



NEWSLETTER

**EUCLID: the European Association for
Library and Information
Education and Research**

November 2000

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NEWS FROM EUCLID

The Board's main recent concerns have been focused on how EUCLID can support its members' involvement in the development of a European professional community, in terms of a response to European Union policies and initiatives, and how it can bring academic staff and students together to create effective partnerships for this purpose. The Chairman of the Board summarised these challenges in a conference paper presented at the invitation of Spanish colleagues in the Spring, and an extended version of that paper is to be published shortly in 'Education for Information'. Some of these issues have been the particular attention of the Board, and are outlined in the following paragraphs.

Collaboration

The European Union (EU) has been establishing a framework for a broader international educational collaboration between Universities, for example the ERASMUS programme in Western Europe (more recently embedded within a broader range of programmes known collectively as SOCRATES), and the TEMPUS-PHARE and TEMPUS-TACIS development programmes in Central and Eastern Europe and in the former Soviet Union respectively. More recently, the EU has established the MED-CAMPUS programme with the Mediterranean states, the ALFA programme in Latin America, and the INCO programme with developing countries in general. As yet, however, these new opportunities for international activity do not appear to have been successfully exploited by any great number of LIS Schools.

These programmes usually require international collaborative effort by institutions from at least 3 countries, and international associations such as EUCLID have a clear role in facilitating the initial meetings and partner building activities that precede bids for support, as well as in disseminating the results of projects through conference activities. From the beginning it has been stressed that one of the aims of EUCLID should be to facilitate partnerships to undertake bilateral and multilateral ventures to take advantage of these opportunities, and this has focused the Board's attention on conference activities to facilitate initial meetings.

Mobility

For many years, the SOCRATES-ERASMUS programme has encouraged the development of educational programmes involving formal interchange of staff and students between universities in different member states in Western Europe. For students undertaking short-term exchanges within Europe, there appears to be a growing awareness that the European Union programmes will need to provide more generous support for the students participating in trans-national exchanges, particularly but not only the students from eastern Europe who are increasingly eligible to take part in these exchanges. This may mean that fewer students will be assisted to undertake these exchanges unless the Commission is able to re-allocate part of its overall budget. This is an issue which must be the subject of representations by EUCLID to the European Commission when the opportunity arises.

Equivalence

The European Commission has made it clear that it wishes to encourage mutual recognition of curricula or parts of curricula through the operation of the European Credit Transfer Scheme (ECTS). In other words, students should undertake exchanges which are principally intended to obtain academic credit in the subject they are studying. The ECTS scheme appears to be being gradually adopted by the EU member states, but its implementation still seems to require some effort by institutions or by subject associations to determine equivalences and academic frameworks for credit transfer. There will be a need for EUCLID to address the detailed issues that need to be resolved to put in place a generally acceptable framework for LIS credit transfer within Europe.

Representation

The disappearance of a separately identifiable programme for libraries within the research and development activities of the European Commission's Directorate General for the Information Society must be attributable partly to the failure to lobby effectively in support of the activity. It has always been recognised that an appropriate role for EUCLID would be to represent the interests of the sector to the European Commission and to the Council of Europe, initially to let them know that EUCLID exists and what its concerns are, and ultimately to establish itself as a unified and effective consultative body. The Executive Board of EUCLID has recently begun to approach EBLIDA (the European Bureau for Library, Information and Documentation Associations) to discuss changes in its membership structure to enable EUCLID to affiliate.

The decline in UNESCO's involvement in education for the LIS profession – at a time when UNESCO's other activities reflect the emergence of the 'Information Society', must be a cause for concern. EUCLID was in contact with UNESCO to press the case for a reversal of this decline, and welcomes UNESCO's recent proposals for refocusing its programme for information, which include a restatement of UNESCO's commitment to professional education.

Creating links

The EUCLID Board was pleased to accept responsibility for organizing future BOBCATSSS conferences as a means of encouraging links between students, and between practitioners and the world of education for LIS. BOBCATSSS is an established and successful event, attracting over 200 people each year, and with its own special characteristics (see below). The Board has also been considering how best it can also establish a regular international conference for European teachers of librarianship and information sciences, similar to the annual ALISE meeting in the USA, perhaps replacing some of the bi-lateral meetings that have taken place in Europe. The first pan-European Conference organized by EUCLID seems likely to take place in 2002.

