

Welcome to The European Library Newsletter!

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NEWS

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The European Library News Letter subscribers list has significantly increased in the last weeks. We very much would like to thank you for joining us and “spreading the word”. The time has now come to gear up and apply some aesthetic changes to the previous format. For starters, we would like to introduce “In FOCUS”. This is a collaborative section that provides edited coverage of national libraries and partners.

TEL-ME-MOR Final Policy Conference

The [TEL-ME-MOR Final Policy Conference](#) is lining up to be a landmark conference for the creation of the European Digital Library. Anyone who would like to have their say in the future access, digitisation and preservation of European cultural heritage should aim to attend this conference in Tallinn. For more information check [News and Announcements](#).

The [Conference Of European National Librarians](#) Board in St Petersburg took the decision to make the remaining libraries collections available prior to the Tallinn policy conference. So regularly check our website for new additions!

EDL Project

As announced in press release [“The European Library is getting bigger”](#), The European Digital Library Project has been launched. As well as adding in new libraries the project also deals with specific tasks. Through eContentPlus funding from the European Commission we will take the next steps toward developing a European Metadata Registry. This task focuses on extending the TEL Metadata Registry to include metadata from museums and archives. Under the coordination of Sally Chambers from The European Library Office this task draws on the expertise of metadata registry specialists including [The UK Office for Library and Information Networking](#) and the [Computer and Automation Research Institute](#) of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. For more detailed information on EDLproject please visit www.edlproject.eu. To give your thoughts and opinions on the project, post your comments on [EDLproject blog](#).

Work in progress: Usability

The next big improvement of the site is scheduled for December. To a great extent release 1.4 follows up on the [information retrieved](#) from our latest user survey.

Collection Descriptions have in the main been updated to the NISO standard. A programme will now take place asking each country to translate into their native languages the English version of every collection description. This will help the multilingual search and retrieval on the portal so a user in Serbia can ask for

collections on 17th century poetry and find the ones available in 15 other languages without having to always enter the search terms for those languages. To push this forward a freelancer Sue Allcock will contact all partners to ask them to undertake this translation task over a period of time.

Marketing

The central Marketing & Communications (Actions) Plan 2006/2007 has been created. An overall development report, primarily based upon an analysis of the log files, is in preparation. The European Library gave a paper in the Marketing & Management IFLA pre-conference in Shanghai. The paper included our use of Google adwords and optimised pages to generate traffic.

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WORKING GROUPS

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The European Library's Metadata Working Group (MWG) met on 14th of July at the British Library to continue to review each metadata element in the registry to ensure that they are accurately represented and described. It was also decided that a wider Metadata Review Group, with a nominee from each full-partner library, should be set up. The role of this new group will be to ensure that the registry is developed in a way that reflects the metadata practices in the partner libraries.

In parallel, an external programmer was employed by The European Library Office to reorganise the internal technical structure of the Metadata Registry. Originally part of The European Library Metadata Handbook, the MWG decided that the Metadata Registry should be launched as a separate website. This independent version of the Metadata Registry (including a new interface) will be published in December 2006.

The documents from the MWG are now available for full-participants in the meetings part of The European Library Management Section.

Virtual Meetings pilot

In an attempt to reduce the number of physical meetings The European Library investigates the use of video-conferencing. We monitor the use of Surfgroups – a service of Dutch research and education network [Surfnet](#) – for the next meeting of the Technical Working Group. Go to [Agenda](#) for the exact date of this meeting.

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IN FOCUS: Toomas Schvak and the [National Library of Estonia](#)

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Toomas Schvak is the Project Manager for Work Package 4 of the TEL-ME-MOR project. He joined the National Library of Estonia (NLE) in 2002 after earning his bachelor's degree of Information Sciences in Tallinn. He was involved in the NLE shift towards the European Library Full Participant membership in January 2006.

What are your current activities within the TEL-ME-MOR project?

My present activities cover two specific grounds, the Estonian side where I work as Research and Development Centre Project Manager and the European side where I

work as Coordinator for Work Package 4. WP4 aims to inform the memory institutions of new EU member countries about the financing opportunities offered by the European Commission for research and development. WP4 assignment does require major focus at the moment. The day-to-day activities involve project administration, keeping an eye on finances issues as well as schedule setting.

