President’s Editorial

The technology that enables the rapid digitization of whole collections is also challenging our ideas about how copyright protection should work. The European Union is proud of its Europeana project but regrets that there isn’t more digitized material available. Google is showing just how divided opinions are about how to go about this. In its search for solutions, the European Commission looks to EBLIDA for the views of libraries in Europe. We have been successful in presenting these views and continue to discuss, negotiate, and present evidence to show what libraries could do to help build the European digital library. We are also representing libraries in other areas of European interest, for example, culture. The EU’s cultural diversity should be understood and promoted, and should be a catalyst for creativity.

Libraries are an important medium through which culture can be exposed and a place where it can be preserved. We need to raise our profile in this area to show what libraries can do and how important it is we are supported in this role; Hella Klauser reports in this newsletter on how the EBLIDA Expert Group on Culture and Information Society has started to do this.

Gerald Leitner, EBLIDA President

News Round-up

Spanish Presidency culture and copyright events

The rotating six-month Presidency of the EU has moved to Spain from 1 January 2010. As part of their cultural agenda there will be three meetings of particular interest to EBLIDA members:

- A European Forum for Cultural Industries in Barcelona, March, which will include a session on intellectual property and copyright management.
- A conference on “Digitisation of cultural material. Digital libraries and copyright” in Madrid, April.
- A meeting of the national authorities on archives in the European Union Member States - EBNA in Madrid, May.

More on these and other events are posted on the Spanish Presidency Culture website >>

The Spanish Presidency with the European Commission also launched, on 21 January in Madrid, the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. A range of activities will be organised across Europe, such as awareness-raising campaigns, information sessions in schools, roundtables and training for the media and decision-makers. More details of the events can be found on the 2010 Against Poverty website >>

New Commissioners presented

The twenty-six new Commissioners proposed by European Commissioner Barroso presented themselves to the European Parliament and took questions during hearings in January. Neelie Kroes for the new Digital Agenda DG (replacing DG Information Society) and Michel Bernier for Internal Market (where the Copyright Unit currently sits) are the two key Commissioners as far as EBLIDA is concerned and presented no particular surprises in their responses. Kroes was, however, criticized by MEPs for giving weak answers and had to go through an informal private hearing of the ITRE committee before receiving their support. The hearing for Bulgarian Commissioner-designate Jeleva, however, was fraught with controversy resulting in her resignation and replacement.

Guide to the Commissioners-designate >> including photos, CVs, videos of the hearing and written responses to questions for each candidate.
Orphan Works update

EBLIDA continues to work with various stakeholders of the “Orphan Works problem” in Europe in order to try to move forward. Orphan works are considered to be those items which may or may not be under copyright but which have no known or locatable right holder to whom permission for use can be addressed. This leaves the orphan works in a kind of limbo: there might be a demand from education, research and members of the public to digitize them, and there might be the potential to do this, but because their ownership status is unclear, there is no legal clarity on whether digitization can take place or not. Attention has been focused on the problem by Europeana and Google who both want a solution to be found in order to increase their content.

EBLIDA has already presented the case from the point of view of libraries for having two options to solve the problem: some form of extended collective licensing and a mandatory copyright exception. Neither solution is sufficient on its own and each has pros and cons depending on the situation. Right holder organizations and publishing companies, however, argue that only a licensing solution is necessary; EBLIDA pointed out some of the drawbacks of this as a sole solution in the verbal statement made during the Commission’s hearing in October >>

Data collection

The EBLIDA member network has been very helpful so far in providing information about the problem to help guide the Commission in its investigations. Following a recent meeting with the Commission we have been asked for more information and we know that on their side, the right holders are also busy presenting data to support their own point of view. Therefore work continues to present the case for libraries and to continue to discuss the issues with the various members of the European Commission and Parliament who will be involved in deciding how to move forward.

Some data collection is still ongoing including the In From The Cold Europa online survey >> which was designed to produce a comparison with the original UK survey results (see the boxed text to the right) which informed the Commission about the scale of the problem in the UK. It is hoped that this Europe-wide survey will produce results from sectors and countries not reached in the original so that there can be a further understanding of the scale of the problem. Please promote this survey to libraries and archives in your country if you have not done so already before the survey closes on 26 February.