The possibility of a joint conference between EUCLID and ALISE has been discussed on several occasions without conclusion, but the foundation of EUCLID appears to have been a

catalyst for the establishment of other regional cooperative groups, in the Arab World, in Africa, and in Latin America. EUCLID plans to establish contacts with these other regional groups, if possible.

OPEN 2001 – BOBCATSSS conference, January 29-31, 2001

Join us for a symposium focused on Knowledge, Information and Democracy in the Open Society: the role of the library and information sector.

BOBCATSSS is a co-operative activity between European institutes and universities in the field of Library and Information Science. It is an annual international symposium aimed at information professionals: practitioners, library and information science lecturers, and students. The aim of BOBCATSSS is to strengthen communication between students and professionals at an international level.

Since 1993, this symposium has been held in different European cities, jointly organized by students of two countries, representing an Eastern or Central region and a Western region of Europe. The name is an acronym of the towns where the founding institutes of the symposium were situated (Budapest, Oslo, Barcelona, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Tampere, Sheffield, Stuttgart, and Szombathely). Since 1999, it has been organized under the auspices of EUCLID. EUCLID has been pleased to support the conferences in Bratislava in 1999 and Krakow in 2000.

The 9th BOBCATSSS Symposium - Open 2001 - is organized and coordinated in co-operation between Oslo University College Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science, and Vilnius University Faculty of Communication. The venue is Vilnius University, located in the heart of the old town of Vilnius, Lithuania.

Themes

Due to technological, political and social changes in our societies, new challenges arise, concerning democracy and openness.

In the last decades, we have seen great political changes, especially in Eastern Europe. What characterizes the function of information in the on-going development of democracy? What impact do these changes have on the tasks and role of the library and information sector?

The rapid developments within ICT create challenges, for example related to the growing need for learning and updated knowledge. There is a society evolving on the Internet which, at the time it was born, was thought to become an overall democratic medium. What is needed to realize this democratic potential? What parts can libraries, librarians and other information workers play? Are librarians trained to keep up with the technological development?

Programme

For the 9th BOBCATSSS Symposium, papers were invited on the theme: knowledge, information and democracy in the open society - the role of the library and information sector. About 70 papers were offered in response to the Call for Papers, and were submitted to a double blind reviewing process by 3-4 independent reviewers. The main program is arranged with a focus on both paper presentation sessions and smaller discussion groups and workshops. A detailed programme will appear on the BOBCATSSS web site (<http://www.bobcatsss.com>), and will be sent to delegates. Topics include:
Democracy

- The role of the library and information workers in realizing democracy, openness and transparency

- What characterizes the relation between free access to information and free access to new technology?
- Pluralism and democratic variety vs. monopolistic ownership in the media and communication sector
- Minority groups in the library
- Censorship: pluralism and variation in the library

Knowledge

- 'The learning society': The library and lifelong learning
- New technology: New approaches to user training
- What do we stress in the training and education of new library and information workers?

Information

- Information as a commercial product vs. the right to knowledge
- Information overload: what is quality and who defines it?
- Internet and new channels for information distribution: the role of the library

Keynote speakers

- Marianna Tax-Choldin, PhD, Mortenson Distinguished Professor for International Library Programs; Director, Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, University of Illinois Library, USA.
- Renaldas Gudauskas, PhD, Dean of Communication Faculty, Vilnius University, Lithuania.
- Mette Newth, Principal, Oslo National College of Arts, Norway; project leader for the "Bibliotheca Alexandrina" database project

Accommodation

We have received a special offer from Hotel Karolina for BOBCATSSS 2001 participants: single room \$33; double room \$44

All prices per room per night, hot-buffet breakfast and VAT included.

