

EIFL 2014 General Assembly Speakers' Bios

Gintarė Tautkevičienė

Head of Information Services Department, Library of Kaunas University of Technology

Chairperson, EIFL Advisory Board Member



Dr. Gintare Tautkeviciene is Head of Information Services Department at the Library of Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania and in parallel she is working as an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences. Gintare manages information and electronic services of the library, develops and delivers end-user training programmes. She carried out a series of surveys and research studies, which were aimed at investigating the users' information competence and needs for information resources.

Gintare is EIFL Open access coordinator for Lithuania, is a Chair of the Advisory Board of EIFL. She also organises the events and dissemination of promotional materials for Open Access. Currently she participates in the ES 7FP funded projects „OpenAIRE – Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe“ and OpenAIREplus “2nd-Generation Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe”. In 2010 Gintare received an award for her achievements in scientific research and activities in the fields of library science, bibliography and book science

Rima Kupryte

EIFL Director



Rima Kupryte is the Director of EIFL. Rima oversees the implementation of EIFL's overall organisational strategy and operations. Rima has been managing EIFL since its inception. Under Rima's leadership, EIFL has grown into a thriving international organisation working in more than 60 developing and transition economy countries.

Rima's deep knowledge of library infrastructure and international development has led to the strategic expansion of EIFL's key programmes which help people to access and use information for education, learning, research and sustainable community development. Rima joined EIFL from the Open Society Institute - Budapest (currently known as the Open Society Foundations), where she managed the Network Library Programme, supporting library development in approximately 35 countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, and Africa. In 2008, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) awarded Rima the IFLA Medal, one of the highest professional accolades, for her contributions to international librarianship. Languages: Lithuanian, English, Russian.

Consol Garcia Gomez

Director of Research Services, Baix Llobregat Campus Library, UPC-Barcelona Tech Library



She is Responsible for Research Library Services at Baix Llobregat Campus Library, a UPC-Barcelona Tech Library; she serves the university since 1996. She's involved in developing specialized collections , promoting UPC digital repository, designing information literacy programmes for students , assisting researchers in some of their activities regarding publication models, copyrigh and related issues.

She is interested on new publishing models for scholarly communication, including research data. She holds a Masters in Library Science (1992) and a Master in Spanish Language and Literature (1992) both from Universidad de Barcelona.

She is a personal member of the American Society for Engineering Education, Optical Society of America and Catalan Libraries Association. She is involved with ORCID since January 2011. She is an ORCID Outreach Working Group member and an ORCID Ambassador. She has participated in different conferences and she has given talks about research data and issues related with research evaluation and identifiers.

Frits van Latum

Manager Library Innovation, Delft University of Technology



Frits van Latum is Project Manager at the Library of Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands. He is actively involved in the consortium of University Libraries and the National Library in the Netherlands (UKB).

At this moment his main subject is cooperation between libraries in their back office management of publications and collections of publications. Traditionally OCLC plays an important role as provider of cooperative cataloguing services in the Netherlands. Together with colleagues of other libraries he prepared the transformation of the UKB libraries to the WorldShare Platform.

He is Project Manager For TU Delft Library responsible for a project in which the library tenders for Discovery and Library Management Cloud Services. In general Frits is very interested in library innovation, open standards and open software, semantic web. Before Frits started to work at TU Delft Library in 2000 he was co-owner and Technical Director of a company that was very active, and in fact was a pioneer, in the field of automation of collection registration and collection management in museums. Before that he was Teacher in mathematics and information science.

Antoine Isaac

R&D Manager, Europeana



Antoine Isaac is R&D Manager at Europeana. He holds a PhD in Computer Science from University Paris-Sorbonne, where he started to work on applying Semantic Web and Linked Data techniques for cultural heritage (then at the French National Audiovisual Institute, INA).

He has contributed to various national and European research projects, and has been involved in a number of W3C groups, notably for SKOS and Library Linked Data. He is co-author of the French book “Le Web sémantique en bibliothèque”. He is also a guest researcher at the Web & Media group in the Free University Amsterdam.

