



Newsletter

eIFL Newsletter - JULY/AUGUST 2005

1. eIFL-related News

eIFL Advisory Board Meeting

The 8th eIFL Advisory Board meeting took place in Rosora, Italy, on June 30-July 3. The Advisory Board gathered to review progress over the last six months and to discuss next steps in the eIFL agenda, paying special attention to the programme of the upcoming eIFL General Assembly, and to the analysis of several portal solutions from commercial vendors and Open Source Software options for library applications. At the same time, eIFL will keep on developing its other services such as IP and Open Access further. Minutes of the Board will be soon available on the eIFL website.

eIFL.net at JISC International Colloquium on Solutions for the Dissemination of Research

On June 21-22 the International Colloquium: Considering international solutions for purchasing electronic journals and disseminating research outputs was held in London.

A range of issues were discussed including:

- The impact of the "Big Deal"
- The Usage-based models
- Consortia
- Research evaluation methods
- Institutional and other public repositories for research outputs
- Emerging models including the open access model

eIFL.net was represented by a Marika Meltsas (Estonia), Biliانا Kosanovic (Serbia), Karmen Stular Sotosek (Slovenia), Susan Veldsman (South Africa) on behalf of their countries and Jan Andrzej Nikisch (Chair of the Advisory Board) on behalf of eIFL.net.

Owing to their interventions the final Statement of Principles contains an important declaration about international consortia.

Statement of Principles

- We believe that communication of results is an essential part of the research process and that research outputs should be disseminated widely and readily, giving access to all
- Research results are wide in scope, and access to datasets, background documents and other information are as essential as access to the article
- There are many effective routes to do this; traditional publishing models are only one route
- Of the emerging models, open access journals and subject repositories and institutional repositories show potential and further development and deployment should be encouraged
- Institutions and publishers need to investigate the potential of models that allow a graceful and sustainable transition from old to new paradigms
- It is essential to ensure sustainability of both long term access and preservation of research outputs and related data
- Any research communication model should continue to give researchers at least the reward and recognition they gain from the present model – or improve on it
- Authors or authoring institutions should retain the rights to their intellectual property
- Lack of competition between journals gives us much less "market power" than we would expect from the amount we spend

- **We believe that there are benefits from developing stronger international consortia and in sharing information, knowledge and expertise about how we manage our relations with publishers**
- We should be free to exchange information about negotiations, prices and terms and conditions between libraries and consortia
- We would like to be open and transparent in our dealings with publishers, and do not wish to be restricted by non-disclosure clauses

MALICO Follow-up of Events

Margaret Nwgira, MALICO Malawi Country coordinator has kindly reported on the events following the second anniversary of MALICO in May.

The MALICO VSATs were launched with great ceremony on the 6th May 2005, with the presence of the Deputy Minister of Information, the Director of the Communications and Regulatory Authority and Rima Kupryte.

The launch took place at the College of Medicine in Blantyre where e-journal access was demonstrated, and the VSAT was viewed, as well as at the Hotel Victoria where MALICO was born 2 years previously. There a Memorandum of Agreement was signed between MALICO and the 4 sites. In the afternoon the committee moved to Chancellor College, Zomba, for another e-journal demonstration to that community, enjoyed champagne in the sunset on the roof of the Library while inspecting the VSAT, and closed with a reception. There was TV and newspaper coverage.

The bandwidth at 2 of the 4 sites has since been doubled and the downlink bandwidth cost has come down! Internet reception is excellent. The following week, a case study on the MALICO VSATs was presented at the 3rd Open Access Conference in Maputo, Mozambique and aroused a great deal of interest and discussion with good follow up opportunities in terms of establishing a National Research and Education Network (NREN) for Malawi and a National Internet Exchange.

If any eIFL member has any guidance on the issue of NRENS Margaret Nwgira would be grateful as she must do a concept note very soon. One small cloud is that the Malawi harvest this year is very poor, the availability of foreign currency to meet the dollar bill of over US\$7000 per month (total for the four sites) will be a challenge for part of the year.

Results of the Open Access Workshop in South Africa

eIFL sponsored the South African Site Licensing Initiative (SASLI) to organise a training workshop on "Creating Tomorrow's Information Infrastructure for Today's Scholarly Community" in Pretoria on 11-13 May. Susan Veldsman has kindly sent us the report, and you will see below that it was quite successful!