For reservation, please contact:

Hotel Karolina,

Sausio 13-osios st. 2, 2050

Vilnius, LITHUANIA

Tel. (3702) 45 39 39

Reservation (3702) 78 58 12

Fax (3702) 26 93 41

Web:<http://www.karolina.lt>

E-mail:Hotel@karolina.lt

For those who prefer a cheaper alternative, accommodation in guest houses and hostels of Vilnius University and Vilnius Pedagogical University could also be arranged. Prices range is \$5 - \$40 per night. Accommodation is generally in double rooms, in some cases with shared shower. For reservation, please contact Mrs. Jurgita Brodavskiene, a member of the local BOBCATSSS 2001 organizers in Vilnius.

Registration

The deadline for registration is December 15th, 2000.

The registration fees are payable in United States dollars:

Students from Eastern regions: \$15

Non-students from Eastern regions: \$30

Students from Western regions: \$30

Non-students from Western regions: \$100

The registration fees for the symposium are differentiated as equal participation from both Eastern and Western regions is of great importance to us.

The payment should be transferred to bank account number: 8276 01 00133.
All transfers must be labeled 35253.
Payment deadline: 10th January 2001

A receipt is required for attending the symposium. By arrangement, payment may be made on site in United States dollars.

NB: No refunds will be made for delegates who cancel their registration.

Further information

Oslo University College
JBI Faculty – BOBCATSSS 2001
Pilestredet 52
N-0167 OSLO
NORWAY

Phone: (+47) 22 45 26 98
Fax: (+47) 22 45 26 05
e-mail: bobcats.bibin@stud.jbi.hio.no

BOBCATSSS 2002

Organisers:

Fachhochschule Stuttgart - Hochschule für Bibliotheks- und Informationswesen - University of Applied Sciences, and University of Ljubljana

Possible Location:

Portoroz Arts and Convention Center (not yet fixed), Slovenia

Persons in charge:

Prof. Primož Jurnič, E-Mail: primoz.jurnic@Uni-Lj.si
Prof. Ingeborg Spribille, E-Mail: spribille@hbi-stuttgart.de
Prof. Dr. Alexander Roos, E-Mail: roos@hbi-stuttgart.de

OTHER LIS EDUCATION ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE

British Nordic Conference

The 4th British-Nordic Conference on library and information studies will take place from 21-24 March 2001 at the University Industry Centre, Dublin, Ireland, hosted by the Department of Library and Information Studies, University College Dublin. The meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend. The theme is: Continuity, Culture, Competition - the future of Library and Information Studies Education? Papers selected by the joint organizing committee in response to an earlier Call are now being finalized, and are expected to cover the following areas of interest:

- Education and Research for Heritage Information Management
- Networks-Partnerships-Consortia-Mergers
- Learning and Empowerment
- Taxonomies and Typologies
- The Economics of Information

A final programme and details of registration fee, accommodation arrangements, etc. will be available in January from the Conference Secretary:

Barbara Traxler Brown,
Acting Head,
Department of Library and Information Studies,
University College Dublin,
Dublin 4,
Ireland.

Fax: 353 1 2694409

Tel. 353 1 706 7704 / 7055 /
7080(voice mail)

e-mail: uknordic@ucd.ie

New Book Economy

Members may be aware that the Council of Europe encouraged the establishment of a number of national partnerships to secure funding from the European Social Fund's ADAPT programme, and facilitated the necessary transnational activity as part of its 'New Book Economy' programme. These projects examined a variety of issues concerned with the development of professional knowledge and skills to meet employers' changing requirements. Early in 2001, it is expected that detailed arrangements for a new programme, EQUAL, will be announced by the responsible agencies in the member states, and arrangements are already being made for new partnerships and projects to take the work forward.

IFLA

A Call for papers has been issued for the Round Table on Continuing Professional Education's 5th World Conference on Continuing Professional Education for the library and information professions, which will be hosted by the School of Information and Media, The Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, Scotland, from 14-16 August 2002 (immediately preceding IFLA's 75th Anniversary Conference in Glasgow). The theme is: Continuing Professional Education for the 'Information Society'. Over the past few years, the library and information profession has been deeply affected by the growing interest in continuing professional education. The evolution of the Information Society has stimulated the need for lifelong learning, created new means of delivering it, and new opportunities to participate in it. It presents new challenges for teachers, for institutional managers, and for national professional associations with an interest in accreditation or equivalence of qualifications, and raises new concerns for the prospective students and their employers, some of which are indicated in the sub-themes for the Conference:

