

EUCLID

NEWSLETTER

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REPORT FOR THE EUCLID BOARD AUGUST 2005 - JANUARY 2008

THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

At the council meeting in Copenhagen August 12 2005 the following board was elected:

Ragnar Audunson, Norway (chair)
J David Bawden, UK
Audrone Glosiene, Lithuania
Miha Kovic, Slovenia
Gerda van der Molen, Netherland
Anna Maria Tammaro, Italy

Gerda van der Molen retired from the board in January 2006 and was replaced by Christobal Urbano, Spain.

ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE BOARD

The board has had meetings in connection with the yearly BOBCATSSS-conferences. In addition the board has had telephone-meetings and communicated via e-mail. Tor Henriksen has worked as secretary general and Maria Husum from

the administration of Oslo University College has done secretary work — updated the web page, sent out invoices to member institutions etc.

MEMBERSHIP

By the end of 2007 EUCLID had 50 member institutions, i.e. institutions that have paid their membership fee in 2007.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Following up the curriculum development project has been a main priority for the board. Sessions on the topic were arranged at the BOBCATSSS-conferences in Tallinn in 2006 and in Prague in 2007. The Board has also worked on the development of European guidelines for LIS curricula and the establishment of a corps of evaluators. Proposals on both these issues are put before this year's council.

The board published a position paper related to curriculum development on the web page of the summit meeting of European ministers of education related to the Bologna-process.

COOPERATION WITH EBLIDA

Cooperation with EBLIDA has developed further during the period. Ragnar Audunson has met at the meetings in EBLIDA's committee on professional qualifications. In September 2007 a joint conference between EUCLID and EBLIDA was held in Lisbon on educational issues in LIS, Portugal. Apart from the professional results, this conference also resulted in a financial surplus of EUR 750 for EUCLID.

THE WEB PAGE

The board has also put energy into updating the web-page. One principle when organizing the page has been to keep it simple so that it will be easy to move as the administration of EUCLID moves around.

CONFERENCES

The BOBCATSSS conferences have developed positively during the period and seems now firmly established as one of the European conferences in the field that

attracts the highest number of participants, if not the highest. The conference in 2009 will mark a new development, as the conference that year for the first time will take place outside Eastern and Central Europe.

As mentioned above, EUCLID has arranged one joint conference with EBIDA. David Bawden, member of the Board, was responsible for a workshop on educational issues in connection with the COLIS-conference in Boras, Sweden, in August 2007.

THE BOBCATSSS OF THE YEAR

The BOBCATSSS of the year award¹, 2001, was formally institutionalized through a decision in the Board in 2006 and awarded to **Leif Lorring** and **Leif Kajberg** RSLIS in **2007**. The Board has decided to give the prize to professor **Tom Wilson** in **2008**.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION

Although EUCLID is far from a rich organization, the financial situation has developed positively, due to an increase in institutions paying their membership fee. Oslo. On EUCLID's account there is now approximately NOK 35.000, i.e. EUR 4.500. In addition University College has supported EUCLID with NOK 30.000, which has financed the chair's travelling expenses and work time and OUC has also supported EUCLID with a part of one administrative staff members work time.

¹ A forerunner of the prize was given to Ruudy Bruyns in 2001.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2008

Zadar, 27 January 2009

On January 31, 2008 during the Bobcatsss Symposium in Zadar, Croatia new Board and Chairman were elected:

Chairman: Tatjana Aparac-Jelušić. University of Zadar

EUCLID Board members:

David Bawden, [London City University](#), UK,; Cristóbal Urbano [Universitat de Barcelona](#), Spain; Baiba Holme [University of Latvia](#), Latvia; Anne Marie Bertrand, [ENSSIB](#), France; Anna Maria Tamaro, [University of Parma](#), Italy; Miha Kovac, [University of Ljubljana](#), Slovenia

Board members communicated through e-mail and supported Chairman's plan for future activities, though this was achieved quit late, in December 2008 due to Chairman's other engagements.

