication Report

CS noted that LIBER communications have become self-focused in the last six years. GT attributed this to social media shifts.

In summary:

MP noted that LIBER communications depend on content coming from Working groups, steering committees, projects, etc.

HK volunteered to work together with Henna Kanerva to revise and improve the LIBER communications report.



With suggestions from JR on how the Executive Board can assist with sharing their speaking engagement with the Office. AC suggested using the Executive Director report for communication purposes also.

### **Friday 18 October: Discussion slot: LIBER Sponsors Guideline (combined with LIBER Sponsor Relations Proposal) prepared by HvW**

#### 11 Discussion Slot

HvW introduced the proposal and highlighted that:

In practice, there is a lot of confusion between the LIBER sponsors and local sponsors for the annual conference.

Current sponsor packages focus heavily on events.

Comments/conclusion from the board on the discussion:

- Clarification is needed first before modifying the sponsorship structure.
- Pay attention to - that the need to align sponsorship to LIBER values is unrealistic. Hence, we need to focus more on content rather than values.
- Plan to review the sponsorship models in future Executive Board Meetings with the expectation to revisit this discussion periodically.
- Move forward under current sponsorship models with sponsors whose contract is ending this year but include the text that we are reviewing the sponsorship model in such discussion.
- A revised sponsorship model paper can be prepared for the EB meeting in February 2025.

### **Friday 18 October: Executive Board Third Meeting**

#### 12 Strategic Directions

##### 12.1 EU Activities and Partnership: International Projects Report

MP presented the paper, and the paper was well-commended by the entire Board.

Comments from the board:

- We need an effective organisation with regard to project management.
- It would be interesting to explore funding from private foundations.
- There is a need to set clear and realistic goals due to the potential workload.

GT and JR agreed to assist the Office on this.

#### 13 Steering Committees report and recommendation

##### 13.1 Recommendations

- o Regarding paper (EB0324.13.2.1) the Executive Board approved the decision to ask all WG's through the SC chairs for more production of strategic papers on emerging trends.
- o Regarding the Textbook project with OAPEN (EB0324.14.1 + EB0324.2), EB appreciated the reports but decided to postpone the discussion pending for more clarification.
- o Regarding the ELP financial proposal, SC recommends that the Executive Board to adopt the Proposal 1 and 2 as presented in the proposal. This was approved by the Board.

##### 13.2 Advancing Open Science

AB highlighted the following:

- For CS WG, the election of new chairs is in process, and updates are expected by year-end.
- Work is progressing well within the WGs.

Regarding paper from the Open Access WG - "Current Trends in Open Access Publishing: A Short Overview for the LIBER Board"

Comments from the Board:

- The Board commended the paper but highlighted that some important elements are missing from the paper and would appreciate it if the above-mentioned paper from the Open Access WG is further improved on for future meetings.

##### 13.3 Engaging and trusted hubs Open Science

AC highlighted the following:





- Regarding the ICOLC: need to prepare a detailed action-plan on what this means for LIBER. A paper is expected to be prepared and included for the February 2025 meeting.
- On the CS WG Masterclass Model: need to prepare a proposal on their business model which to be included for the February 2025 meeting.
- New Chairs needed: With TK now on the Executive Board, the CS WG is looking for new replacement, more updates will be shared during the February 2025 Meeting

#### 13.4 State – of – the art Service

BS highlighted the following:

- For the RDM WG, the election of new chairs is in process, and further updates expected.

#### 13.5 Upskilling the library workforce

On page 2 of the Upskilling the Library Workforce Report, HK mentioned sharing an updated link as the existing link on the report was not working (HE to update the paper in the EB Google shared drive) and made the following:

Regarding the Middle management training:

- The Middle management training has now 20 potential registrations and will start in mid-January 2025.

Regarding the Emerging Leaders Programmes, the updates were:

- A new Programme director has been selected for the next ELP.
- The call for participants will be launched in November.
- The search for a consultant is still ongoing so MP asked the SC if knew anyone, and they should let her know.

Regarding the WG cross-collaboration

- The DSDCH has shared its very good experiences of collaborating with the Data Science WG & RDM WG.

#### 13.6 Development AI and LIBER

The following course of action was preliminarily agreed on:

- SC Chairs to extract AI-related points from their report and send to MP to draft a paper on this topic for February 2025
- Scheduled for February 2025- an onsite discussion on AI.

#### 13.7 Proposal for Financial Structure: Emerging Leaders Programme

Proposal approved.

- HK thanked the contributors for their well-drafted proposal.

