eIFL Newsletter - January/February 2006

1. eIFL-related News

10th Advisory Board Meeting

The eIFL 10th Advisory Board meeting was held at SURF offices in Utrecht, the Netherlands, on 27-28 January. eIFL sustainability plans and endowment fund strategy, first considerations for the next eIFL GA venue and dates, next steps following the eIFL OSS and GA online surveys, and further developments of eIFL Technology Programme were at the top of the agenda, giving way to a lively discussion. Likewise, Teresa Hackett presented eIFL-IP activities for 2006 and so did Lilian van der Vaart as to eIFL OA Programme. The minutes of the meeting will be soon available on the eIFL website.

eIFL Response to the EU Consultation on Digital Libraries

On behalf of eIFL, Teresa Hackett prepared the response to the consultation regarding the

EU Initiative "i2010: Digital Libraries" launched by the European Commission last September. This Initiative seeks to make European information resources easier and more interesting to use in an on-line environment, with a special emphasis on digitisation, on-line accessibility and digital preservation. You can access the European Commission related policy and background documents as well as eIFL response at **eIFL IP Issues and campaigns**.

Links to French-speaking websites with OA SH Scholarly Material

We have collected a list of French-speaking websites which house a variety of scholarly electronic material, both in Sciences and Humanities, mostly for free and in French. Please access them all on the eIFL website at **eIFL Free Journals**.

New Country Coordinator for Slovakia

We welcome Zuzana Halienova from the Slovak National Library as the new country coordinator for Slovakia. She will replace Maria Kollarova who has headed for Brussels for a work experience. We also thank Maria for her cooperation with eIFL.

More photos of the General Assembly!

We are still receiving photos from the eIFL General Assembly in Vilnius, Lithuania. These were taken by the staff at the Lithuanian National Library and a professional fotographer, see them all at the MEMBERS ONLY section of the eIFL website, under "General Assembly".

2. Upcoming eIFL Events in November-December 2005:

As already announced on the last Newsletter issue, Melissa Hagemann attended the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) discussions in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, on 19-20 January. She represented both OSI and eIFL.

The 10th Advisory Board meeting took place at the SURF offices in Utrecht, the Netherlands, on 27-28 January, 2006. All the Board members together with the eIFL staff attended the meeting.

On 15-17 February, Tigran Zargaryan, from the Electronic Library Consortium of Armenia (ELCA), will attend the upcoming code4lib Conference as eIFL representative. The Conference is a major event on Open Source Software for libraries, and it will take place at the Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon (USA). See details on the conference at **www.code4lib.org/2006**.

On 20-24 February, the WIPO Provisional Committee on Proposals Related to a WIPO Development will meet up in Geneva, Switzerland. Teresa Hackett will attend the first of two meetings in Geneva which will complete discussions on a development agenda for WIPO and will make recommendations to the WIPO General Assemblies in September.

3. Update on new Content

eIFL at London Information Online

At London Information Online at the end of November 2005, Rima Kupryte met with Sales representatives from American Physical Society, SAGE, IEEE, Wiley, Thomson Gale, Economist Intelligence Unit and AMP, a Sales company which offered a package including the following publishers: ACS Publications, ACS Archive, ACS New Journals, Chemical & Engineering News, Journal of Chemical Education, New England Journal of Medicine, Humana Press Online (Journals),"Synthesis" from Morgan & Claypool, Bentham Science and Ebrary "Academic Complete". You will be duly updated on the progress of these talks.

4. Update on eIFL-IP

Training copyright advocates in Africa and Europe

The eIFL-IP workshops for Africa and central and south-east Europe took place in Kampala, Uganda and Tallinn, Estonia in November and December 2005. The purpose was to provide training in copyright issues and advocacy for libraries, so that eIFL-IP librarians can become effective advocates and can lobby on behalf of libraries on copyright issues nationally and internationally. In Europe all countries, whether members of the European Union or not, are also influenced by EU copyright policies.

A total of 56 people from 35 countries took part in the two day workshops. A survey of each national copyright situation, completed in advance by participants, formed the basis of the discussion sessions. Lots of issues were raised including the library position on photocopying materials; copying for distance learning courses; definition of fair use/fair dealing; the role of collecting societies; IP policies in universities; performances in public libraries; institutional repositories. We will follow these up in 2006.

The next step is to finalise a copyright strategy for each country identifying issues, allies and plans so that the library community can actively protect and promote the interests of libraries in copyright matters.