Representatives of the EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law (EGL) also met recently with the Federation of European Publishers to try to move towards an agreement on the conditions which might define a “diligent search” and how the ARROW database might assist with this in future.

In December 2009, the final report of the High Level Expert Group on Digital Libraries >> was published. This group was set up by the Commission in 2006 in order to bring together different stakeholders in order to discuss problems and move towards solutions in three areas: intellectual property rights in relation to orphan works and digitization, public-private partnerships for funding digitization, and improving access to scientific journals and data.

The report covers the achievements of the group which includes a Memorandum of Understanding on Diligent Search, and Model Agreements for licenses to digitize out-of-print works. The signing of the Memorandum was reported in the June 2008 EBLIDA Newsletter >> along with an explanation of the extended collective licensing system that had just been approved in Denmark.

Discussion of Europeana’s Next Steps

Following the consultation “Europeana: Next Steps” in autumn last year, various European committees are discussing the resulting recommendations. A draft report >> written by Helga Trüpel from the CULT (Culture and Education) committee is being discussed in the JURI (Legal Affairs) and ITRE (Industry, Research and Energy) committees. The resulting Motion for a European Parliamentary Resolution is expected to reach the Parliament on 8 March. Recommendations cover the need to increase content, to find a solution to the orphan works problem, and to promote the service to the public.

In From The Cold: An assessment of the scope of ‘Orphan Works’ and its impact on the delivery of services to the public. JISC Report April 2009
Read the original UK report >>
Complete the online survey>>
Deadline 26 February
Google Book Settlement hearing date

As reported in November, the Google Book Settlement Fairness Hearing is due to start on 18 February. There is still enormous controversy over the contents of the revised settlement and it seems unlikely that the hearing will come to any conclusions quickly. The Department of Justice has again raised concerns over the anti-competition advantages that the settlement would confer on Google with respect to orphan works. We will report more news as we hear it.

UNESCO 2010 Education for All Global Monitoring Report published:

Reaching the Marginalized

The report includes a regional overview for Central and Eastern Europe.

WIPO Treaty for Improved Access for Reading Disabled Persons

The WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) met in Geneva in December and examined a proposal by Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay relating to a WIPO Treaty for Improved Access for Blind, Visually Impaired and other Reading Disabled Persons. Many delegations expressed their support for working towards the establishment of an appropriate international instrument. Other delegations, while not opposing the proposal, expressed their preference for a global approach. Some delegations made comments, suggestions and asked questions about the substantive content of the proposed text, and the proponent countries provided responses. The consideration of the proposal, together with other possible proposals and contributions by the Members of the Committee, will continue at the next session of the SCCR in June 2010.

The background paper can be read on the web page for the 19th session of the SCCR >>

New open data license for sharing database contents

Open Data Commons are developing a new license that can be used by organizations who have created a database and wish to share the contents under more lenient conditions than those allowed by the law. The new attribution license is still in development and will join two other licenses created by the Open Data Commons group: one which enables a creator to waive all rights to the database (effectively making it equivalent to a work in the public domain), and another to provide share-alike conditions similar to the Creative Commons license. The group are looking for input and suggestions to finalise the new license. Read more >>

SURF issues guide on reuse of research data

SURF Foundation, the Dutch academic ICT support network, has published a guide in Dutch and English which aims to provide clarification on the legal status of research data. The guide is intended to help both researchers wishing to protect their own data and those wishing to reuse data.

It covers not only the protection afforded to research data by intellectual property rights, such as copyright and database right, but also the legal issues connected with use of personal data and the liability of those storing research data in repositories.

The guide is available in English and is entitled “The legal status of raw data: a guide for research practice”
Second European Culture Forum in Brussels:  
And where are the libraries? ‘Hey, we’re here!’

A report by Hella Klauser, Competence Network for Libraries/dbv, International Cooperation, Germany  
(and member of the EBLIDA Expect Group on Culture and Information Society (EGCIS))

Green Light for Culture
Culture has recently been in the spotlight of European politics. The European Agenda for Culture from May 2009 lists three key areas: cultural diversity und intercultural dialogue, culture as catalyst for creativity, and culture as core element of international relations. In addition to the program ‘Culture 2000’ launched in 2000, the European Commission initiated another program entitled ‘Culture’ 2007-2013. Working with a budget of 400 million Euros, the program promotes projects and initiatives to strengthen European cultural diversity and shared cultural heritage. This includes the promotion of transnational cooperation of cultural organizations and institutions.