This workshop directly resulted in the development of Institutional Repositories at three universities in southern Africa (University of Stellenbosch, University of Venda, University of Zimbabwe) and many more are planned. In addition, the training material and papers of the workshop are available on the workshop's website which uses the DSpace software: www.sabinet.co.za/oai. The next steps following the workshop will be coordinated by SASLI and the initiative has come up with its own name, SIVULILE (meaning "we have opened"). The initiatives' efforts will include the organization of future workshops and training sessions in summer schools at the University of Cape Town which will focus on Institutional Repositories and other related issues including metadata, rights management, Linux training and XML. Additional steps will include the provision of online support and training materials on CD-ROMs.

eIFL Involvement in the International Open Access Conference in Beijing

eIFL has assisted to organize and sponsor the International Conference on Strategies and Policies on Open Access to Scientific Information in China, 22-24 June.
<http://libraries.csdli.ac.cn/Meeting/MeetingID.asp?action=skin&language=Eng&MeetingID=7&MeetingMenuID=>
 Rima Kupryte, Jean-Claude Guedon and Melissa Hagemann participated in the conference along with many of the leading international open access experts, including representatives from the Wellcome Trust, Max Planck Society, US National Academy of Sciences, PLoS, etc. This was the first Open Access conference to be held in China. The programme of the event is available on the eIFL website under the "eIFL related events" section.

eIFL Contribution to Library Trends Article

Rima Kupryte has been one of the co-writers of an article entitled "Library Resource Sharing Networks" which will appear in the Library Trends issue of Winter 2006. The article gives an account of several transnational library consortia initiatives and the eIFL part focuses on activities and efforts made in Eastern Europe. Other

co-authors include Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, Claudine Xenidou-Dervou, Kari Stange, Alexander Kuznetsov, and Hazel Woodward.

2. Upcoming eIFL Events in July-August 2005:

- Emilija Banionyte will be giving a presentation on eIFL.net on 8 July during the LIBER 34th Annual Conference 2005 in Groningen, the Netherlands. You can see the programme at <http://liber.ub.rug.nl/>
- A couple of workshops will be taking place in Palestine in July, in concrete one in Gaza on 11-12 July and another in West Bank on 13-14 July. Rima Kupryte, Monika Segbert and Margaret Ngwira will be the resource people for these workshops which will address consortium building and licensing
- Following the workshops in Palestine, a workshop in Amman, Jordan, will be held on 17-18 July. It will gather a large segment of the library community in Jordan, and Rima Kupryte, Monika Segbert, Arnold Hirshon and Nasser Saleh, eIFL coordinator for Gaza, will be the resource people
- The Inter-sessional Intergovernmental Meeting (IIM3) will take place in Geneva on 20-22 July. This is the last of the special meetings to discuss a Development Agenda for WIPO and the final opportunity to lobby government delegates before the WIPO Secretariat produces a report for the General Assembly in September. Teresa Hackett will be attending
- The 71st IFLA World Library and Information Congress "A Voyage of Discovery" will be in Oslo, Norway, 14-18 August. Rima Kupryte, Monika Segbert, Teresa Hackett and Isabel Bernal will be attending this major venue for library and information professionals. eIFL exhibitor stand is no. 406. Teresa Hackett, Resource Person, IFLA Committee on Copyright and Legal Matters (CLM) will attend two CLM business meetings. CLM are also organising two interesting workshops. Don't miss them! Monday 15 August: Developing a library agenda for intellectual property- Libraries and The Geneva Declaration on the future of WIPO. Thursday 18 August: Libraries and free trade agreements

3. Update on new Content

More Meetings with Publishers

During the summer eIFL has arranged meetings with high level representatives from Springer and Elsevier to discuss the shape of our future partnership. We will inform you about the results in due time.

4. Update on eIFL-IP

eIFL Intervention at WIPO IIM2

On the occasion of WIPO IIM2 which took place in Geneva on 20-22 June, Dick Kawooya, eIFL-IP Coordinator for Uganda, intervened on behalf of eIFL. This is the first time a librarian from a developing country has participated in WIPO. You can read on this meeting and eIFL participation, including his intervention, at the eIFL website under the IP section at http://www.eifl.net/services/wipo_da.html.

IFLA Position on Public Lending Right

The new IFLA position on Public Lending Right (PLR) is available. Produced by the IFLA Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM), the position paper and the accompanying background paper give an excellent and clear overview of PLR systems, how and where they operate and the implications for libraries.

Broadly speaking, the public lending right grants either the rightowner the right to authorise or prohibit the lending of a copyright protected work or the author to receive payment for material that is lent e.g. by a public library.

