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### **1. eIFL-related News**

#### **eIFL 2005 General Assembly**

We are all just back from a very busy and inspiring General Assembly in Vilnius, Lithuania on 28-29 October. We are glad to say that 44 eIFL countries have been present on this occasion, together with a large representation of speakers, trainers and publishers. The General Assembly was preceded by the first part of the Advisory Board meeting, the newcomers meeting, a press conference and a workshop on Open Source Software. The GA programme gave an overview of last year's eIFL activities and challenges in all its areas of work, and was enriched with lectures by speakers from relevant initiatives, including Google Scholar, Wikipedia, Connexions, Creative Commons, and the DARE Project. We all greatly enjoyed this professionally very interesting event and the celebration of eIFL's fifth anniversary warmed up by Lithuanian hospitality!

Presentations and photo gallery from the GA are available soon at the MEMBERS ONLY section at the eIFL website. Those of you that took photos, please do not hesitate and send them to the eIFL team as we will put them on the web to share with everybody. Likewise, we would like to inform you that the GA evaluation form is already prepared, and it will be at the MEMBERS ONLY section, too. We would kindly ask you to fill it as your answers will be very useful to prepare the next GA.

#### **eIFL Ninth Advisory Board Meeting**

The Ninth Advisory Board meeting took place on October 27 and October 30. The agenda of this meeting was very full with detailed discussion around the new eIFL sustainability

strategy for the upcoming years, the eIFL advocacy draft paper, GA preparations for the next two years, follow up of the membership survey and portal study and modifications to the election document for the coming years. On October 30, Board members gave feedback on the just finished GA, and dates and venue for the Tenth Advisory Board meeting were agreed upon.

This has been the last Advisory Board meeting for Biljana Kosanovic, eIFL country coordinator for Serbia. During the GA the elections for the two vacancies at the Advisory Board were held. Buhle Mbambo, eIFL country coordinator for Zimbabwe, was reelected as a Board member, and Irakli Garibashvili, eIFL country coordinator for Georgia, has been welcomed.

Minutes of the Board meeting will be soon available at the MEMBERS ONLY section at the eIFL website.

## **Welcome to Ebrahim Emrani as eIFL coordinator for Iran**

The eIFL family would like to welcome the official nomination of Mr. Emrani as eIFL country coordinator by CONSIRAN, the University and Library Consortium in Iran. Mr. Emrani is the director of the Library of the University of Tehran.

Most of us had the opportunity to welcome him in person during the GA in Vilnius, where he arrived after a rather difficult trip.

## **2. Upcoming eIFL Events in November-December 2005:**

On November 6, Rima Kupryte attended the **Standing Conference of African University Libraries Western Area (SCAULWA)** in Dakar, Senegal and organised by eIFL country coordinator for Senegal Henri Sene. This regional conference covered issues related to library consortia and eIFL country coordinators from Western Africa also participated (as well as university librarians from many other countries in West Africa). Within the framework of this Conference Kate Nevins and Sandra Phoenix from SOLINET ran the eIFL.net workshop on sustaining consortia on November 9. Please see the full agenda of the event at **eIFL related events**.

Helena Asamoah-Hassan, eIFL country coordinator for Ghana, delivered a presentation on eIFL.net at the **Tunis 2005 Summit pre-Conference Libraries: the Information Society in Action** held in Alexandria, Egypt, on November 10-11. You can access at the agenda at  **www.bibalex.org**.

Tim Brody, Lilian Van der Vaart, Jean-Claude Guedon, Biljana Kosanovic, and Melissa Hagemann, delivered presentations at the eIFL workshop on **Open Access Citation Indexes** in Belgrade, Serbia on November 10-11, organized by the Serbian Library Consortium KOBSON. This event was opened by the Minister of Sciences of Serbia. For further information, please see:  **KoBSON**.

Emilija Banionyte, member of eIFL Advisory Board, participated in the **Past, Present and Future of Research of the Information Society** event which will precede the Second Phase of the World Summit on Information Society in Tunisie, Tunis on 13-15 November. On November 13 Emilija Banionyte presented "How eIFL Supports the Wide Availability of Electronic Information in Developing Countries Libraries" within the framework of INASP/FAO sessions. Please see the programme details of this pre-conference event at  **www.worldsci.net**.

On November 21, Teresa Hackett will speak about learning with libraries and copyright issues to government delegates from 182 WIPO member states during the **WIPO Information Meeting on Educational Content and Copyright** in the Digital Age in Geneva, Switzerland.

Teresa Hackett will attend what is perhaps the most important **WIPO Standing**

**Committee on Copyright and Related Issues Session** for many years. Topics include a special agenda item on exceptions and limitations (tabled by Chile), recordation systems, protection of non-original databases and protection of broadcasting organizations. This Thirteenth Session of SCCR will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, on November 21-23.

On November 21-22, Monika Segbert, Marika Meltsas (eIFL country coordinator for Estonia) and Ann Okerson from Yale University Library will be the resource people for the **Syrian national consortium building workshop** that will be held in Damascus. This workshop falls within the series of national workshops in library consortia and electronic licensing that are taking place in eIFL Middle East countries. So far similar workshops have been organised in Palestine (West Bank and Gaza), Jordan and Iran.

