President’s Editorial

Dear EBLIDA members, dear colleagues.

This will be my last editorial as EBLIDA President. It is now time for me to look back over the past 5 years during which I assumed this responsibility.

During the past 5 years, there have been many positive developments and changes, including fostering EBLIDA’s presence at a European level. Groups were set up, steps were taken and huge efforts made to try and obtain a firm grasp of new issues coming from the digital shift. These 5 years have been fascinating for me, full of surprises and concerns, good feeling and pride and fighting and lobbying for libraries.

Lobbying for libraries is needed now more than ever and I truly believe that without EBLIDA, the presence and visibility of libraries at a European level would be rather poor.

5 years is both a short and a long period of time in which to generate change. It must be said that I would not have been able to achieve this work without the support of the Executive Committee. Each member shares a genuine concern for libraries and all are keen to work together to deal with the latest issues. The commitment of each of its members, under any circumstances, has continued to show the willingness of these librarians to advocate for libraries in Europe. Each of my fellow colleagues is a strong believer that libraries are essential to Information, Education and Culture. With these words I would once again like to thank them all for their commitment, participation and support during my term as President.

I would also like to give special thanks to the expert groups and to their dedicated work. Without their input, it wouldn’t have been possible to issue valuable position papers, which were always published with a purpose. It must also be said that despite its small scale, EBLIDA Secretariat always shows an undeniably enthusiastic commitment to our cause. The EBLIDA Secretariat has achieved an outstanding follow-up on every aspect of EBLIDA’s missions, and success in maintaining EBLIDA’s reputation as a responsive and pro-active association.

Under my term as President and for the first time ever, EBLIDA is represented in every Member-State of the European Union. During this term, my three main goals were to build a strong and representative united voice for libraries in Europe, to bring all library representatives together and to strengthen these ties and lastly, to identify the critical challenges for our future. I am very proud of these achievements. It is my belief that the hard work realised together with organisations such as IFLA, LIBER and NAPLE is encouraging to say the least. It is also notable that together with other organisations, EBLIDA actively participated in the creation of Information sans Frontières, a new force for libraries that strengthens the position of all of our stakeholders.

From now on and for the coming years I have no doubt that the issue of e-lending and e-content will present major challenges for libraries. That is why our conference in Copenhagen will launch the start of a campaign for the future of libraries in Europe with a specific focus on these questions.

Now that I have experienced the responsibility of being a President, I must admit to feeling a little sad about leaving the Association. I also think that the experience I gained during the past 5 years will come in very handy as I am hoping to serve as a member of the Executive Committee during the coming term 2012 to 2015, as you will see from the list of Nominations later on (page 4) of this Newsletter.

I firmly believe that EBLIDA is an association which will continue to critically monitor and support the changes in our society in the coming years and in doing so, it will also support libraries to adapt to those changes. I am sure that the new Executive Committee and President, both of which will be elected during our 20th Council on 10 May 2012, will ensure a bright future for our Association in this difficult period.

Thank you all once again for making EBLIDA what it is today and I wish you all an enjoyable read!

See you in Copenhagen!

Gerald Leitner,
EBLIDA President

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- Page 2: News round-up: EBLIDA and Europe: Survey of European Libraries;
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We Are More, a campaign of Culture Action Europe

Culture Action Europe launched the *We are More* campaign to increase support for arts and culture in the next long-term budget of the EU. As a member, EBLIDA is happy to see that the campaign has been successful since the European Commission proposed an increase in the budget for the next Culture Programme.

As a member, EBLIDA considers it important to relay the following information and to invite its members to take action (see also page 3-4, EBLIDA-EGCIS comments on “Creative Europe”): “Some Member States oppose the proposed increase. While the secretariat and the board act at EU level and will convey the campaign message to the next EU Minister of Culture meeting on May 10th, it is extremely important at this stage that we focus our efforts on reaching decision-makers at regional and national level with the request to support the increase of budget for the Creative Europe programme and to make sure that the legal basis for the future structural funds include culture in a clearer way.

A method that can be recommended is to organise a stakeholders’ meeting to inform the members of parliament in your country, who have to give advice on the national position, about the sector's concerns and demands. There is often a lack of nuanced information. A targeted stakeholders’ meeting with a good mix of representatives from the cultural, political and economic sector can offer a chance to influence your country's position at this crucial stage.

Please also remember to use the lobbying contacts pack [...] to convey the message to your representatives!” [see Creative Europe p.3.4]

“The campaign has made clear the need and potential for a long-lasting movement capable of fostering the relevance of cultural policy at European level to build sustainable societies across Europe.

