



Presidents Editorial

In Vienna in May the Council discussed a request for a change to the constitution which would give Associate Members voting rights in the Council. As a result, the Executive Committee established a working group which has been looking into this. The main points that need to be addressed are the introduction of voting rights, and if adopted, an easier way to reach a quorum of this larger voting group for future changes. The Committee will make a proposal for the changes in February which Full Members should discuss in order to be able to vote in May. As we need two thirds of Full Members for a quorum to pass any changes, it is important that you attend the next Council meeting in Helsinki on 6th May 2010. If it's not possible to attend, you should appoint a proxy who can carry your decision to the meeting. We'll be sending you more information about this in the New Year. In the meantime, please reserve the date of the Council Meeting in your diary and look out for announcements of more details on our web pages. We very much look forward to seeing you in Finland in May.

Until then, have a very good Christmas, and a Happy New Year and we will be back with a longer newsletter in January.

Gerald Leitner,
EBLIDA President



News

New Commissioners announced

President of the European Commission, Barroso, has announced the portfolios and Commissioners of the new Commission. Frenchman Michel Barnier takes over Internal Market and it seems likely that the Copyright Unit will remain in this DG. Viviane Reding, who expressed interest in remaining in her role in the DG Information Society and taking over Copyright, instead moves to Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship. Information Society is replaced by Digital Agenda and is taken over by Neelie Kroes who comes from Competition. Cypriot Androulla Vassiliou takes over Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth.

The new Commission is expected to be voted in and start working on January 26.

[Biographies and photos of the new Commissioners >>](#)

Lisbon Treaty

Now that the Lisbon Treaty has come into force, new changes become possible which we will be watching for during 2010. In particular, there is a suggestion that copyright might be reviewed with possible harmoniza-

tion of the exceptions which is something that EBLIDA has been lobbying for over the years. The relevant part of the Treaty which you can [read in full >>](#) is below:

Article 97a

In the context of the establishment and functioning of the internal market, the European Parliament and the Council, acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, shall establish measures for the creation of European intellectual property rights to provide **uniform protection of intellectual property rights throughout the Union** [editor's highlight] and for the setting up of centralised Union-wide authorisation, coordination and supervision arrangements.

EBLIDA will remain involved in the debate to try to get the best deal for libraries in any changes that are introduced.

EBLIDA News

New Members

We are pleased to announce that with the joining of the Polish Librarians' Association, EBLIDA now has Full Members from all 27 European Union countries. This is the first time in its history that EBLIDA represents the whole EU—something we can definitely celebrate together in the Council Meeting in May.

- ◆ The Polish Librarians' Association

In Polish known as Stowarzyszenie Bibliotekarzy Polski – SBP, the association was founded in 1917 and now numbers 8324 members representing different types of libraries from all over Poland. It brings together all those, whose professional or research activity is focused on librarianship and scientific information in Poland.

The SBP has a web page in English giving more information about their history, organization and activities: www.ebib.info/en/index.php

Events and Dates

Events in January-February

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

The Conference for the 30th Anniversary of the CRID. An Information Society for All: A legal challenge
20—22 January 2010
Namur, Belgium

18th BOBCATSSS Symposium: Bridging the digital divide: libraries providing access for all?
25—27 January 2010
Parma, Italy

Subject Repositories: European Collaboration in the International Context
28 –29 January 2010
London, England

Cultural Commons: 1st International Workshop
29—30 January 2010
Torino, Italy

7th Communia Workshop
1—2 February 2010
Luxemburg

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

Edge 2010: Pushing the boundaries of public service delivery (Scottish National Conference)
25– 26 February 2010
Edinburgh, Scotland

May 6-7, 2010

**EBLIDA 18th Council Meeting
Helsinki, Finland.**

More details to be announced soon.

Funding calls and Deadlines

Ulverscroft Foundation Best Practice Awards

31 December 2009: application deadline.

The Ulverscroft Foundation has agreed to provide renewed sponsorship of 20,000 GP Pounds to continue a best practice development programme, organised with the IFLA Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities Section (LPD). Whilst this will be of particular interest to special library services for the blind, applications are also welcomed from public libraries, school libraries, university and college libraries, national libraries etc.

www.foundation.ulverscroft.com/award809.htm

8th IFLA International Marketing Award-2010

January 31, 2010: deadline for submitting the application (including any supporting materials).

IFLA Management and Marketing Section in collaboration with Emerald Group Publishing Ltd. invites proposals for the 8th IFLA International Marketing Award-2010, in recognition of the best marketing project/ campaign in any kind of library throughout the world. The winner will receive airfare, lodging and registration for the World Library and Information Congress: 76th IFLA General Conference and Assembly in Sweden in August 2010, as well as a cash award of USD 1,000 which must be used to further the marketing efforts of the recognized organization.

Complete application material and form can be downloaded from:

<http://www.ifla.org/en/management-and-marketing/marketing-award>