On November 25-26 Teresa Hackett will give the first of a series of **regional workshops on copyright issues in Kampala, Uganda**. eIFL IP coordinators from Africa will attend it. In the framework of this event she will give a public lecture at Makerere University, East African School of Libraries and Information Science, on November 24 in Kampala, and at the Africa Copyright Forum Conference, also in Kampala, on November 28-30, she will speak about the impact of copyright on access to digital resources in libraries and the eIFL IP Programme in Africa.

Rima Kupryte will go to the **Information Online 2005** to take place in London, UK, on November 29-December 1 in order to continue talks with publishers.

Teresa Hackett will be conducting the second of the regional **workshops** on copyright and related issues **in Tallin, Estonia**, on December 11-12.

Heather Joseph (Director of SPARC), Arnold Hirshon (Director of NELINET), both eIFL.net Advisory Board Members, Rima Kupryte and Monika Segbert will meet in Italy on December 9-11 to prepare a strategy and action plan to raise funds for an endowment for eIFL.net as part of the sustainability strategy.

### **3. Update on new Content**

#### **CUP and IoP Licenses extended**

As already announced during the eIFL General Assembly in Vilnius, Lithuania, the licenses that eIFL signed with Cambridge University Press (CUP) and Institute of Physics (IoP) have been extended until the end of 2006 and the end of 2007 respectively.

#### **eIFL at the Frankfurt Book Fair**

Rima Kupryte met with several publishers to discuss possible agreements for access to electronic resources at Frankfurt Book Fair on 20-21 October. There are ongoing talks with IoP, OUP, Gale, Blackwell, Wiley and SAGE. You will be duly updated on them all.

### **4. Update on eIFL-IP**

#### **Update on eIFL-IP Africa Workshop, Kampala, November 2005**

Thirty-one people from twenty-two countries are taking part in the forthcoming eIFL-IP Africa workshop. We are delighted to welcome guests from the Consortium of Uganda University Libraries (CUUL) and the Commonwealth of Learning. We are pleased that eIFL has been able to facilitate the attendance of seven colleagues at the Africa Copyright Forum (ACF) Conference Forum which takes place immediately afterwards.

Please get more information at **Regional workshop for Africa**.

#### **eIFL-IP Europe workshop, Tallinn, December 2005**

The eIFL-IP workshop for Europe will take place in Tallinn, Estonia on 11-12 December 2005. eIFL-IP colleagues from Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia,

Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia will attend.

The workshop will cover the same core areas as the African regional workshop: copyright and libraries; trade agreements; international developments; advocacy and creating alliances. In addition, it will include legislative and policy developments in the European Union and the key European Directives for libraries. The outcome will be that each country will draft a national library copyright strategy so that priorities can be set for future work.

Please get more information at **Regional workshop for Central and South-east Europe**.

### Keynote Speakers at the Workshops

Libraries are a critical part of the international copyright landscape and work together with a wide range of groups such as consumers, the free software community, blind and visually impaired people and digital rights campaigners to advocate for fair copyright laws. The eIFL-IP workshops feature two leading activists who will share their unique perspectives on copyright in the digital environment and the importance of librarians as copyfighters.

Michelle Childs is Head of European Affairs at Consumer Project on Technology (CPTech). **Read Michelle's biography**. Go here for a recent  **interview** by Michelle on consumer digital rights.

Cory Doctorow is European Affairs Coordinator for the Electronic Frontier Foundation  (**eff.org**) and an award-winning science fiction writer. **Read Cory's biography**.  **Get a preview of Cory**.

### eIFL Accredited with Observer Status at WIPO

At the WIPO General Assemblies in September 2005, WIPO member states decided to admit eIFL.net as an observer to WIPO. This means that eIFL may attend meetings of the annual General Assemblies, committees, working groups and other bodies of WIPO, if the subject matter is relevant.

"Observer" status doesn't only mean observing, however. At the discretion of the chairperson, observers are usually allowed to make statements to meetings and distribute documents. And of course it's the best place to meet government representatives from the national copyright offices. For the WIPO development agenda meetings, eIFL was given "ad hoc" observer status, so this decision formalises our position.

### eIFL and IFLA Meet with WIPO Secretariat

During the General Assemblies in September, Winston Tabb, Chairman of IFLA Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM) and eIFL had a formal meeting with senior WIPO staff. We discussed the participation of libraries in WIPO regional and national seminars for national policy makers, politicians and judges to ensure that the library perspective is included and offering advice to WIPO on the draft WIPO "Model Law" used when giving advice to developing countries on new or amended copyright legislation. We also suggested establishing an annual library meeting with cross-sectoral WIPO staff so that they are aware of the ways in which copyright issues and library activities are rapidly evolving in the digital environment.

We are corresponding with WIPO about next steps and arranging to meet with the relevant staff from the Secretariat. We will keep you posted!

