



EIFL 2015 General Assembly Speakers' Bios

Miodrag Dadasovic

Head of Referral Centre within the National and University Library "St. Climent Ohridski" – Skopje, Macedonia



Chairperson, EIFL Advisory Board Member

Miodrag Dadasovic is Head of Referral Centre at the National and University Library "St. Climent Ohridski" – Skopje, Macedonia. He is responsible for the information resources and electronic services management at the National library. He develops study and library training programmes as well as, teaching librarians and library users.

Author of journal articles, professional papers and publications, he participates to conferences as moderator, author, presenter and lecturer. He is also project and research study manager as well as, a national RTD expert.

Miodrag is National coordinator of the Macedonian e-Library consortia, (MEL) EIFL IP coordinator for Macedonia, member of the EIFL Advisory Board and Chair person. He is a member of the Executive Board of the Macedonian Library Association. Moreover, he manages the editorial policy of the "Librarianship" journal, West Balkan RTD member.

Miodrag holds an M.Sc. in Library and Information Sciences from the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, University of Maribor, Slovenia & University of Zadar, Croatia.

Andris Vilks

Director of the National Library of Latvia



Andris Vilks is a prominent specialist of library and information science. Throughout his career, he has made a significant contribution to the development of the library sector and the advancement of the knowledge society in Latvia and the Baltic States.

Since becoming Director of the National Library in 1989, Vilks has worked tirelessly to realize the 'Castle of Light' project that included construction of a prestigious new National Library building, development of a country-wide library network and the establishment of a National Digital Library.

Andris Vilks lectures at the Department of Information and Library

Studies, University of Latvia, and is a board member of the Latvian Library Council, LIBER, CENL, UNESCO Memory of the World Register Advisory Committee, among other professional organizations.

Rima Kupryte

EIFL Director



Rima Kupryte is the Director of EIFL. Rima oversees the implementation of EIFL's overall organisational strategy and operations. Rima has been managing EIFL since its inception. Under Rima's leadership, EIFL has grown into a thriving international organisation working in more than 60 developing and transition economy countries.

Rima's deep knowledge of library infrastructure and international development has led to the strategic expansion of EIFL's key programmes which help people to access and use information for education, learning, research and sustainable community development. Rima joined EIFL from the Open Society Institute - Budapest (currently known as the Open Society Foundations), where she managed the Network Library Programme, supporting library development in approximately 35 countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, and Africa.

In 2008, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) awarded Rima the IFLA Medal, one of the highest professional accolades, for her contributions to international librarianship. Languages: Lithuanian, English, Russian.

Arnold Hirshon

Associate Provost and University Librarian, Case Western Reserve University EIFL Management Board Member



Since August 2010, Arnold Hirshon has been the Associate Provost and University Librarian at Case Western Reserve University, an Association of Research Libraries member located in Cleveland, Ohio. Previous positions included serving as Chief Strategist and Executive Consultant for LYRISIS, and for ten years as Executive Director of NELINET, a library consortium, where he launched many new programs, including consulting services, digital services, and open source software support and hosting.

Prior to NELINET, Arnold served as Vice Provost for Information Resources (Chief Information Officer) at Lehigh University, where he was responsible for university computing and libraries. Previously, he was University Librarian at Wright State University, Associate Director of Libraries at Virginia Commonwealth University, and in library administrative posts at Duke University and Wayne State University. Arnold is a Past President of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services.

A highly experienced international consultant on issues of organizational, strategic and business planning, facility redesign, operations management and assessment, and technology integration. Arnold has been a consultant for EIFL since 2000. Arnold has an extensive scholarly record that includes many monographs, including the LYRISIS Library Strategic Planning Toolkit (co-author:

Stephen Spohn), and the author of numerous articles about strategic management, technology and library leadership, information service integration, assessment and optimization of operations, and non-profit management. A frequent lecturer nationally and internationally, Arnold has given numerous lectures on a wide range of topics, including organizational management, trend spotting and analysis, technology planning, and operations assessment and optimization.

Fiona Bradley

Manager, Development Programmes, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)



Fiona Bradley manages the Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP) that includes the Building Strong Library Associations, International Advocacy, and International Leaders programmes and IFLA's work on access to information in the UN 2030 Agenda.

She is a member of the TAP Network steering committee (Transparency, Accountability and Participation), a coalition of 120+ civil society organisations working on these issues in the 2030 Agenda.

Prior to joining IFLA, she worked as a librarian in special and academic libraries in Australia at the University of Technology Sydney. She is also national multicultural broadcaster, Special Broadcasting Service.

She holds a BA in Political Science and History from the University of Western Australia, a Master of Information Management and Master of Arts (Research) both from Curtin University.

Romy Beard

EIFL-Licensing Programme Manager



Romy Beard is the Manager of the Licensing Programme for EIFL. Romy negotiates with publishers to secure affordable access to commercial e-resources on behalf of EIFL partner countries and works with library consortia to encourage subscriptions and usage. Before joining EIFL in 2014, Romy worked in academic online publishing for the last nine years.

In 2005, she started working at Oxford University Press as a Sales Representative in the Online Products department, liaising with libraries and library consortia across Europe. Romy moved to ebrary in 2008 as Regional Sales Manager for Europe where she formulated and communicated highly successful offers for libraries in EIFL-partner countries.

Since 2011, Romy worked in the ebrary business unit at ProQuest as Publisher Relations Manager, signing agreements for ebook distribution with new publishing partners and advising existing publishers on their digital strategy and the different business models on offer to libraries.