It is time to start focusing on issues and people and to promote a broader debate around crucial challenges concerning the evolution of the cultural sector in our ever-changing societies and the relevance of cultural policy as a critical matter for the future of Europe.

Therefore [...] we now encourage you to consider the campaign in broader terms as an opportunity to organise durable constituencies in your own communities for our long-term objectives, involving people and organisations from different sectors of civil and economic life.

Several initiatives have already been taken by members and campaign supporters across Europe to debate and start to organise such constituencies (i.e. by expanding the activities and outreach of the national co-ordination groups). We believe that it is very important to continue in this direction. Please consider planning a debate on national level in the coming months. We would be more than happy to help you to define topics that are coherent with our long-term objectives and to participate, if not in person, then for instance via Skype.

It is also extremely important that everyone who cares about culture learns more about how to influence national and regional authorities and to make the best use possible of European resources for culture. To help you, we are currently preparing a toolkit on the structural funds that will be sent to you shortly”.

To support the campaign sign online at [http://www.wearemore.eu/](http://www.wearemore.eu/).

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Survey of European Libraries— Libraries online across Europe

On 28 March 2012, EBLIDA received an invitation to participate in a survey on e-books in libraries launched by the Directorate General Information Society (DG INFSO) of the EU Commission.

EBLIDA welcomes the initiative of the European Commission. Indeed libraries and the whole book chain are on the cusp of major changes in the ever evolving digital environment. Therefore this is a timely moment to undertake a survey. The survey aims to explore ways to facilitate the roll-out of new models for online libraries, and to build a foundation for policy development at European level. As part of this research, the European Commission is keen to survey publishers, booksellers and libraries on current and potential future e-book lending practices.

**What can you do to help?**

EBLIDA would like each of its members to participate in the survey.

You are requested to fill out the survey and to send it back by email to Kate.SHEA@ext.ec.europa.eu with a cc to Vincent.bonnet@eblida.org no later that 11th of May.

As EBLIDA members, you should have received the survey via email. If not, contact Vincent.bonnet@eblida.org.

As you have probably noticed, the deadline for this timely survey coincides with the EBLIDA Conference on 11 May 2012, making it a precious opportunity to make your voice heard at the EU level and to collaborate on this very hot topic. EBLIDA will launch its Europe-wide campaign for libraries in Europe at the Conference.

Libraries need change! It is time to advocate for more rights in the current e-books market and to ensure that libraries can pursue their
missions: access to content, preservation, delivery of information to every citizen.

What’s next?
Following-up on the Conference, EBLIDA will go back to the EU Commission and take a seat at the round table with the other stakeholders to push forward libraries' position.

EBLIDA noticed that the EU Commission set up a Digital Libraries Working Group without libraries among its stakeholders! Indeed, the working group on online libraries was set up in July 2011 after a meeting between the European Commission DG INFSO and publishers. Therefore, EBLIDA requested a seat at the round-table to ensure that libraries will be present in the next discussions.

EBLIDA's request was noted, and after 11 May, libraries will take part in the working group. EBLIDA will monitor the process and will advocate for library-friendly solutions.

Before going into the whole process, EBLIDA needs you to:
1/ fill out and send back the survey to the EU Commission and EBLIDA;
2/ register and attend EBLIDA Conference on 11 May in Copenhagen (Denmark).

More information on the next steps will follow in the next issues.

EBLIDA activities

EBLIDA EGCIS comments on Creative Europe

"Creative Europe" (2014-2020) is intended to replace the current cultural support programme Culture 2007 (2007 to 2013). The EU commission proposal was launched in November 2011 for discussion, and EBLIDA EGCIS wrote down comments to be sent out to the European Union institutions.


EBLIDA recommends that an amended proposal should:

- Consider the positive effect of Culture on the development of individuals;
- Focus foremost on developing and promoting a European cultural area that addresses all future needs in Europe and is not confined to economic ones;
- Promote European identity and support intercultural dialogue by celebrating diversity within the European Community and strengthening the bonds of European citizenship;
- Support a European library policy, to be included as an integral element within an independent European cultural policy;
- Support the continuing development of the existing pan-European network of libraries which help build European identity, enable intercultural dialogue and underpin democratic engagement;
- Support the digitisation of Europe's cultural heritage held within libraries and other repositories and promote Europeana and other collaborative projects;
- Enable the public to access Europe's cultural heritage through the work of libraries and other cultural institutions, providing them with the opportunity of new cultural experiences;
- Acknowledge libraries in their role as network hubs for cultural and creative production, providing essential support and a source of inspiration for artists and support this contribution through a simple and adequate funding system for creative professionals.