Thou, we could cite several activities during 2008 in which Chairman and some Board or other Euclid members took part in:

1. A meeting was hold in Zadar, just after Bobcatsss with 14 Participants: from Italy, Austria, Slovenia, Hungary, Poland, and Turkey to discuss possibilities of more active participation of LIS schools from Mediterranean area in Euclid activities, among others. The issue of International placement and mobility was raised as well as organisation of Summer Schools for students at undergraduate level to let the students experience different approaches to LIS in different countries and also enhance multicultural cooperation and understanding, following already existing experiences with USA LIS schools.
2. The panel was organized during I-school Conference held at UCLA, on 29 February 2008. The panel was lead by Euclid chairman T. Aparac-Jelusic with participants from Austria, Slovenia and Italy. This panel addressed the special concerns for restructuring curricula in the wider information sciences field (Library and Information Science - LIS, Information Science – IS, Records Management – RM, education for digital services etc) and three questions were raised during presentations and discussion: What are the basic concerns in developing new curricula in their respective countries? How do the

multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary issues influence curricula design in IS?

What are the future steps, particularly in regard to regional cooperation?

3. During the IFLA Conference Board member and IFLA SET's president Anna Maria Tammaro raised the issue of better cooperation between LIS schools in Europe and wider.
 4. At the special Workshop organized by North Carolina at Chapel Hill in November 2008, Euclid Board's members (T. Aparac-Jelusic and A.M Tammaro) discussed the possibilities of joint proposal between US and EU LIS schools for the Atlantis project. The tentative content is Digital Library Education in the US and EU.
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EUCLID COUNCIL IN ZADAR

Zadar, January 28 2008

Ragnar Audunson
Davis Bawden
Audrone Glosiene
Miha Kovacs
Anna Maria Tamaro
Christobal Urbano

Item 5b Creation of a corps of programme evaluators

Institutions offering LIS programmes, or their governing bodies, will sometimes wish to have their programmes or part of programmes evaluated. It is presumed that such evaluators can be found among present or former faculty members of our member institutions.

A register of evaluators should therefore be created. To recruit members, EUCLID should ensure that the corps consists of people with broad knowledge of the LIS field documented by a PhD or corresponding qualifications.

EUCLID's role will be to assist institutions in finding appropriate evaluators, but have no responsibility — legal or economic, for the outcome of the evaluation.

Proposal

EUCLID's council 2008 resolves to create a corps of programme evaluators and asks the board to take necessary steps to establish a register before the autumn term 2008 and to inform the institutions and their governing bodies of its existence and possible use.

LIS SCHOOLS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA (MEDLIS)

Zadar, Croatia, 1st February, 2008

MINUTES

Participants: Srecko Jelusic (Chair of the meeting, Zadar University, Croatia), Tatjana Aparac (Chair EUCLID; Zadar University, Croatia), Anna Maria Tamaro (Chair IFLA ETS; Univ. Parma Italy), Sebastian Eschenbach (Fachhochschulen Studiengang Burgenland Austria), Primoz Juznic (University of Lubiana Slovenia), Peter Murami (University of West Hungary Hungary), Piotr Malak (N. Copernicus University Poland), Sylvie Chevillotte (ENSSIB France), Kornelija Petr (University Osijek Croatia), Ivanka Stricevic (University of Zadar, Croatia), Mirna Willer (University of Zadar Croatia), Gullbun Baydur (Haccetepe University Ankara Turkey), Sekine Karakas (Ankara University, Turkey).

Observers: Terry Weech (Illinois University, US)

Apologies: TO BE UPDATED

1. INTRODUCTION AND PROPOSAL OF COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

Srecko Jelusic has started the meeting, with an introduction of planned Agenda, which has been accepted. He has after illustrated the aim and objectives of the voluntary Study Group. The aim of the LIS Schools in the Mediterranean Area Group is to find a table where to discuss the common issues LIS Schools are encountering today. This is a voluntary based Study Group, who wants to work and prepare analysis and studies inside and in collaboration with the existing organisations at international level, in particular EUCLID, the Association of Library and Information Education and Research Institutions in Europe and IFLA. Education and Training Section. Both EUCLID Chair and IFLA ETS Chair are present to the meeting and have been the most active promoters of this. The geographical Area of the Mediterranean has common tradition and routes upon which to build the future, but the geographical Area should be considered very broadly, including all neighborhood countries who want to join the discussions and contribute to the planned activities. The meeting will be a yearly meeting.