Romy has an honours degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Glasgow, Scotland, and an M.A. in English Literature from the University of Warwick, UK. Languages: Luxembourgish, English, French, German, Spanish.

Lorraine Estelle

COUNTER Project Director



Lorraine Estelle began her career in the publishing industry before moving to Jisc in 2002.

There she became CEO of Jisc Collections, the UK's academic library consortium. She also conceived and led a number of research projects including the national e-books observatory project.

She successfully won funding to develop a number of shared national services for the UK academic sector including the Journals Usage Statistics Portal and Jisc Historic Text.

She joined COUNTER as Director in the summer of this year, where she is focused on improving the utility of the COUNTER Code of Practice. COUNTER is the not-for-profit organisation that sets and maintains the standard for counting the use of electronic resources.

Anurag Acharya

Co-Founder, Google Scholar



Anurag Acharya is a Distinguished Engineer at Google. He is a co-creator of Google Scholar. Previously, he led the indexing group at Google.

He has a Bachelors in Computer Science from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur and a PhD in Computer Science from Carnegie Mellon. Prior to joining Google, he was a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Maryland, College Park and an assistant professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Bianca Kramer

Subject Specialist Life Sciences and Medicine, Utrecht University Library



Bianca Kramer is subject librarian for Life Sciences and Medicine at Utrecht University Library, the Netherlands.

Bianca provides students and faculty advice and support on all aspects of scholarly communication: literature search & management, making

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research Open Access, increasing online visibility of research, online collaboration & storage and sharing of research data.

Together with her colleague Jeroen Bosman, she is charting the changing landscape of scholarly communication in their project '101 innovations in Scholarly Communication'

Michael Mertens

CEO, DARIAH-EU



Mike's academic background is in languages and comparative history but he has also professionally been in nursing, social care and in recent years librarianship.

Prior to coming to DARIAH, Mike was responsible for governance, consortial negotiations, outreach, working groups, data services, research data management, and strategic planning at Research Libraries UK.

He has also worked with and on the committees of The British Library, The UK National Archives, Jisc, The Digital Preservation Coalition, LIBER and The European Library amongst other organizations in the Library and Information Science sector.

DARIAH-EU is a pan-European Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities that promotes and increases awareness of digital arts and humanities research, projects, tools and best practices within and the wider network of European digital arts and humanities.

Teresa Hackett

EIFL-IP Programme Manager



Teresa Hackett is the Copyright and Libraries Programme Manager for EIFL. Teresa launched the programme in 2005, and has overseen the development and delivery of a wide range of copyright related activities. Through her leadership Teresa has helped grow a dynamic network of specialist librarians, many of whom have achieved success in improving national copyright laws that are helping to maximize access to knowledge in the

digital environment. Her commitment and strong advocacy skills has helped make EIFL a leading voice for copyright law reform in developing and transition countries at the international level. With extensive experience working with libraries on legal information issues and advocating for copyright reform with policy-makers, Teresa is a frequent contributor at conferences and events around the world.

Prior to joining EIFL, Teresa held a number of policy, advocacy and technical positions. From 2000-2003, she was Director of the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations; before that she provided support to the European Commission library research programme, and was part of the team that established electronic information centres at the British Council in Germany. Teresa serves on the Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).

Teresa has an honours degree in German, History and Politics from University College Dublin, Ireland, a postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies from the University of North London, UK, and a postgraduate Diploma in Legal Studies from Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland. Languages: English, Irish, German, Dutch

Iryna Kuchma

EIFL-OA Programme Manager



Iryna Kuchma is the Open Access Programme Manager for EIFL. Iryna has been managing the Open Access programme since 2008. Her responsibilities include the development, delivery and evaluation of a range of open access related activities.

Under Iryna's management, the Open Access Programme has many achievements, including the establishment of more than 800 open access repositories and more than 4,000 open access journals in EIFL's partner countries. The programme also supported the development of 77 open access policies in EIFL partner countries, opening up a wealth of new knowledge and research into the world. An expert on open access in developing and transition countries, Iryna is frequently asked to speak at conferences and open access events around the world.

Before joining EIFL, Iryna worked as an Information Programme Manager at the International Renaissance Foundation (part of Soros Foundation network in Ukraine) and also coordinated the Arts and Culture Programme there.

Iryna is a member of Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) Advisory Board, DSpace Community Advisory Team (DCAT), NDLTD (Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations) Board of Directors, the Open Library of Humanities Internationalisation Committee, PLOS (Public Library of Science) International Advisory Group, Electronic Publishing Trust (EPT) Trustee and the Open Access Button Steering Committee.

Iryna also chairs a Working Group 'Repository and Repository Networks Support & Training' in the Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) and a Joint ARL/CARL/COAR/LIBER Task Force on Librarians' Competencies in Support of E-Research and Scholarly Communication.

From 2009-2010, Iryna was a Steering Committee (and Task Group) member, InterAcademy Panel (IAP) on International Issues Programme dealing with Digital Knowledge Resources and Infrastructure in Developing Countries. She has also served on the Access to Learning Award (ATLA) Committee of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Library Initiative.

In 2013, Iryna received the Electronic Publishing Trust (EPT) for Development Annual Award, in recognition of her "efforts in the furtherance of open access to scholarly publications in the developing and emerging countries". Iryna has an M.A. in Cultural Studies from the National University 'Kyiv-Mohyla Academy', Ukraine. Languages: Ukrainian, English, French, Polish, Russian.