#### 14 Updates from the Educational Resources Working Group

##### 14.1 Report from the Educational Resources Working Group on a

proposed project with OAPEN + Efficient Distribution of Open Textbooks – a pilot project proposal by OAPEN

- The Board supports the initiative, LIBER has no potential funding but suggested postponing it until a more detailed discussion can take place at the next Executive Board meeting.
- In addition, MP to reach out to Niels Stern (OAPEN) for further clarification on the proposed project (reference to EB0324.14.1+EB0324.14.2)

Based on CS's question on Educational Resources WG lifespan, the Executive Board also agreed to analyse all WG lifespan during the process within the mid-term evaluation.

#### 15 OCLC & LIBER Partnership

##### 15.1 Multi-annual Engagement Programme and Evaluation Report

- The board agreed to revisit this discussion in the future.

#### 16 Rights and Values

CS gave the following updates:

- A workshop is scheduled to be held in the Winter Event including with a plenary session on day two to gather feedback.



- The feedback will be collected and (might be) presented to the Board in February 2025.

#### 17 Study Proposal

In summary, we postponed this because we have no capacity to handle this for now but keep it on the agenda.

#### 18 Any other business

- MP suggested to improve pre-meeting management - when sending papers - to explicitly state the purpose of the paper – whether it is for information, discussion, or approval.
- For discussion slots in future meetings: ASo proposed to invite speakers to host a discussion on the Ukraine war.
- Original dates for EB0125 remain the same and JR thanked the Board for their contribution on this.
- The next EB0325 meeting will be combined with the Winter Event in 2025, therefore no meeting in October.
- Barcelona declaration was signed.

Future Executive Board meetings	
EB0125	20 – 21 February 2025, Trondheim, Norway
	Deadline for agenda items: 23 Jan 2025
	Deadline for papers/reports: 30 Jan 2025
EB0225	30 June – 4 July 2025, Lausanne, Switzerland
	Deadline for agenda items: 2 June 2025
	Deadline for papers/reports: 9 June 2025
EB0325	Combined with Winter Event 2025



## Actions after EB0324 October 2024:

#	Who	What	Status
1	HK; MP	Include explanation of Open Science in relation to new LIBER training programme in next draft.	Keep
2	MP	Investigate potential Participants and EOSC Association members overlap.	Keep
3	MP	Contact CISC for more information about their Participant category	Keep
4	ASm	Discuss creating confidentiality policy at future meetings Pg.6 is not included.	Keep
5	MP	Add testimonials and contact details from former local hosts to the website.	Keep
6	MP	Set up Taskforce to prepare for the LIBER Office move in 2028.	Keep
7	MP	Add a short overview of each projects output and benefits to the LIBER website.	Keep
8	HK; MP	Compile and publish an overview of all LIBER training activities on the LIBER website.	Keep
9	AC; CS; AB; BS; MP	Define the Libraries impact on Open Science proposal's angle and scope and make long list potential partners for the libraries.	Keep
10	Executive Board	Review the factsheet template before Oct 2024.	Keep
11	ASm	Draft takeaways from the discussion slot 'LIBER Governance and implementation strategy' and prepare follow-up.	Keep
12	MP; BS; CS	Hold further conversation on the FOR-EU LIB re EU Project.	Keep
13	ASm	Hold further discussion on suggested candidates to fill the upcoming open positions in the Executive Boards.	Feb 25
14	MP	Define the impact of the Annual Report and make a long list of potential stakeholders for future uses.	Keep
15	AC	Regarding the ICOLC: prepare a detailed action plan.	Feb 25
16	AC; MP	Request from the CS-WG to provide a proposal on their Masterclass business model for approval.	Feb 25
17	AB; GT; AC; BS	Regarding the mid-term evaluation: Request strategic-level feedback from all WG.	Feb 25
18	JR; MP	Explore further collaboration possibilities between LIBER and CENL.	Keep
19	GT	Updates: search for two potential candidates within the CPC for the proposal on the formation of a Taskforce for the WE.	
20	GT; MP	Explore reaching out to potential hosts for the 2025 Winter Event.	
21	Executive Board	Suggest potential (suitable) candidates for upcoming vacancies in the EB&SC to ASm.	
22	HK	Collaborate with Henna Kanerva on how LIBER communication can be further developed.	
23	HvW; MP	Review the current sponsorship model.	
24	MP	Seek more clarification regarding the OAPEN – LIBER textbook project collaboration.	Feb 25
25	GT	Exploring with Andrej Vrcon on connecting with potential private foundation.	
26	MP; JR	Draft a paper on AI-LIBER and schedule an onsite discussion	Feb 25
27	CS; ASo	Present feedback to the EB from the Workshop on Rights and Values held in WE 2024.	Feb 25
28	Executive Board	Approve the budget and participant fees for Lausanne Switzerland in 2025.	Keep