



KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

EIFL 2017 General Assembly Speakers' Bios

Emilija Banionyte

President, Lithuanian Research Library Consortium

Emilija Banionyte is a professional librarian. After graduating with a degree in Library Information Science (LIS) from Vilnius University in 1984 she started working at the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences Library as Head of the Acquisitions Department. In 1987 she became Library Director.



Lithuania – Stage3”. Emilija is fond of skiing, sailing and travelling.

Emilija is active in professional librarianship not only in Lithuania, but also internationally. Her special fields of interests are library consortium building, licencing electronic resources, and copyright for librarians. She is the President of the Lithuanian Research Library Consortium (since 2001), member of the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights Board of Lithuania, EIFL IP coordinator for Lithuania, and member of the EIFL Management Board. In the past, she has been President of the Lithuanian Librarians' Association, member of the EIFL Advisory Board, member of the Board of Directors of SPARC Europe, member of the EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law, and member of the IFLA CLM Committee. She is also currently managing the EU Structural Funds, a funded 4-year project called “Opening research databases for

Jatin B Baraiya

CEO, Eclat Engineering Pvt Ltd



Jatin Baraiya is the founder of Eclat Engineering Pvt. Ltd, a library technology company that has developed the cloud hosted service “RemoteXs” as well as the “MyLOFT” mobile App in order to help libraries increase access to and promote digital content amongst library users.

Jatin holds a graduate degree in Electronics and Telecommunications and completed a certificate program on Managing Technology Ventures from a Technology Business Incubator supported by the

Department of Science and Technology in India.

He has presented papers related to library technologies in India and at international conferences. He is regularly invited to speak and conduct workshops on the benefits of implementing technology in libraries.

Sania Battalova

Head of Automation, St. Petersburg State Library for the Blind, Russia, EIFL Marrakesh Regional Advisor



Ms. Sania Battalova is working at St. Petersburg State Library for the Blind and serves as EIFL Marrakesh Regional Advisor, St. Petersburg.

She has had 15 years' experience on library management and development in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia. In 2014-2015 as a vice-president of Kyrgyz libraries consortium, she led the country library community to initiate the national campaign "Right to read – Right to Knowledge".

The campaign was supported with international organizations, Kyrgyz Parliament deputies, NGOs. In August 2017 Kyrgyzstan became a first country in region of Central Asia where the Marrakesh Treaty came into force. Current time Sania Battalova is working in St. Petersburg State Library for the Blinds to announce and implement new services, and to extend access to information for blind and visually impaired people.

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.

James Bennett

Head of Sales, URKUND



James Bennett is URKUND's Head of Sales and URKUND's resident Englishman. A certified teacher, James worked in that profession for almost ten years, teaching English and History, before joining URKUND in 2013.

Irakli Garibashvili

President, Georgian Integrated Library & Information System Consortium 2.017 (GILISC)

Irakli was nominated by the Georgian Integrated Library & Information System Consortium (GILISC) to serve as the EIFL Country Coordinator and Licensing Coordinator in Georgia.



He has been working for Library Association (since 2000) and National Agency for Education Quality Enhancement (2006-2009 and 2016-2017), where he has developed a wide network of contacts in Georgian education and science sphere and international organizations.

He is actively working on Free and Open Source systems implementation for library services, including Web 2.0 technologies, Drupal CMS, Open Journal Systems, OpenBiblio & KOHA ILS, DSpace open repository software. This work involves management of projects, software localization and development, training, marketing of services, etc.

Irakli was a member of advisory board of EIFL.net and a founder of Georgian Consortium in 2001. From 2017 he has reorganized the consortium to a legal body of Georgian Integrated Library & Information System Consortium 2.017, where he serves as a President and a Board Member.

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 was a member of the Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) from 2011-2015. She currently serves on the World Blind Union (WBU) Marrakesh Strategic Advisory Group.

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.