After the discussion, the Study Group aims and objectives, including the yearly meeting, have been accepted by participants and the following activities were planned with a deadline before the next meeting, with two coordinators for each of them:

- International placement and mobility (P. Juznic Slovenia, S. Eschenbach, Austria): organisation of Summer Schools for students at undergraduate level, following already existing experiences with USA LIS schools, to let the students experience different approaches to LIS in different countries of the Area and also enhance multicultural cooperation and understanding.
- Online publication of the reform application in LIS in Mediterranean Area (P. Malak, Poland; A.M. Tamaro Italy): the full report, following a given common structure, will be put on line, with the possibility of printing it on paper. This will be the first complete survey of Bologna process applications, with national and international issues evidenced and explored. The first of the issue evidenced is the calculation of ECTS in the curriculum, in correspondence to the same subject area. In two months, the coordinators of the publication will send to all participants the structure to be followed in the chapters of the national report.
- Research inventory and cooperation (T. Aparac Croatia; A.M. Tamaro Italy): a Web Site will be developed aggregating information of all research areas of participants with ongoing and completed research projects. This will be used to define areas of competence and excellence, also for exchange of teaching and cooperation in diffusion of research results.
- Promotion of the profession (Piotr Malak Poland): It is evidenced the promotion and marketing need of the profession, and also the same need of promotion of the LIS schools as institutions with a weak academic status inside the University and the Society.

2. EUROPEAN CURRICULUM REFLECTION: CORE VALUES IN LIS EDUCATION

Anna Maria Tamaro has introduced the EUCLID Guidelines for LIS schools, illustrating the background and history of the Project European Curriculum Reflections, guided by Copenhagen School. The Guidelines and the European Curriculum Reflections represent the work done by the past EUCLID Board (2005-

2008), to be applied, developed further and updated by the present EUCLID Board. Core values of Curriculum in LIS has been agreed in Organisation of Knowledge, focusing on **sources**, what we mediate (real or virtual documents, data, broadcasts, specialists), **organisation**, how we organize, store, search and retrieve the documents and other sources, and **systems**, how we develop and organize the user services. Also, we should stress that the changing context of LIS schools, pushes to innovation, to be able to adapt to new digital environment and give evidence to be useful to Society. In particular, a new active social role of librarians is needed, including not only technical competencies but also competencies of management, of information related politics and relevant legislation. The Guidelines point to Level, including the need of specify better the professional qualification together with the academic and research background of professionals, and to different approaches to teaching and learning. Tamaro suggested that further discussion should be done on role of librarians (Mediators? Facilitators? Others?) and learning outcomes to be assessed at the end of the course. Also, she expressed her opinion of the need to focus on research and research methods to be applied to the discipline, including methods developed by other disciplines.

3. APPROACHES TO CURRICULUM IN LIS IN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

Tatjana Aparac gave an introduction to reform changes done after Bologna or currently going in the Bologna Agenda in the Balcan Area and ex-Yugoslavia countries. LIS schools are present in Slovenia, Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia & Hercegovina..No LIS schools exist in Montenegro and in Macedonia.

Osijek and Zadar Universities were able to introduce an innovative course at undergraduate level in Informatology, focusing the broad sector of archives, libraries and museums affording the impact of technologies, followed by a Master in Information Science; a English taught PhD Program is in course of validation. In curriculum design of this innovative course, all stakeholders have been involved, starting from students and professionals. Good cooperation activities have also been developed with other countries, as Parma University and Slovenia University. Tatjana Aparac expressed her opinion that in particular at postgraduate level cooperation is needed. While at undergraduate level, we have to teach basics of education to

students, for specialisation European LIS schools should share their excellence subject area and best practice. The aim of cooperation should be that of developing Centres of excellence, but not for competition but for sharing competences.

All participants briefly introduced their Bologna reform application in LIS schools, evidencing the general recognition of the academic status of the profession, also where internship was the main regulation to enter the profession before the Bologna reform started. In some countries, as Austria, professional schools are still alive. An other trend is the presence of Information Literacy courses spread in every discipline, or LIS courses in non LIS schools. This is an issue for accepting students with different degree at Master level courses. Hungary has been accepting up to 60 ECTS credits from other field. The European model has been compared with the more flexible US model, where students can build their curriculum, with electives and compulsory courses. A market oriented model, conflicting or combining with a culture oriented model can be evidenced, but further analysis is needed.

4. COOPERATION, UNIVERSITIES NETWORKS, WHAT NEXT?

Anna Maria Tammaro has evidenced the need of collaborating with other international organisations. As Chair of Education and Training Section, she is involved in the organisation of IFLA 2009 Open Session, in August 2009. The Session will be focused on Bologna impact on LIS in Mediterranean Area, and will be held in Milan at the LIS School of the Milan University. All Zadar meeting participants are invited to be involved in the organization of this Session. The suggested report, edited by Piotr Malak, was decided to be submitted for that event.