In 2009, the European Year of Creativity and Innovation and the year of the Swedish EU Council Presidency, the Commission, headed by Jan Figel, EU Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Youth, organized the second European Culture Forum. The venue was the cultural centre Flagey (now known as the European House for Culture) in Brussels. Eight hundred participants from sixty countries attended the ‘European Summit of Culture’, as Odile Quintin, Director General for Education, Training, Culture and Youth at the European Commission, described the two-day conference. The aim of the event was to determine the status quo, the challenges and expectations of the European Agenda of Culture and, in cooperation with the civil society, to initiate the development of activities promoting the cultural sector. The various partners agreed on mutual fields of action. Representatives of various fields, such as cultural agencies, cultural administration and economy, festival agencies, educational institutions, EU advisory facilities, museums, theatre, and the film and music industry, participated in the forum. EU committee members were another group who attended the conference in high numbers. Library representatives, on the other hand, were a rare find despite the higher density of libraries throughout Europe than other institutions, and their broad social reach.

The European Library Association EBLIDA asked me, a member of the EBLIDA expert group on Culture and Information Society, to participate in the Forum. Birgit Stumm, who is responsible for the EU Project Guidance at the Competence Network for Libraries in Germany also represented libraries, and an Italian library representative attended the event as well.

European Culture Forum
A one-day conference ‘Culture in Motion’ was held on 28 September 2009, prior to the European Culture Forum. EU-supported projects covering the areas of performing and visual arts, cultural heritage and literature and translation were introduced to the public. A contact service to assist in connecting with potential partners was also provided. To facilitate the exchange, all events were simultaneously interpreted into English and French.

Workshops and panel discussions provided conference participants with opportunities for further engagement with the three key topics. Cultural diversity and intercultural exchange, a ‘library favourite’, was one of the key themes. Further topics included the areas of culture as a driving force for innovation and creativity, and culture as an important element of foreign exchange. Each of these three thematic blocks was moderated by Odile Quintin and introduced by discussions between Commission representatives and field professionals. These sessions were supplemented by workshops for further immersion into the themes. The workshop Access to Culture, Participation and Youth for example, as part of the thematic block Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Exchange, discussed topics such as multilingualism and access to culture, digitization and the influence of new technologies on the development of cultural manifestations, and their usage. Another topic was ‘Culture for All’ and the need to develop new forms of outreach to various user groups. Librarians are not only exposed to such issues on an everyday basis; they have also developed services and methods to meet the current public demands. Librarians can contribute to the discussion, and, at the same time, present themselves as partners.
We require more such forums to further strengthen the role of libraries.

A workshop from the thematic block ‘Culture as Driving Force of Innovation and Creativity’ focused on a European creative strategy. The workshop was conveyed by Katja Reppel, the dynamic and young Deputy Head of Unit for Innovation Policy Development at the EU Directorate General Enterprise and Industry. Speakers from the Netherlands, Finland and Spain discussed the requirements for a creative approach to lifelong learning, the promotion of creative influences in the industry and creative industry sectors, and the creation of networks in a globalized society. What role can the EU play in such processes? Lifelong learning, working within networks—these, too, are topics familiar to libraries. We should aim to bring our experience to more comprehensive discussions.

New aspects of cultural diplomacy and the expansion of synergies on national and international levels were examined in a workshop on international partnership. In this context, the UNESCO Convention for the Protection and the Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions was an important factor.

**European Prize for Literature**

Besides the professional program, one of the highlights of the conference was certainly the award ceremony of the European Prize for Literature. Accompanied by music performed by members of the European Chamber Orchestra, video author portraits introduced the twelve prize winners, who read a brief section from their works in the original languages while English language translations were projected to the screen. The chairperson of each national jury read the statement of the selection committee of each country, prior to the author accepting the prize. In the presence of Jan Figel, EU Commissioner for Education and Culture, José Manuel Barroso, President of the EU Commission, presented the award to the twelve fiction writers. The prize defines itself to the translation of the award-winning literary work into several languages.