In line with its established principles, IFLA does not favour PLR which can jeopardise free access to the services of publicly accessible libraries. In those countries that already have public lending right, the statement makes recommendations concerning the modification of PLR systems. In any case where there is PLR, this should be funded by the state as a cultural support and must not come from library budgets.

Of particular interest to eIFL.net are the recommendations for developing countries to which eIFL contributed. Here IFLA states clearly that a lending right should be rejected in the greater public interest where a country cannot afford to fund PLR without diverting resources earmarked to fund more fundamental services. In particular, PLR should not be established in countries that are not considered high or middle income by the

World Bank.

The eIFL countries that have PLR are the new European Union member states of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, acquired via the 1992 EU Rental and Lending Right Directive.

To read the IFLA Position on PLR and the background document, go to:
<http://www.ifla.org/III/clm/p1/PublicLendingRigh.htm>.

eIFL endorses library principles for a Development Agenda

eIFL has endorsed the Library-Related Principles for the International Development Agenda of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The principles were developed in December 2004 and initially endorsed by a number of US library associations and IFLA. They were prepared for use in current discussions at WIPO concerning the impact of intellectual property protection on economic development and the significance of copyright exceptions for libraries, educational institutions and people with disabilities.

The principles elaborate on four main goals:

Goal 1: A robust and growing public domain to provide new opportunities for creativity, research, and scholarship.

Goal 2: Effective library programs and services as a means of advancing knowledge.

Goal 3: High levels of creativity and technological progress resulting from individual research and study.

Goal 4: Harmonization of copyright.

Please ask your eIFL consortium or national library association to endorse the Principles which set out fair conditions and criteria which are necessary if libraries, both in developed and developing countries, are to continue to fulfill their mission in the future.

Read the principles and sign up at: http://www.eifl.net/services/wipo_libprinciples.html

eIFL-IP regional workshops

Planning for the eIFL-IP regional workshops is underway. eIFL-IP representatives have been consulted and locations, dates and speakers are being finalised.

Participants will receive training in copyright issues and advocacy skills. The focus is on informing, motivating and developing active regional groups.

At the end of the workshop, participants will:

- differentiate between the interests of the key players;
- have a solid understanding of the key issues for libraries;
- know the national and international legal copyright framework and policies, as well as current international developments;
- have the skills to articulate the library case effectively;
- have planned a national copyright strategy.

We're not waiting for the workshops however to start work and the network has already begun to take effect. Contacts with national representatives during international WIPO meetings enabled participation by the eIFL-IP representative in Cameroon at a copyright conference and input into the debate at a workshop in Malawi. The network is also responding to calls to ask their governments to support a Development Agenda for WIPO at the forthcoming meetings in Geneva.

Resources

"Intellectual Property Watch" is a non-profit independent news service that reports on the behind-the-scenes dynamics that influence international IP policies. News items can be searched by organisation, topic or IP policies. Sign up for free email updates or The Monthly Reporter by post (courtesy subscriptions available for developing country governments, press and NGOs).

<http://www.ip-watch.org/>

5. Open Access News and Useful Resources

eIFL Open Access Program in the Spotlight

Please read the Interview with Richard Poynder in which Melissa Hagemann from the OSI Open Access Program discusses our eIFL Open Access Program:
<http://poynder.blogspot.com/2005/06/interview-with-melissa-hagemann-of.html>

IFLA Pre-Conference Meeting on Open Access

The IFLA Science and Technology Libraries Section along with the Health and Biosciences Libraries Section will be holding the IFLA Satellite meeting "Open Access: the option for the future!?" in Oslo, Norway, on 13 August. See the full programme and participants at
http://www.ub.uio.no/ifla/IFLA_open_access/programme_abstracts.htm.

Open Access Conference, OAI4

The next CERN workshop on Innovations in Scholarly Communication (OAI4) will be held at CERN, Geneva, Switzerland from 20 to 22 October 2005. This will be the latest installment in this highly successful series that began in 2001. It brings together activists who are at the forefront of scholarly communication change. While there are a growing number of Open Access conferences, this can easily be said to be one of the two best and is highly recommended for those with an interest in scholarly communications. As OSI is a conference organizer and sponsor, should you have any questions about this meeting, please feel free to contact Melissa Hagemann (mhagemann@sorosny.org).
For more information and to register for the conference, please visit: <http://oai4.web.cern.ch/OAI4/>.