What can you do to help?
EBLIDA identified the members of the Culture Committee of the European Parliament and is acting with them to ensure that its comments will be taken into account. But EBLIDA needs you to take the following steps:

- Forward the EBLIDA-EGCIS comments on "Creative Europe" to the highest official person in your national library association as soon as possible;
- Inform your national representative of the Minister of Culture of EBLIDA's position via email and/or telephone and ideally set up a meeting;
- Report any feedback to EBLIDA Secretariat (vincent.bonnet@eblida.org) and ECGIS Chair (klauser@bibliotheksverband.de)
What’s next?
EBLIDA will group all the collected information and use this as a base for its further discussion with the European Institutions.

The “Creative Europe” proposal is planned to be adopted before the end of the Danish Presidency in June 2012.

It is already known that all Ministers for Culture of the EU Member-States will discuss the “Creative Europe” proposal on 10 May 2012. If every minister agrees on the content, the vote could follow quickly. That is the reason why it is important to act now and contact your national representative to convince him/her of the need for improvement of the proposal and to advocate that libraries are part of the “Creative Europe”.

EBLIDA is following-up now with members of the CULT committee to get more information on the schedule and the next vote.
To be continued...

Information for the next Council and Conference

Nomination for President
As of 20 April 2012, EBLIDA received the following nomination for President: Klaus-Peter Böttger (BID, Germany). He is nominated by: BID (Germany), FESABID (Spain), CILIP(UK), Finnish Library Association (Finland), BVÖ (Austria), BAD (Portugal), AIB (Italy).

List of Nomination for Executive Committee
As of 20 April 2012, EBLIDA received the following nominations for Executive Committee:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Substitute</th>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Nominated by</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Mr Gerald Leitner</td>
<td>BVO</td>
<td>Ms Christa Muller</td>
<td>VOB</td>
<td>1. Austrian Library Association (BVÖ)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1. Danish Library Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Ms Lone Knakker- gaard</td>
<td>The Danish Library Association</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Ms Leena Toivonen</td>
<td>Finnish Swedish Library Association</td>
<td>Ms Susanne Holm- lund</td>
<td>Finnish Library Association</td>
<td>Finnish Swedish Library Association</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Finnish Research Library Association</td>
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<td>Finnish Library Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Mr Georgios Glos- siots</td>
<td>Association of Greek Librarians and Information Scientists</td>
<td>Ms Christina Kyria- kopoulou</td>
<td>EEB</td>
<td>Association of Greek Librarians and Information Scientists (EEB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Mr Aldo Pirola</td>
<td>AIB Italy</td>
<td>Ms Guiseppina Carrera</td>
<td>AIB Italy</td>
<td>Associazione Italiana Biblioteche (AIB) Italy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vereniging Openbare Bibliotheken (VOB) Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms Erna Winters</td>
<td>VOB Netherlands</td>
<td>Ms Marian Koren</td>
<td>VOB Netherlands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Ms Maria Jose Moura</td>
<td>BAD Portugal</td>
<td>Mr Bruno Duarte Eiras</td>
<td>BAD Portugal</td>
<td>Portuguese Association of Librarians, Archivists and Documentalists (BAD) Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Ms Gloria Perez Salmerón</td>
<td>FESABID Spain</td>
<td>Ms Margarita Taladri</td>
<td>FESABID Spain</td>
<td>Spanish Federation of Archives, Libraries, Documentation and Museum Associations (FESABID) Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Mrs Ulrika Domellöf Mattson</td>
<td>Swedish Library Association</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Swedish Library Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Mr Guy Daines</td>
<td>CILIP</td>
<td>Ms Annie Mauger</td>
<td>CILIP</td>
<td>The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reminder next Council and Conference

THURSDAY May 10th 2012: Council Meeting including elections
Time: 13-18
Place: The Royal Library, the Karen Blixen Meeting Room, Copenhagen.
Followed by a tour of the Royal Library (18.00-19.00) and a reception on location.

FRIDAY May 11th 2012: Conference: “Democracy Development in a New Media Environment”
Conference registration: 8.30 - 9.30
Conference: 9.30 - 17.00 (lunch/coffee included)
Place: IDA Meeting Hall, Kalvebod Brygge 33-35, Copenhagen.

Followed by a Conference Dinner at 20.00 - Main building of the unique Carlsberg Museum (Optional - Fee: 40 EUR)

EBLIDA who's who?