Rachael Lammey

Product Manager, Cross Ref



Rachael Lammey has been with CrossRef since March 2012.

She is a Product Manager on the CrossCheck and CrossRef Text and Data Mining initiatives and works on other CrossRef tools for publishers.

She previously worked in journals publishing for Taylor & Francis for six years.

She has a degree in English Literature from St. Andrews University and a MA in Publishing Studies from the University of Stirling in Scotland.

Monika Elbert

EIFL Senior Policy Advisor



Monika Elbert is Senior Policy Advisor for EIFL. Monika provides input and guidance on strategic and policy developments. Monika has been involved with EIFL from the beginning, leading on its core initiative at the time of creating national library consortia in the growing number of countries joining EIFL’s network. By offering training, advice and mentoring to new and growing library consortia, Monika strengthened their capacity to share resources, and to advocate for the potential of modern libraries to meet the needs of users in the digital environment.

In recent years, Monika provided consultancy services to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Global Libraries Programme on impact evaluation, and to Europeana, the EU initiative to create the European Digital Library.

For her international work in the cultural and library field Monika has been awarded an honorary FLA (Fellow of the Library Association) by the UK professional body and the order MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) by Queen Elizabeth II. Languages: German, English, French, Italian

Teresa Hackett

EIFL-IP Programme Manager



Teresa Hackett is the Copyright and Libraries Programme Manager for EIFL. Teresa launched the programme in 2005, and has overseen the development and delivery of a wide range of copyright related activities. Through her leadership Teresa has helped grow a dynamic network of specialist librarians, many of whom have achieved success in improving national copyright laws that are helping to maximize access to knowledge in the digital environment. Her commitment and strong advocacy skills has helped make EIFL a leading voice for copyright law reform in developing and transition countries at the international level. With extensive experience working with libraries on legal information issues and advocating for copyright reform with policy-makers, Teresa is a frequent contributor at conferences and events around the world.

Prior to joining EIFL, Teresa held a number of policy, advocacy and technical positions. From 2000-2003, she was Director of the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations; before that she provided support to the European Commission library research programme, and was part of the team that established electronic information centres at the British Council in Germany. Teresa serves on the Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).

Teresa has an honours degree in German, History and Politics from University College Dublin, Ireland, a postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies from the University of North London, UK, and a postgraduate Diploma in Legal Studies from Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland. Languages: English, Irish, German, Dutch

Iryna Kuchma

EIFL-OA Programme Manager, EIFL



Iryna is Iryna Kuchma is the Open Access Programme Manager for EIFL. Iryna has been managing the Open Access programme since 2008. Her responsibilities include the development, delivery and evaluation of a range of open access related activities.

Under Iryna's management, the Open Access Programme has many achievements, including the establishment of more than 700 open access repositories and more than 4,000 open access journals in EIFL's partner countries. The programme also supported the development of 54 open access policies in EIFL partner countries, opening up a wealth of new knowledge and research into the world. An expert on open access in developing and transition countries, Iryna is frequently asked to speak at conferences and open access events around the world.

Before joining EIFL, Iryna worked as an Information Programme Manager at the International Renaissance Foundation (part of Soros Foundation network in Ukraine) and also coordinated the Arts and Culture Programme there.

Iryna is a member of Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) Advisory Board, DSpace Community Advisory Team (DCAT), NDLTD (Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations) Board of Directors, the Open Library of Humanities Internationalisation Committee, PLOS (Public Library of Science) International Advisory Group, and the Open Access Button Steering Committee.

Iryna also chairs a Working Group 'Repository and Repository Networks Support & Training' in the Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) and a Joint ARL/CARL/COAR/LIBER Task Force on Librarians' Competencies in Support of E-Research and Scholarly Communication.