The workshop programmes and speaker biographies are at: **eIFL-IP Regional workshops**. Speaker presentations are available in the **eIFL-IP members' area** (login required).

Photos: **www.flickr.com/groups/eiflip_kampala** and **www.flickr.com/groups/eiflip_tallinn**.

eIFL public lecture at Makerere University, Kampala

At the invitation of Elisam Magara, President of the Uganda Library Association, eIFL gave a lecture to more than one hundred students at the East African School of Library and Information Science (EASLIS) on 24 November 2005. The topic was current copyright and trade issues for libraries. The speakers, Teresa Hackett, Barbara Stratton and Paul Whitney in town for the eIFL-IP workshop, were delighted to address the students who were enthusiastic and engaged even exam time was approaching!

In the lively Q&A session, the students had clearly identified the connection between libraries and education, the role of librarians in promoting access to learning materials and the importance of access to knowledge for society especially in developing countries. We hope that they will carry this message with them into their professional careers.

Africa Copyright Forum conference, Kampala

The eIFL-IP Africa workshop took place alongside the Africa Copyright Forum conference, 28-30 November 2005 enabling five eIFL-IP participants to stay on for the conference.

More than 120 delegates from 23 countries heard speakers from Africa and beyond talk about emerging copyright regimes and access to educational content in Africa, free trade agreements, the dangers of digital rights management systems, the impact of copyright on access to digital resources and copyright in Francophone Africa. Cory Doctorow, Assane Faye, Teresa Hackett and Paul Whitney were amongst the eIFL sponsored speakers.

The Africa Copyright and Access to Information Alliance (ACAIA) was established at the conference and an Interim Board was elected to coordinate copyright and related issues in Africa, with particular reference to education, libraries and people with disabilities. eIFL-IP will work closely with ACAIA.

Papers from the conference are available at: **www.nlu.go.ug/acfconf.htm**.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) meetings, 21-23 November 2005

Information Meeting on Educational Content and Copyright in the Digital Age

Copyright law is increasingly acting as a barrier to libraries and education. At the World Library Congress Oslo in August 2005, over three hundred librarians from developed and developing countries discussed every day problems they encounter with copyright law when trying to provide services to users. This information meeting on educational content was attended by Member States of WIPO. Teresa Hackett, representing eIFL and IFLA, spoke about learning with libraries and copyright issues. Other topics include education, copyright and development and commercial and alternative licensing systems.

eIFL called for a basic, minimum set of exceptions and limitations permitted by international treaties such as the Berne Convention and/or incorporated into the national laws of member states of the WTO and which every country could adopt today. eIFL challenged Member States, especially developing countries, to ensure that learning content is made available to the widest possible base for the sake of the student teachers, nurses and engineers on whom the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals depends.

Presentation available at: **eIFL-IP Issues and campaigns**.

WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR)

The two main items of interest to libraries were exceptions and limitations tabled by Chile and the draft treaty on the protection of broadcasting organisations. eIFL made joint statements with IFLA on both items.

On exceptions and limitations, we pointed out that libraries, and the people who use libraries, depend on exceptions and limitations to copyright without which copyright owners would have a complete monopoly over learning, and thus control access to knowledge, particularly in the digital age.

On the draft broadcasting treaty, we said that the raison d'etre of libraries is to collect and preserve our knowledge for the purposes of making the content available and providing access to the public. Any new right which affects access to content is of concern to librarians because it imposes an additional barrier to access to knowledge, particularly content in the public domain.

You can read both statements at: **eIFL-IP Issues and campaigns**.
Unofficial notes: **www.eff.org/IP/WIPO**.

Resources

The Center for the Study of the Public Domain at Duke Law School, USA is the first university centre of its kind in the world. Founded in 2002, as part of the school's wider intellectual property program, its mission is to promote research and scholarship on the contributions of the public domain to speech, culture, science and innovation, to promote debate about the balance needed in our intellectual property system and to translate academic research into public policy solutions.

The website is a lively mix of news, publications, events and projects. **www.law.duke.edu/cspd**.

5. Open Access News and Useful Resources

Ukrainian Parliament Resolution states: Open Access is one of the priorities in developing the Ukrainian information society

On December 1, the Ukrainian Parliament passed a resolution in which Open Access is called one of the priorities for the development of the Ukrainian information society. The resolution recommends that the Cabinet of Ministers creates the conditions necessary for developing open access repositories in archives, libraries, museums and other cultural

institutions. It also recommends the creation of accessible national electronic information resources for scientific, technical and economic information; and to develop the necessary supporting regulation and policy measures, including making open access a condition for state-funded research. As Peter Suber says, this is analogous to the US congressional action in July 2004 directing the NIH to develop an OA policy.