Don't hesitate to pay a visit to Copenhagen Libraries!

By Jens Steen Andersen, Director of the Central Library

The Copenhagen Public Libraries have initiated a series of developing projects within digitisation. Here we shall present only three projects, all of them focused on: (1) intelligent material presentation/eller communication (2) the one hundred percent Digital library and (3) Digital citizen of Copenhagen.

**Intelligent material presentation/communication** is a digital presentation for smart phones and tablets combining a visual overview as to where every single piece of material is shelved in the individual library supplied with information relating to every piece of material such as recommendations of ….supplied with added content e.g. interviews with authors, downloads of e-books - and of course - reservation service.

**The 100 % digital library** is an application for tablets (Android and iPad) offering the very best (licensed)online resources to the citizens of Denmark. These resources may be used day and night independent of place and circumstances. The aim is to present our online resources to our customers in a dynamic, inviting and inspiring way.

**Digital citizen of Copenhagen** is a concept comprising scheduled learning activities in libraries and in culture centers with a focus on developing and strengthening the citizens' IT qualifications. The ambition is to educate at least 5.000 citizens a year making them capable of using the self service online solutions on the homepages of the official Denmark.
The target group is especially those 20 percent of the population who possess either very rudimentary IT qualifications or none at all.

Copenhagen Public Libraries are co-creator of TING.concept. TING. concept is an open source concept and an open community for all the public libraries of Denmark, see www.ting.dk. The idea is to share knowledge, to promote partnership and digital development within the cultural institutions of Copenhagen.

All digital products, developed by Copenhagen Public Libraries are developed within the TING.concept.

**Extended Library opening hours 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. every weekdays - in each town area of Copenhagen from 2013.**

Copenhagen Public Libraries are working on extended access to the library area.
At Copenhagen Main Library there are initiated opening attempts in the early morning hours and 2 branch libraries are open from 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
The vision is that that each local town should have at least one library open from 8 a.m. to. 10 p.m.
The opening attempts are evaluated in the summer 2012, concerning the decision of implementing the extended opening hours in each local town area from 2013.

Welcome to the EBLIBA Council and Conference in Copenhagen on the 10 and 11 May 2012.

Links:
http://bibliotek.kk.dk/
http://bibliotek.kk.dk/temaer/copenhagen-libraries-in-english
EBLIDA who's who?

As the network is evolving, and as new members enter EBLIDA's community, the EBLIDA newsletter has decided to open its columns to members wishing to introduce themselves to others. The idea is to get to know each other better, to discover more about our association-colleagues, and to strengthen our links and cooperation.

Before its 20th Council and Conference, EBLIDA focuses on Danish Associations. Our last guest from Denmark is:

Aarhus Kommunes Biblioteker / Aarhus Public Libraries

Institution: Aarhus Public Libraries (APL) consist of a main library, 18 branch libraries. It serves a population of 310,000 inhabitants, the second largest municipality in Denmark. APL is a modern public institution with a high degree of decentralization and self-management, governed by politically accepted aims and goals.

Situation: APL has a long earned international reputation among public libraries as being at the cutting edge of development. Some of the issues has been digitization, internet based services, innovation boot camps, development of internal management tools, systematic user involvement and cooperation with research institution in development projects, development of EU-tenders as work methods for media acquisition, vision management and comprehensive organizational changes.

The new main library “Urban Mediaspace Aarhus” is currently under construction in the centre of Aarhus at the waterfront and will be inaugurated by the end of 2014.

Strategy: APL has adopted a long term strategy of innovation and partnerships. Through a dynamic and development-oriented organization and a long tradition of project and development management, competence development and networking with other libraries, organizations and institutions, both nationally and internationally, APL always have had access to constructive partners and co-developers. APL received Bill and Melinda Gates Foundations prestigious “Access to learning Award” in 2004. In 2007 and 2009, Aarhus Public Libraries was runner up in the national Innovation Cup for Public services. APL was frequently ranked among the top public and cultural institutions in the internet service benchmark “Best on the Net”. To share knowledge, APL organized the conferences “Transformations – the Library in Progress” 2004, “Children’s Interactive Library” 2006, “Elevations – the networking Library” 2007 and the famed “Next Library” unconferences in 2009 and 2011. The third “Next Library”- event will also be hosted in Aarhus by APL in June 2013.