What is the National Library of Estonia position within the TEL-ME-MOR project?

The [Conference Of European National Librarians](#) offered the National Library of Estonia a partnership in late 2003, followed by the Work Package 4 assignment launched in February 2005. Furthermore, the 9th IFLA International Conference held in September 2005 by the NEL has given us the necessary expertise on an international ground to host the [TEL-ME-MOR Final Policy Conference](#) in Tallinn (Estonia) between the 18th and 21st of October 2006. The conference titled "The Digital Future of Cultural and Scientific Heritage" is designed around an ambitious programme, providing a forum for discussion of the latest digital library developments in Europe and in the world.

What are your expectations for the Tallinn conference in October?

I'm personally curious about the several debates, one of them being the Copyright outgrowth from the Publishers and from the Librarians points of view. I am also looking forward to hearing about national initiatives outcomes as in Norway, Singapore or India. Finally I am curious about private partner's cooperation projects development, for example the Oxford-Google digitisation agreement.

How do you forecast the NLE European cooperation in the near future?

The Estonian academic population is rather restricted. We therefore would like to bring our collections to a broader public, and further enlarge The European Library collections to Museums and Archives. The National Library of Estonia will certainly take part of different EDL initiatives in that respect.

We are currently inviting you – in particular if your work at the National Library directly relates to The European Library - to this new section called "IN FOCUS".

****** In short: Shall we interview you next time? ******

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PEOPLE
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With great pleasure, we introduce our new members of The European Library Office:

* Ms. Georgia Angelaki, our new project assistant for EDLproject. Her main tasks are managing a work package to help improve the usability of the portal and to help in our new project proposals. You can reach Georgia via

Georgia.angelaki@theeuropeanlibrary.org and tel. +31 (0)70 3140 964

* Mr. Aubéry Escande is our contact for editorial & content issues. Creative mind behind "IN FOCUS" he has already contributed greatly to the reorganization of the newsletter. Mail to Aubery.escande@theeuropeanlibrary.org or call him at +31 (0)70 3140 824

* October 1st Mr. Sjoerd Siebinga joined The European Library Office. Sjoerd has a linguistics background and will specialise on our various multilingual challenges. Our new Technical Developer can be reached via sjoerd.siebinga@theeuropeanlibrary.org

We are regularly looking for enthusiastic developers (newly graduated or experienced) willing to work at The European Library office. Please contact Julie.Verleyen@theeuropeanlibrary.org if you or anyone you know would like to work in a very varied environment, they must be good communicators in English and have one or more of the following skills: Java, Javascript, PHP, XML, XSLT, XPath, Python, Perl, databases (MySQL). Along with the programming knowledge motivation and an open mindset are particularly appreciated!

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AGENDA
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Conferences & Meetings:

[TEL-ME-MOR Final Policy Conference](#), Oct 18-21, Estonia
Technical Working Group meeting, Oct. 13, Web meeting
Contacts Working Group Meeting, Dec. 4, ICCU, Italy

Other conferences:

[International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications](#) Oct 3-6, Mexico
Christine Frodl (German National Library) will present an Update on The European Library Metadata Registry as part of the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative Libraries Working Group session which will be chaired by Robina Clayphan (British Library).
[The e-volution of Information Technology in Cultural Heritage](#) Oct 30-Nov 4, Cyprus
[Charleston Library Conference](#), Nov 8-Nov 11, USA
[Information Society Technologies Conference 2006](#), Nov 21 -23, Finland
[Online Information](#) Nov 28-30, United Kingdom

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ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER
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The European Library Newsletter is a twice-monthly update of The European Library related news and developments.

We send you this newsletter following your request to be on the mailing list. Please feel free to pass this newsletter to anyone you think might be interested. If you wish to subscribe or unsubscribe please send an email to sally.chambers@kb.nl

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If you have any comments or suggestions about how we can further improve the newsletter or The European Library portal please let us know! Use this [feedback form](#) or send your email to: fleur.stigter@theeuropeanlibrary.org