- Retraining the information professional for the 'Information Society'
- Local or global delivery mechanisms
- Making global CPE relevant in a local context
- Assessment of learning and evaluation of teaching
- Quality control and assurance by providers
- Qualifications and rewards for participants
- CPE in information literacy for other professions

Further information on deadlines, etc. is available from the local organizer:

Ian M. Johnson
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The Robert Gordon University
Garthdee Road
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Great Britain

Fax: + 44 1224 263939 or 263553
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e.mail: i.m.johnson@rgu.ac.uk

EUCLID SUBSCRIPTIONS

Membership subscriptions were last collected in 1997. These funds are now nearly exhausted, and the Executive Board asks for your renewed support.

Subscription rates remain unchanged, and continue to reflect the size of the School and the economic health of the country in which it is located.

The next EUCLID Council will take place sometime in 2001/2002, and to take part in that meeting your subscription must be paid up to date.

Subscription rates can be identified in the following table:

	Country Group A	Country Group B	Country Group C
Number of teaching staff			
Staff group 1	1/1 = 200 ecu	1/2 = 100 ecu	1/3 = 66 ecu
Staff group 2	1/2 = 100 ecu	1/4 = 50 ecu	1/6 = 33 ecu
Staff group 3	1/3 = 66 ecu	1/6 = 33 ecu	1/9 = 22 ecu

Staff group 1: 20 or more full-time teaching staff

Staff group 2: 10 – 19 full-time teaching staff

Staff group 3: less than 10 full-time teaching staff

Country Group A: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

Country Group B: Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia

Country Group C: Albania, Belorussia, Bulgaria, Romania, Russia, Ukraine

Affiliate membership:

Group A: 100 ecu

Group B: 50 ecu

Group C: 33 ecu

Corresponding membership: 20 ecu

Please complete and return the invoice attached

EUCLID Homepage:

The EUCLID home page URL is:

<http://www.elt.sk/euclid/>

EUCLID EXECUTIVE BOARD

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**European Association
for Library and Information
Education and Research**

Executive Board

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November 2000

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION INVOICE, 2000/2001

Name of Institution:

Name of Department:

Full mail address:
(P.O. Box, Street, City, Post code, Country)

Applies for:

Membership:

Affiliate membership:

Corresponding membership:

Country Group:

A / B / C (delete as necessary)

Staff group:

1 / 2 / 3 (delete as necessary)

Subscription payable:
Name of Institution's Bank:

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Representative's name:

Position:

Date:

Signature:

Please send a copy of this invoice to the address above, **and** make payment by Bank transfer to:

Royal Bank of Scotland, 12 Golden Square, ABERDEEN AB9 8DU, Great Britain.
Bank sort code: 83-49-40; Account number: 00679716 EUCLID



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26 October 2004

Dear colleague,

MEMBERSHIP OF EUCLID

Supporting and participating in EUCLID activities shows that you recognise the value of collaboration in the turbulent times which the Schools of Librarianship and Information Sciences are experiencing throughout Europe.

The impact of major social and technological changes on professional practice have been matched by substantial changes in the curriculum of the professional Schools. The challenge of implementing these changes over the last few years has taken place against a background of economic recessions, and radical shifts in the political and fiscal stance of most governments. Above all we see the strengthening influence on our activities of the pan-European organisations. Sharing our experiences and understanding of emerging situations, and trying to influence policies before they are decided becomes all the more important.

Staff development is a particular challenge, and we are looking at ways in which we can arrange activities to help develop approaches to teaching new subjects. Future plans include a regular European conference for teachers of librarianship and information science, and more direct contact with the European Commission and with the other European professional associations in the field. The potential for greater use of e.mail for communication between members and for distributing the Newsletter, and for a regular column of news to be published in the journal *Education for Information*, are also being investigated.

I am enclosing information a Newsletter giving information on recent developments, and details of EUCLID's subscriptions, which have not increased since 1991, and look forward to learning that you have subscribed for the coming period.

Yours sincerely

Ian M Johnson