From 2009-2010, Iryna was a Steering Committee (and Task Group) member, InterAcademy Panel (IAP) on International Issues Programme dealing with Digital Knowledge Resources and Infrastructure in Developing Countries. She has also served on the Access to Learning Award (ATLA) Committee of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Library Initiative.

In 2013, Iryna received the Electronic Publishing Trust (EPT) for Development Annual Award, in recognition of her "efforts in the furtherance of open access to scholarly publications in the developing and emerging countries". Iryna has an M.A. in Cultural Studies from the National University 'Kyiv-Mohyla Academy', Ukraine. Languages: Ukrainian, English, French, Polish, Russian

Romy Beard

EIFL-Licensing Programme Manager



Romy Beard is the Manager of the Licensing Programme for EIFL. Romy negotiates with publishers to secure affordable access to commercial e-resources on behalf of EIFL partner countries and works with library consortia to encourage subscriptions and usage. Before joining EIFL in 2014, Romy worked in academic online publishing for the last nine years.

In 2005, she started working at Oxford University Press as a Sales Representative in the Online Products department, liaising with libraries and library consortia across Europe. Romy moved to ebrary in 2008 as Regional Sales Manager for Europe where she formulated and communicated highly successful offers for libraries in EIFL-partner countries.

Since 2011, Romy worked in the ebrary business unit at ProQuest as Publisher Relations Manager, signing agreements for ebook distribution with new publishing partners and advising existing publishers on their digital strategy and the different business models on offer to libraries. Romy has an honours degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Glasgow, Scotland, and an M.A. in English Literature from the University of Warwick, UK. Languages: Luxembourgish, English, French, German, Spanish

Arnold Hirshon

Associate Provost and University Librarian, Case Western Reserve University EIFL Management Board Member



Since August 2010, Arnold Hirshon has been the Associate Provost and University Librarian at Case Western Reserve University, an Association of Research Libraries member located in Cleveland, Ohio. Previous positions included serving as Chief Strategist and Executive Consultant for LYRASIS, and for ten years as Executive Director of NELINET, a library consortium, where he launched many new programs, including consulting services, digital services, and open source software support and hosting.

Prior to NELINET, Arnold served as Vice Provost for Information Resources (Chief Information Officer) at Lehigh University, where he was responsible for university computing and libraries. Previously, he was University Librarian at Wright State University, Associate Director of Libraries at Virginia Commonwealth University, and in library administrative posts at Duke University and Wayne State University. Arnold is a Past President of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services.

A highly experienced international consultant on issues of organizational, strategic and business planning, facility redesign, operations management and assessment, and technology integration. Arnold has been a consultant for EIFL since 2000. Arnold has an extensive scholarly record that includes many monographs, including the LYRASIS Library Strategic Planning Toolkit (co-author: Stephen Spohn), and the author of numerous articles about strategic management, technology and library leadership, information service integration, assessment and optimization of operations, and non-profit management. A frequent lecturer nationally and internationally, Arnold has given numerous lectures on a wide range of topics, including organizational management, trend spotting and analysis, technology planning, and operations assessment and optimization.

Niamh Brennan

Niamh Brennan, Programme Manager, Research Informatics, Trinity College Library Dublin



Niamh Brennan is Programme Manager for Research Informatics in Trinity College Library Dublin where she works on the development of Trinity's Research Support System, its integrated institutional repository, TARA (Trinity's Access to Research Archive) and a number of scholarly communication initiatives. Niamh is a member of several national and international groups working on open access to research outputs and enabling their improved reporting, retrieval and evaluation of impact.

These include board membership of SPARC Europe and of Ireland's National Steering Group on Open Access Policy, DART-Europe (Digital Access to Research Theses Europe) and partnership in OpenAIRE, OpenAIRE Plus and OpenAIRE2020. She is a member of the management councils of two key Irish journals in economics and social sciences and has partnered in a number of research projects in digital humanities, international development and social sciences including the Irish African Partnership for Research Capacity Building, Gothic Past, Bridge-IT and the Dublin Tenement Experience.