The European Prize for Literature was launched during the European Year of Creativity and Innovation and is organized by the Commission in cooperation with the European Book Sellers’ Association, the European Writers’ Council and the European Book Publishers’ Council. In 2009, Henning Mankell was appointed ambassador for the prize. In the first year of the new award, winners were from Ireland, Hungary, France, Lithuania, Italy, Norway, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, the Slovak Republic and Croatia. Next year, eleven more countries will be honoured.

Hey, we are here!

There was a great interest in the conference, and not all applications to participate could be considered. The mix of discussion forums, presentations, time-restricted panel discussions, concurrent workshops and poster presentations was stimulating and diverse. As moderator, Odile Quinting connected the various discussion threads in a presentation of the goals and expectations of the European Cultural Forum. The cultural programs created both a challenging and relaxed work atmosphere. In addition to the award ceremony of the European Prize for Literature, the audience enjoyed a concert by the EU Baroque Orchestra, the EU Youth Orchestra and the Orchestra ‘Le Concert des Nations’. On the first conference day, the participants were entertained by catchy rhythms and even enjoyed a dance performance as further insight into the field of culture. The heterogeneity of the audience seemed proof for the great need for exchange and definitions of the broad scope of activities relating to ‘culture.’

Time will tell whether the discussions lead to ideas for strategies and definitions of culture in Europe which EU politicians and bureaucrats aim for. In his concluding remarks at the end of the conference, Wim Wenders, world-renowned German filmmaker and President of the European Film Academy, reflected on the difficult relationship between the complacent European bureaucracy and the demand of the European people for culture and emotional ties to their environment:

"Why was it, why is it, that the Directorate General which is responsible for Communication isn’t counting more on us, isn’t using us, the specialists, if you want, when it comes to European imagery and storytelling? Why did we have to impose us, lift our fingers and say: ‘Hey, we’re here, we’re good at this! Emotional communication is our business!’

The library scene may not have world-known advocates such as Wim Wenders; his ideas of images and story telling, however, are transferable to knowledge and information services. The next European Culture Forum is planned for two years from now. The goal for libraries should be to expand their lobbying to ensure that at the next Forum the inclusion of libraries in the discussion on culture, education and youth in Europe will be a matter of course. These are great goals for EBLIDA, the European lobby association for libraries, and for all libraries in Europe: Information-Communication is our business! Hey, we’re here, we’re good at this!
EBLIDA News

EBLIDA Council
The 18th EBLIDA Council will meet in Helsinki on 6 May 2010 followed by the annual conference on 7 May. The Council will be voting on a proposal to change the constitution and will agree the strategy for 2010—2013 as well as approving the annual report, and the work plan and budget for the following year. All EBLIDA members are invited to attend.

EBLIDA Executive Committee
The next meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on 1—2 March 2010 in Lisbon, Portugal. The results of the working groups formulating the requested constitution changes and developing the draft strategy for 2010-2013 will be presented to Committee ready to be finalized and brought to the Council in May. The Committee will also review the end-of-year financial situation and the work of the Expert Groups in order to authorize their work plans for the coming year.

EBLIDA Expert groups
All Expert Groups will meet in Helsinki on 6 May 2010 before the Annual Council Meeting.

Expert Group on Information Law.
Chair: Toby Bainton, toby.bainton@sconul.ac.uk
The group had a meeting on 4 February in The Hague where news was shared and the group discussed its strategy for the next period. On 5 February there followed a joint meeting with the CLM (Copyright and Legal Matters) group of IFLA to discuss issues of common interest in connection with WIPO and the Google Book Settlement.

Members of the group met with Tilman Lüder of the European Commission’s Copyright Unit on 29 January to discuss Orphan Works, and with the Federation of European Publishers (FEP) on 3 February.