### Resources

A new website for European consumer digital rights has been launched by the European consumers' organization (BEUC). It features a declaration on consumer digital rights, contains interviews, a glossary and case studies. It mostly deals with digital music and digital rights management systems, but is useful to anyone concerned with rights in the digital environment. See  **Consumers Digital Rights**.

## 5. Open Access News and Useful Resources

### Welcome on Board to Lilian Van der Vaart

As already announced during the GA in Vilnius, Lilian Van der Vaart has joined the eIFL OA team, and she will be collaborating closely with Melissa Hagemann to develop the OA agenda further. Lilian van der Vaart is a professional interim manager, and has her own company Eleftheria. She has extensive experience in knowledge management, information provision and publishing in academia and professional organisations. She has worked for almost 20 years in the publishing industry, before establishing herself as interim manager in 1997. Her assignments are typically with organisations in the (non) profit sector that are being faced with the issue of innovation (with ICT) of their primary information provision and the changes in their organisation that result from it. In recent years she has done a lot of work in the area of institutional repositories and open access, amongst others launching the DARE programme and network in The Netherlands, and workshops for OSI and eIFL.

Lilian has a master in Knowledge Management, degrees in Law and English, and extensive training and practice in change management.

### eIFL OA at the Annual Conference of the Union of Associations of Slovene Librarians

At the invitation of Karmen Stular Sotosek, eIFL country coordinator for Slovenia, Melissa Hagemann gave a presentation on Open Access within the framework of the Annual Conference of the Union of Associations of Slovene Librarians which took place in Portoroz, Slovenia, on October 24. You can see the agenda and abstract of presentations at [Union of Associations of Slovene Librarians](#).

### OSI/PLoS Grants to Support Open Access Publishing in Developing and Transitional Countries

The Open Society Institute and the Public Library of Science are working together to support institutional membership grants to facilitate the publication of articles by authors in developing and transitional countries in the premiere peer-reviewed PLoS journals. The deadline for applications is December 15, 2005 and the funding guidelines are twofold: institutions must be engaged in research in the biological and/or medical sciences and a geographical balance will be sought in funding. These membership grants are for 12 months, if interested please get in touch with Melissa Hagemann (mhagemann@sorosny.org) for application procedures.

### Springer Adopts Open Choice Licence

Springer has recently announced that it will be adopting the Open Choice Licence which is compatible with the Creative Commons Licence. Under this licence articles will be freely available and you will be free to copy, distribute, display and perform the work as well as to make derivative works as long as the attribution conditions and the non commercial purposes are in place. In addition, through the Springer Open Choice program, copyright will remain with the author.

To read more, please see: [Springer Open Choice License](#).

### OUP Releases Data on Oxford Open Program

Oxford University Press has released data on their Oxford Open Program. Launched in July 2005, the Program is similar to the hybrid model\* of Open Access which Jan Velterop described in the OSI Guide for Open Access Publishing and Scholarly Societies. Compared to the high take up OUP experienced w/the Journal of Nucleic Acids the latest results show an average of 9% of authors elected to pay the article processing fee. However, OUP has added another 19 journals to the Program. As Martin Richardson, Managing Director, Oxford Journals, noted "there has been a noticeable variation in the take-up of open access

amongst these journals; some life science journals have published up to 5% of papers under the open access model, while others have seen take-up of approximately 17%."

\*the hybrid model offers authors the option of paying the article processing fee and then the article will be made available through OA. Or they can elect not to pay the fee and the article will only be available to journal subscribers.

### **OAI4 Conference, CERN, 20-22 October**

Although there are a growing number of OA conferences, the OAI meetings are consistently among the most interesting and educational. Melissa Hagemann attended on behalf of OSI and eIFL. Among the highlights of the meeting were two exciting projects from the Los Alamos team on research assessment (one based on usage, the other an OAI repository centric peer-review model), an Open Data presentation by a leading academic at Cambridge who is eager to work w/the OA movement, a keynote presentation by Robert Terry of the Wellcome Trust, and the first presentation at an OAI conference by a speaker from a developing or transition country (Jennifer de Beer who is a member of the open access Sivulile group in South Africa organized by Susan Veldsman). Presentation slides and video can be viewed at:  **CERN workshop**.

### **Exploring how eIFL/OSI can play a role to mandate ETDs**

As briefly mentioned at the GA, we are beginning to explore expanding our OA work beyond access to the research literature to also include electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) and data. With regard to ETDs, Melissa is in discussions the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD), the main organization working in the area of ETDs. In an attempt to see what can be done to mandate ETDs, Melissa Hagemann will be attending a conference in January organized by JISC, SURF and CURL. These organizations could serve to strengthen the ETD movement within the EU and we could explore what eIFL and OSI could do to within our regions. Specifically the meeting will be looking at coordinating national ETD activities, multilingual and subject access to ETDs, linking ETDs and datasets, as well as the regulatory and legal frameworks and business models. Thus if any of the coordinators are active in ETD projects, please contact Melissa Hagemann and let her know about your activities.

### **The eIFL Team**