Over the next couple of months, the Information Consortium and the Library of the National University Kyiv Mohyla Academy will develop a model IR project that can serve as a resource center. The results will be presented and spread to 8 other interested universities who will serve as regional resource centers; and to the Cabinet of Ministers as input for a National OA Programme.

It is great to see these developments happening in the Ukraine, so quickly after the **Open Access Scholarly Communication Workshop** in February 17-19 2005, where Open Access recommendations were first introduced by the participants; the workshop was organized by the International Renaissance Foundation, Open Society Institute, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, International Association of Academies of Sciences and National University Kyiv Mohyla Academy, and supported by the British Council Ukraine.

Source: Iryna Kuchma, International Renaissance Foundation.

Successful Workshop on Implementing Institutional Repositories in Bulgaria, December 2005

From 1-3 December, a small practical workshop on implementing Institutional Repositories was held in Sofia at the New Bulgarian University. The workshop was supported by OSI's Higher Education Support Program (HESP) and organized by the OSI Open Access Initiative and offered to the HESP targeted institutions. It was attended by teams of two people from HESP institutions in four different countries: New Bulgarian University; IEDC, Slovenia; Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences, Russia; and American University Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan. Each institute was represented by a senior Library expert and a senior ICT-expert. The workshop was introductory and practical, ranging from an overview of relevant developments via the 'what, why and how' of repositories, to hands-on practice with installing repository software and uploading documents. Trainers were Lilian van der Vaart (overview and general introduction), Les Carr, Tim Miles-Board (introduction to and training on EPrints software), and Dessi Pefeva (copyright issues and Creative Commons). The workshop was very well organized on the local level by Nadya Terzieva (eIFL coordinator) and her team of the NBU Library. The workshop was a pilot, and was very well received by the participants, who benefited greatly from the small-sized set-up which allowed for plenty personal attention, from the practical exercises and hands-on experience, and from the supporting documentation.

SPARC and Science Commons to enhance use and visibility of SPARC Author Addendum

In their support for greater access and voluntary sharing of scientific publications, the two organisations have recently announced their partnership in order to make SPARC Author Addendum more functional. The SPARC Author Addendum is a useful tool that allows authors retain critical rights, including their right to post their works in online repositories. Science Commons, a project of Creative Commons, is creating a machine-readable version of the SPARC Author Addendum which will provide web searchability and will enable authors to re-use their work in an easy and fast manner that will be also legally binding. The new version of the Author Addendum will be available on the SPARC website this early spring. For additional information, please read on at **www.arl.org/sparc/announce**.

Important new Bill in the US: CURES Act

A new bill has been introduced into the US Senate, the CURES Act, that would mandate Open Access to the bulk of federally funded medical research. The bill goes beyond the present NIH public-access policy in several important ways:
1) it requires free online access and does not merely request it

2) it requires deposit at the time of acceptance by a journal
3) it shortens to six months the permissible delay or embargo between deposit and free online access
4) it extends the OA policy beyond the NIH to other agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services
5) it explicitly says that non-compliance may be a ground for the funding agency to refuse future funding
6) it explicitly relies on the existing government purpose license instead of publisher consent as a legal basis for disseminating the research results.

This is an important new development that may expand OA mandate in the US significantly, and may serve as an example for policy-makers in other countries. Read more on it in the SPARC Open Access Newsletter # 93, January 2, 2006 (see for link below).

This issue of the Newsletter also contains a very interesting survey of important developments in Open Access in 2005, as well as predictions for 2006. Definitely worth a read for anyone who wants a quick overview of what's happened and expected to come!

Source: SPARC Open Access Newsletter, issue # 93, January 2, 2006 **www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/newsletter**.

Open Access Archiving and Developing Countries article

Leslie Chang, Barbara Kirsop and Subbiah Arunachalam have recently published an article on the benefits of Open Access as the most successful means to address the difficulties in accessing electronic scholarly publications in developing countries. Open Access Archiving: the Fast Track to Building Research Capacity in Developing Countries gives an overview of the main problems that developing countries encounter when accessing electronic journals, and describes the main international initiatives that work to solve them, including eIFL.net. Please read the full article at **www.scidev.net/ms/openaccess**.