To find financement for mobility and for starting cooperative activities, Tammaro suggested to participate to the call for proposals of the European programme ERASMUS MUNDUS, now extended to neighborhood countries. Piotr Malak also suggested to look at the Marie Curie Programme as well.

The next meeting of the Study Group LIS in the Mediterranean Area was planned to be held in Parma in March 2009. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOBCATSSS 2009**

We are looking forward to next year's BOBCATSSS in Porto, Portugal, focusing upon challenges for the new Information professional access to information for everyone.

The BOBCATSSS 2009 symposium is organised by students from the University of Tampere, Finland and the University of Porto, Portugal.

OPEN BOARD MEETING

Oporto, January 28 2008

(14:00 till 15:00, Room: B 327)

Agenda

1. *Board's Chair welcome*
2. *In memoriam of Audrone Glosiene*
3. *Review of the activities during 2008*
4. *Discussion about future actions*
5. *Other business*

14 representatives from 10 countries among them 3 members of the Board.

In her Welcome speech Euclid Chair welcomed all members and guests present at the open Board meeting. She reminded all participants that EUCLID was established with a main goal: to be an Association of independent European non-governmental and non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote European cooperation within library and information education and research and to provide a body through which it can be represented in matters of European interest.

In her introductory speech the Chair stressed the fact that in December 2008 after a period of transition from previous Euclid's management she was able to prepare a letter to all Euclid members starting first of all with thanks to Professor Ragnar Audunson who kindly and fruitfully acted as Euclid chair in two terms. During his Chairmanship Euclid has achieved very good results towards the internationalisation of the profession and the discipline. Also, she took the opportunity to thank Tor Hendrikson and Ragnar for their help in the process of transferring data, and finances from Oslo to Zadar.

New account and provisional web site was opened (www.euclid-lis.org). In the year 2009 the Board expected to get approved permanent web site URL.

In attempt to maintain high standards they introduced into Euclid, the new Board planned to take further actions in 2009 by organizing several working meetings with Eblida, Alise and IFLA SET. One of the action goals was to strengthen communication between European LIS schools in so called Northern and Southern countries as well as propose several new modes of professional campaigns.

The Board members decided to award post mortem a Bobcat of the 2008 year to Audrone Glosene for her dedicated work in the European LIS arena and especially for her valuable contribution to Euclid and its Board's activities. Also, as the Director General of the Vilnius University Library, Professor Audronė Glosienė, has served in various positions, including head of the Faculty for Library Science (part of the Communications Faculty). She is well known Europe wide and the author of many papers.

During the Oporto meeting several questions were raised in discussion:

- How to continue work related to LIS Curriculum Guidelines development based upon Euclid's book? It was recognized that the background and history of the Project European Curriculum Reflections were known and appreciated as a valuable initiative of Euclid's past Board as well as it was appreciated support given by the Royal LIS School in Copenhagen. The participants agreed that it was a right time to start investigating how these Guidelines had been applied. The need to their further development and updating by the present EUCLID Board was stressed. Core values of Curriculum in LIS have been agreed,
- The future development of the BOBCATSSS was an important topic after a kind of crisis in relation to the fact that 2010 Conference was not prepared on time by the previous Board.
- The changing context of LIS schools which is urging us to push to innovation, to be able to adapt to new digital environment and balance carefully between core values of Information professions in today's society, was discussed as well. Some of the participants pointed out "a new active social role of librarians that was needed, including not only technical competencies but also competencies of management, of information related politics and relevant legislation".

- Another topic tackled was related to learning outcomes. The need to better specify the professional qualification together with the academic and research background of professionals, and compare them in relation to different approaches to teaching and learning was recognized.
- Should Euclid work more on establishing regular annual/biannual meetings focusing on new trends in the field and possibilities in better connecting its members in proposing EU and other founders' was discussed and the conclusion was that these activities should lead to joint research projects and educational programs.
- Taking into account discussions from previous Board meeting held in Zadar, 2008 it was decided to start the register of evaluators to recruit colleagues with broad knowledge of LIS field, documented by a PhD or corresponding qualifications.
- Finally, the question on Euclid's more active role in supporting students and LIS departments involved in BOBCATSSS conferences was raised and a proposal was made that the Board engages in creating a list of research projects and network of partners for research projects.