UK Research Councils for Open Access

By announcing that free access online will become a condition for grants, UK research councils are making an important step forward in support for Open Access. Please read the full news at
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/online/story/0,3605,1517384,00.html>.

Wellcome Trust Pushing Forward Open Access Scientific Publication

Britain's largest non-governmental funder of life science research, the Wellcome Trust, has recently announced a six month Open Access Policy from October 2005 onwards. Researchers granted by Wellcome Trust must deposit articles freely available 6 months after publication, either PubMed Central or UK PubMed Central. Wellcome-funded research results in approximately 3,500 journal articles per year. You can access the full press release at http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/doc_WTX025191.html.

Creative Commons South African Licenses Available

A new Creative Commons license has been developed specifically for South Africa. Now authors in South Africa can replace the US licenses with South African jurisdiction specific ones. The Afrikaans and Southern Sotho versions should follow suit soon. Instructions as to how to use the new license can be found on the South African Creative Commons site: <http://za.creativecommons.org>.

PLoS and BMC Journals receive Impact Factors

Titles published by both PLoS and BMC just received their first impact factors from ISI. PLoS Biology received an impact factor of 13.9, which makes it one of the most highly cited journals in the life sciences while BMC Informatics received a 5.42, making it the second highest ranked bioinformatics journal. Please read their respective press releases on this at http://www.plos.org/news/announce_pbioif.html and <http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/about/pr-releases?pr=20050623>.

Virtual Life Sciences Library VIVO at Cornell University

VIVO is a new service by the Cornell University Libraries which intends to provide a continuously updated and ever-growing virtual community center for the life sciences. As part of the Life Sciences Working Group at Cornell, VIVO is a gateway to information related to courses, events, conferences, online resources, faculty and their research and so on. It also facilitates links to external databases and research tools. You can explore VIVO at <http://vivo.library.cornell.edu/>.

First International Wikimania Conference on the Horizon

The International Wikimedia Conference will take place from August 4-8 this year in Frankfurt am Main (Germany). The Wikimedia Foundation, which runs Wikipedia, Wikibooks, Wikinews and other free content projects, will thus provide with a thorough overview of the current state of research on wikis and free knowledge projects. A wide host of speakers from different fields, including reference books, libraries, museums, software development, free culture, online communities, law, academia, journalism, and business are welcome to participate.

Please refer to <http://wikimania.wikimedia.org/> for additional details.

AgEcon Search to Reach out to Developing Countries

AgEcon Search: Research in Agricultural and Applied Economics is a free resource website developed and maintained at the University of Minnesota by Magrath Library and the Department of Applied Economics that has over 16,000 full text documents in the areas of agricultural and applied economics, including working papers, conference papers and journal articles. AgEcon is willing to increase its content, especially from authors in developing countries, as well as reach out to communities in the developing world to a higher degree. In this regard, there is a willingness to establish further collaboration with eIFL and countries from the eIFL network interested in this initiative should contact Julia Kelly, librarian from the Magrath Library, at jkelly@umn.edu. Please find more information about this at <http://agecon.lib.umn.edu/>.

Open Access Archives in the World

The Southampton University maintains an Institutional Archive Registry which tracks the number and size of Open Access e-print archives around the world. According to this list, at present there are around 425 registered Open Access archives in the world, including Institutional or Departmental Archives. The countries with the highest amount of OA archives are the US, Britain, Germany, Canada, France, Brazil, Italy, Australia, the Netherlands, Sweden and India. You can browse the archive by country, archive type or archive software. Please see <http://archives.eprints.org/eprints.php?page=all>.

Another Biology Database for free

PubChem is a freely available database provided by the US National Institutes of Health, providing linkages to data on small organic molecules-related information. It also has links to medical subject annotations and PubMed biomedical literature citations. To know more about this, please go to <http://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>.

UK Project on Websites Preservation Up and Running

The UK Web Archive Project is the result of a consortium of six leading UK institutions (the British Library, the National Archives, the National Library of Wales, the National Library of Scotland, JISC and Wellcome Trust) which are working together to set up a searchable archive of websites relative to their fields of interest- for instance the Wellcome Trust focuses on collecting medical sites whereas the British Library deals with sites of cultural, historical or political value.

This initiative intends to tackle the issue of websites preservation for future generations and it has recently been announced that the archive already contains 299 titles and 1090 individual sites available, in other words, 84 GB of data which can be viewed and searched through the online archive. To learn more on this archive please refer to <http://www.webarchive.org.uk>.