Events and Dates

Events in February-March
Further details in EBLIDA’s calendar of European events: www.eblida.org/index.php?page= european-events

7th Communia Workshop
1—2 February 2010
Luxembourg

Nordic Conference on Libraries and Copyright
1—2 February 2010
Oslo, Norway

CIP ICT-PSP 2010 Call, Digital Libraries theme, Information Day
4 February 2010
Luxembourg

ENCES Workshop: Copyright and Open Access book publishing
15 February 2010
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Edge 2010: Pushing the boundaries of public service delivery
25—26 February 2010
Edinburgh, Scotland

Correction: this event is not the Scottish National Conference as listed in the January newsletter. It is organised by Edinburgh City Libraries. The national conference will take place in Glasgow in June. Apologies for any confusion caused.

EBLIDA Executive Committee meeting
1—2 March 2010
Lisbon, Portugal

Strategic Content Alliance Workshop: Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and licensing in the creation and curation of digital content: A blueprint for success through a practical workshop
8 March 2010
London, UK

Spanish Presidency of the EU event: European Forum for Cultural Industries
29—30 March 2010
Barcelona, Spain

May 6-7, 2010
EBLIDA 18th Council Meeting and conference, Helsinki, Finland.
More details will be announced on the web page >>
Funding Calls and Deadlines

From now on this section will feature new calls and those with a deadline in the next two months. The details are listed in order of their deadline date.

Further details of these and all open calls can be found on EBLIDA’s Funding and Project Opportunities page: http://www.eblida.org/index.php?page=funding-and-project-opportunities

Lifelong Learning Programme
Call for Proposals 2010.
Deadlines from 30 June 2009 to 31 March 2010 (vary by sub-programme).

Calls for proposals and operating grants for institutions that support lifelong learning, with opportunities for libraries. Full details are on the web >. Also available presentations from the Information Days >> (Helsinki, 23 November and Brussels, 7 December 2009).

eIFL Public Library Innovation Program
Deadline: 28 February 2010

Public libraries or other organizations in developing and transitioning countries [includes some European countries] can submit proposals to develop innovative services for and by public libraries. A maximum of 10 best proposals will be awarded up to $30,000 USD each for a 1 year project to implement the service in support of community needs. Selected projects will start in April 2010 and end in March 2011.

For more information and application form see the website >>

The European Fund for the Integration of Third-country nationals
Deadline: 3 March 2010

Funding for various activities such as training activities, festivals, information dissemination, and other activities which help to integrate immigrants, especially young people and women, both by providing participation opportunities for immigrants and by educating the existing population of the contributions that migrants bring to their society. Each project will receive between €200,000 and €750,000.

Full details are on the web >>. Read the pdf of the 2009 call for proposals >>

IFLA Building Strong Library Associations Programme

The Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) programme, a new IFLA programme, is currently in development and will be launched in September 2010. Training content in the programme includes support to develop the effectiveness of library associations in strategic planning and financial management, organizational sustainability, developing strategic relationships and fundraising, and advocating on behalf of the profession and library users.

The BSLA programme will consist of:
♦ The Building Strong Library Associations training package - a modular, customizable training package
♦ IFLAs existing policy training packages
♦ Mentoring and activities (for example, study tours)
♦ Advice and help on working with other associations (for example, to form regional consortia)
♦ An online platform to provide remote access to materials and knowledge

IFLA will deliver the BSLA programme in three countries from 2010 and is seeking three library associations to participate. Activities would start from September 2010, and participants would receive funding for training, mentoring, and other activities to develop the capacity of the library association. Interested library associations in Europe should contact the Management of Library Associations section.

More information about the programme >>

IFLA Action for Development through Libraries (ALP) Programme: Projects
Deadline: 1 May 2010

€45,000 is provided for small projects in 2010. The maximum provided per project in 2010 is €12,000. The types of projects that ALP supports include:
♦ One-off workshops and training activities, delivering existing IFLA’s policy-based training materials
♦ Workshops and training where new training packages and content based on ALP focal areas will be delivered and made available to IFLA
♦ Longer-term capacity building activities and training designed to support the development of the sector in a country, for example through the Building Strong Library Associations Programme.

ALP supports projects in training and development in developing countries and emerging economies with an emphasis on capacity building and train-the-trainer or cascading delivery. ALP does not support projects that are intended for the purchase of equipment, scholarships or in-service training. ALP does not pay fees to staff or consultants for a project.

For more information and application forms see the website >>