Arnold Hirshon

Associate Provost and University Librarian, Case Western Reserve University, USA, Chair, EIFL Management,



Arnold Hirshon has been the Associate Provost and University Librarian at Case Western Reserve University since 2010. During his tenure he has undertaken a large renovation of the library, including greatly expanding the digital scholarship center, and built an organizational culture of experimentation, design thinking, and assessment. Previously he was Chief Strategist and Executive Consultant for LYRISIS, and for ten years he was Executive Director of NELINET, a library consortium that provided consulting, digital services, and open source software support services.

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 LYRISIS 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.

Iryna Kuchma

EIFL-OA Programme Manager



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 900 open access repositories and more than 4,000 open access journals in EIFL's partner countries. The programme also supported the development of 96 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, Electronic Publishing Trust (EPT) Trustee 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 participates in 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.

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.

Djuddah A.J. Leijen

Lecturer, English and Head of the Centre of Academic Writing and Communication, Tartu University, Estonia



Djuddah A.J. Leijen is a Lecturer of Academic Writing and Head of the Centre for Academic Writing and Communication at the College of Foreign Languages and Cultures, University of Tartu, Estonia. His research interests include the academic writing process and web-based peer review systems. More specifically his research has primarily examined the reviewing and revising process of writers.

Marika Meltsas

Senior Specialist for Electronic Databases, Tartu University Library, Estonia



Marika is a professional librarian who is currently working both as Licensing Manager at the Estonian Library Network Consortium ELNET (since 2003), and Senior Specialist for Electronic Databases at Tartu University Library. Marika is also the Head of the Estonian Research Information System at the Estonian Research Council.

Since 1998 Marika has been heavily involved in the process of acquiring electronic and digital information in Estonia, and has been leading a taskforce responsible for coordinating the acquisition of electronic resources in Estonia.

In 2001 Marika became involved in building and administrating an Estonian Current Research Information System. This was the first in-house designed national CRIS system, designed by the Archimedes Foundation. Since 2012, Marika has been administrating the Estonian Research Information System at the Estonian Research Council. She has also been participating in an Open Science Task Force.

Joseph McArthur

Co-Lead/Founder, Open Access Button



Joseph McArthur is the Assistant Director of the Right to Research Coalition, SPARC's student initiative. Joe is responsible for organizing and amplifying the student voice to advocate for policies promoting open research and education across the EU and beyond. Joe works to further strengthen and leverage the Right to Research Coalition's engagement with its membership of more than 90 student organizations, which collectively represent nearly 7 million students in over 100 countries around the world. He also supports preparations for Open Access Week and OpenCon in addition to leading OpenCon's community and satellite event initiatives, to ensure the conference has a year-round, global impact.

Prior to joining SPARC, Joe co-founded the Open Access Button, a suite of tools to get access to articles behind paywalls, either by finding free, legal alternatives or requesting an author make a copy available. The project has gained significant attention both within and beyond the Open Access community. Joe continues to lead the Open Access Button, which is supported by SPARC.

Joe studied Pharmacology at University College London, worked for the pharmaceutical industry, and has many years of experience leading student organizations.

Diana Sayej-Naser

Library Director, Birzeit University Main Library, Palestine



Diana received her Masters in Library and Information Science in 1983 from the University of Indiana in the US, and has subsequently held a variety of positions in libraries in Palestine. In 1998 she became Library Director at the main library at Birzeit University. Since 2005 Diana has been the coordinator of the Palestinian Library and Information Consortium PALICO, as well as the EIFL Country Coordinator for Palestine.

Diana is a member of a variety of library associations including the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), the Association of College and Research libraries (ACRL), the American Library Association (ALA). Past positions include head of the training committee at the Palestinian Library and Information Association (PLIA), coordinator for Palestine at the Arab Federation for Libraries and Information (AFLI), member on the

EIFL Advisory Board, and a member of the Library and Archivists with Palestine Advisory Board (LAP).

Diana is also a member on the Romor-Erasmus Committee for Birzeit University, helping to establish institutional repositories in four Palestinian Universities from 2017 to 2019.

Giorgi Sharvashidze

Rector, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU), Georgia



Since 1991 to 2000 he has been working in various positions at the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia

From 2001 to 2013 he has been working as Open Society Institute Programme director for Academic and Higher Education programmes.

2013 to 2016 he was a Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Georgia and then moved to a position of Rector at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.