Europe and beyond: APL values cooperation with international partners and is each year visited by delegations of library professionals from many countries, from Europe as well as overseas, and staff members from Aarhus are popular speakers at international conferences abroad. APL is a member of IFLA and EBLIDA, and the libraries have for the last decade coordinated and participated in a number of EU-projects. Cooperation with Copenhagen Public Libraries secures one large international library conference in Denmark each year, where the venue alternates between Aarhus and Copenhagen. APL was member of the PubliCA consortium 1997-99 (EU’s concerted action for Public Libraries) and member of the successors, PUL-MAN (Public Libraries Mobilizing Advanced Networks), a project involving 26 European nations. CALIMERA on network building between museums, libraries and archives and ENTITLE on lifelong learning were other EU project with APL as active member. Currently, APL is part of a Best Practice Network, “Europeana Awareness”, led by the Europeana Foundation. APL was represented in the Bertelsmann Foundation International Network of Public Libraries until it stopped in 2003 and has since 2008 been represented in the Strategic Advisory Board of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundations ’Global Libraries’- initiative through director Rolf Hapel.

Director of Citizens Services and Libraries Aarhus, Denmark
**Events and Dates: April—May 2012**

**April 2012**

34th European Conference on Information Retrieval  
Date: April 1 - 5, Barcelona, Spain  

Librarians’ Information Literacy Annual Conference (LILAC 2012)  
Date: April 11 – 13, Glasgow, Scotland  

Date: April 11 – 13, Paris, France  

Fiesole Collection Development Retreat  
Date: April 12 – 14, Fiesole, Italy  

8th International Convention of Slavic Librarians (ICSL)  
Date: April 15 – 18, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
[http://conference.ub.uni-bielefeld.de/](http://conference.ub.uni-bielefeld.de/)

International Information Conference on Search, Data Mining and Visualization (II-SDV)  
Date: April 16 – 17, Nice, France  

3rd International Conference on Information Management and Evaluation – (ICIME)  
Date: April 16 – 17, Ankara, Turkey  
[http://academic-conferences.org/icime/icime2012/icime12-home.htm](http://academic-conferences.org/icime/icime2012/icime12-home.htm)

Digital Media Europe 2012  
Date: April 16 – 18, London, UK  

7th St. Petersburg International Book Salon  
Date: April 26 – 29, St. Petersburg, Russia  

**May 2012**

- E-books and E-content 2012: Ebooks and Elearning  
  Date: May 10, London, UK  
  [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/infostudies/e-books/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/infostudies/e-books/)

- 20th EBLIDA-NAPE Conference: Democracy Development in a New Media Environment  
  Date: May 11, Copenhagen, Denmark  
  [http://db.dk/copenhagen2012](http://db.dk/copenhagen2012)

- 3rd Warsaw International Book Fair  
  Date: May 10 to 13 May 2012, Warsaw, Poland  

- 25th International Book Fair of Torino  
  Date: May 10 to 14 May 2012, Torino, Italy  
  [http://en.salonelibrario.it/](http://en.salonelibrario.it/)

- International Scientific Conference Fons Largus. The Library: a source of Inspiration  
  Date: May 12 to 17, Warsaw, Poland  

- SMX Advanced London  
  Date: May 15 to 16 May 2012, London, UK  

- 6th International Conference on Research Challenges in Information Science (RCIS 2012)  
  Date: May 16 to 18 May 2012, Valencia, Spain  

- British Libraries and Librarianship: Past, Present and Future  
  Date: May 20 to 02 June 2012, London, UK  
  [http://sils.unc.edu/programs/international/london](http://sils.unc.edu/programs/international/london)

- Prague Summer Seminar: Libraries and Librarianship in the Czech Republic  
  Date: May 20, Prague, Czech Republic  
  [http://sils.unc.edu/programs/international/prague](http://sils.unc.edu/programs/international/prague)

- 15th International Conference on Business Information Systems (BIS 2012)  
  Date: May 21 to 23 May 2012, Vilnius, Lithuania  
  [http://bis.kie.ue.poznan.pl/15th_bis](http://bis.kie.ue.poznan.pl/15th_bis)

- International Conference on Information Resources Management  
  Date: May 21 to 23 May 2012, Vienna, Austria  

  Date: May 30, Brussels, Belgium  

**Index or Footnote? How to ensure that libraries power the information society? + I Want It Now! Creators addressing consumers’ needs in the digital age.**

Date: 30 May 2012, Brussels, Belgium  

- 4th Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries International Conference (QML2012)  
  Date: May 22 to 25 May 2012, Limerick, Ireland  

- 9th Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC-2012)  
  Date: May 27 to 31 May 2012  

**Funding Calls and Deadlines**

See the EBLIDA funding pages for more details.