Pioneering Open Access Journal in Organic Chemistry

The first issue of the BioMed Central-hosted Beilstein Journal of Organic Chemistry (BJOC) was published on 26th August 2005. It is one of the first open access journals in chemistry and the full text of all articles published are available online free of charge at **www.beilstein-journals.org**. BJOC offers authors very rapid publication and it is covered by the Chemistry Abstract Service (CAS).

Guidelines for Certifying Digital Repositories available On-line

A task force comprising Research Libraries Group (RLG) and National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) experts have prepared a draft report on criteria for the certification of digital repositories. This initiative is a response to the need to developing reliable repository certification procedures, and is of interest for organizations planning repositories and for producers of digital resources. You can download the report at **www.rlg.org/en/pdfs**.

Online Medical Textbook for free

The Cleveland Clinic Disease Management Project is an online medical guide where all the material can be accessed for free. Cleveland Clinic physician authors provide recommendations for treating more than 150 commonly seen diseases in the following areas: Allergy and Immunology, Cardiology, Dermatology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology/Hepatology, Hematology/Oncology, Infectious Disease, Nephrology, Neurology, Psychology and Psychiatry, Pulmonary Disease, Rheumatology, and Women's Health.

Launched in 2002, this online textbook includes 40 chapters covering the above mentioned medical specialties and more than 50 additional chapters are already under construction

and learning material on Pediatrics and Surgery will also be tackled. Citations under the chapter are hyperlinked to a list of references at the bottom of the chapter, and wherever possible the references themselves are linked to Medline abstracts. Access this resource at **www.clevelandclinicmeded.com/diseasemanagement**.

Awards and Publishing Opportunities

The 2nd Annual Emerald/EFMD Outstanding Doctoral Research Awards 2006

Emerald Group Publishing Limited, publisher of the largest collection of international business and management journals and library and information science titles, and the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD), a global membership organisation with more than 500 institutional members from academia, business and public services, seek to celebrate excellence in research by sponsoring the Annual Outstanding Doctoral Research Awards.

Award-winning entries will receive a cash prize of €1,500 (or other currency equivalent), a certificate and the prospect of an offer of publication in the sponsoring journal, as a full paper, or as an executive summary/research note, at the discretion of the Editor.

There are 12 categories in which a prize will be awarded, including one in each of Library Studies and Information Science.

If you would like more information, please contact Steve Smith at Emerald **ssmith@emeraldinsight.com** or go to **www.emeraldinsight.com**.

Call for Papers on A2K related issues open

The Open Society Institute (OSI), in conjunction with the Access to Knowledge (A2K) Conference to take place on April 21-23 at Yale Law School, supports the call for papers announced by the Yale Law School Information Society Project (ISP) and the International Journal of Communications Law & Policy (IJCLP) for a Special Fall 2006 issue. OSI will encourage contributions from developing and transitional countries through a grant, including a small stipend for each author as well as free editorial processing by the Journal. Contributions should address any A2K related issues which falls within the main scope of the IJCLP-communication and law policy and those submitted under the conditions of this OSI grant should be received by this May, 1. Please check eligible countries for OSI financial support, contact people for further inquiries and submission and paper requirements at **www.ijclp.org**.

2006 International Paper Contest on International Digital Libraries and Information Sciences & Technology Advances in Developing Countries

The American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASSIST) has recently announced the opening of the 2006 International Paper Contest within the framework of the upcoming Annual Meeting to take place in Austin, Texas, on 3-9 November, 2006. The topic of the paper contest is "Information Realities: Shaping the Digital Future for All?", to be addressed at either country or regional level. Principal authors must be citizens and residents in a developing country, being librarians, information and network specialists, educators involved in digital information activities especially encouraged to make original contributions. The six winners will be awarded a two year individual membership in ASSIST, and the first place winner will also be granted a minimum of $1,000 to attend the 2006 Annual Meeting. Deadline for submissions is March 31, 2006 to Jonathan Levitt at **jonathan@levitt.net**. Additional information on this opportunity can be found at **www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII**.

Reminder Call for Nominations for the SLA Europe Information Professional Award

SLA Europe is accepting nominations for its 2006 Information Professional Award for 2006 until this 28 February. The Award recognises outstanding achievement in the information professions amongst those living and working in Europe. The winner will receive an expenses-paid trip to the upcoming SLA Conference to take place in Baltimore, USA, on 11-14 June, 2006. In return the winner will represent SLA Europe for the year they are in office. If interested, you can either nominate yourself or someone else, and the filled nomination form must be sent to Penny Leach. Further details on the award and procedures are available at **www.sla-europe.org/eip**.

The eIFL Team