



# NEWSLETTER

## European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centres

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### Word from the President:

Dear colleagues and friends, wonderful EURASLIC members,

almost elapsing 2014 was not marked with essential activities of our association. Maybe it will be remembered by the heavy rains and floods on our continent and adverse political and economic events. Let's hope that everything bad has remained in the past and prepare for the challenges ahead.

The forthcoming 2015 is an election year for the EURASLIC Executive Board 2015-2017. Since 2009 the elections for Executive Board have taken place right before our conferences, so that the old Board can handover the business to the new one during the conference and the new Board members can introduce themselves to the members of EURASLIC during the conference. As you know, the next joint IAMSLIC/EURASLIC conference will be held on September 7-11, 2015, Rome, Italy. Summer is not appropriate period for preparing elections. That's why the Board decided to hold the elections as always in May, but the newly elected Board will take over its duties after the conference in September. That will shorten its period of duty for four months and extend the period of the present Board duty for four months. Please think about volunteering to serve on the next EURASLIC Board or committees.

I hope that more of you would be able to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> EURASLIC Biennial Meeting to be held jointly with the 41<sup>st</sup> IAMSLIC Annual Conference next year in Rome and bring along ideas for new future activities and capacity development.

The end of the year is time for membership renewal and I invite you all to do so without hesitation to help us keep going strong. Your participation is invaluable and much appreciated!

I cannot finish without expressing my thanks to the members of the EURASLIC Executive Board and EURASLIC members who represent our regional group in the IAMSLIC Committees for their efforts, dedication and assistance.

Thank you all and wishing you Happy Holidays and all the best for 2015.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Snejina Bacheva  
EURASLIC President

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## CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT



41<sup>st</sup> IAMSLIC Annual Conference and 16<sup>th</sup> EURASLIC Biennial Meeting will be held in Rome, Italy from 7-11 September 2015. The meeting will be hosted and co-sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO). Details of the conference webpage will be announced shortly. The conference program promises to be diverse and stimulating and will provide opportunities for all participants to learn and network. We are planning a number of social activities and exciting trips for you. Mark your calendars now and get prepared for this great event. Please do not hesitate to contact [Maria Kalentsits](#) or [Armand Gribling](#) if you have any questions.





## PAST EVENTS

### 2014 ASFA Board Meeting in China

**Kateryna Kulakova**, Southern Scientific Research Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography (YugNIRO)

The 43<sup>rd</sup> ASFA Board Meeting took place on 13-17 October 2014 in the China People's Palace Hotel, Beijing, China. The venue was hosted by NMDIS (National Marine Data and Information Service).

The Meeting was opened by Mr. Liang Fengkui, Deputy Director, Department of International Cooperation, State Oceanic Administration of China, and Mr. Zhao Guanglei, Deputy Secretary of Party Committee, National Marine Data and Information Service, SOA, China. The Meeting was attended by 31 participants, representing 28 ASFA Partners and 3 observers.

Dr Ian Pettman (FBA, UK) was the Chairperson and the Agenda was completed on time. The main rapporteur was Ms Helen Wibley (FAO Secretariat, Rome, Italy).

One of the principal discussions at the ASFA Board Meeting this year concerned the new and potential ASFA Partners, willing to join the abundant ASFA network and gain profits from being the participant (Agenda Item 6.6. Strategy for Future Expansion). Special attention was paid to the Black and Mediterranean Sea Basins as well as the Baltic Sea and the countries surrounding them. New ASFA Partners are always welcome into the ASFA family sharing any information, which deals with aquatic sciences both from periodicals and "grey literature". In its turn, the FAO Secretariat agrees to do its best to motivate the Partners in their active submitting and stimulate/maintain the institutes' interest in further ASFA participation.

As the ASFA proverb goes, "Once with ASFA – always with ASFA"!



## Library of Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters (FFPW) of the South Bohemia University

Vladimira Bendova

University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Academic Library of USB  
Branch of Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters  
Zátiší 728/II; 389 25 Vodňany

The library in Vodňany is the largest fish-related library in the Czech Republic and provides services for students and staff of the [Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters of the South Bohemia University](#) (FFPW). Faculty was established on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009. The FFPW is the most complex workplace within Central Europe focused on fisheries, aquaculture, protection of waters and complex systems. The basic constituent parts of the FFPW are institutes, a school and a centre with following activities:

- [Research Institute of Fish Culture and Hydrobiology in Vodňany](#) (RIFCH). It is focused on scientific and especially applied research, education and agricultural activities in the fields of fisheries and protection of waters. The RIFCH provides postgraduate doctoral studies (PDS) in the accredited field of study fishery. The employees of the RIFCH provide education in the bachelor and master programs as well.
  - [Institute of Aquaculture](#) (IA) in České Budějovice. The IA performs scientific research and provides education in the bachelor and master studies in the following study fields: fishery, aquaculture and protection of waters. The Institute of Aquaculture provides postgraduate doctoral studies and agricultural activities, too.
  - [Institute of Complex Systems](#) (ICS) in Nové Hradky. The ICS deals with the study of complex systems in natural and social sciences, with technical and other applications of research results and with agricultural activities as well. After accreditation of the study field complex systems, the ICS will provide doctoral programs.
  - [South Bohemian Research Centre of Aquaculture and Biodiversity of Hydrocenoses](#) (CENAKVA) in Vodňany. CENAKVA deals with applied and technological research in the fields of and protection of waters. It creates conditions for research and economical activities at the faculty.
  - [International Environmental Educational, Advisory and Information Centre of Protection Vodňany](#) (IEEAIC). The IEEAIC provides project activities focused on preparation and implementation of grants, lifelong learning, management of scientific and technical information, publishing and business activities.
- Employees and students can undertake research in the fields of hydrobiology, toxicology, astacology, reproduction, genetic, fish and crayfish breeding, protection of waters and complex systems and they can consult the book collection at the fisheries library [1].
- The library was established in 1921 together with *Research Institute of Fish Culture and Hydrobiology*, but some older books in the library dates back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Since 1964 the library was called *Department of scientific and technical information*. Up until the nineties head of the Library was Rudolf Berka. The mission of the department was to monitor, process and distribute professional information and facilitate efficient research.



In the sixties the Institute and the Library were free to establish international contacts, exchange specialized literature with the rest of the world and publish in international journals. The Institute was publishing also non-periodic issues, such as biennially republished Czechoslovak fisheries bibliography, biography of prominent figures of the Czech fishery and collective volumes of papers from conference [2].

Library was damaged during flood in 2002 when 1500 library items were destroyed. After restructure, the Library of Research Institute of Fish Culture and Hydrobiology since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 has become a branch library of the University of South Bohemia named Library of Faculty of Fisheries & Protection of Waters. Since summer 2013, the Library has been located in the newly renovated building of the Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters (FFPW) in Vodňany, which was renewed thanks to the project CENAKVA.



**Picture 1. Main Building of the USB FFPW in Vodňany**

The Library of FFPW USB provides specialized library and information services to faculty students and staff and disseminates information from the scientific fields such as fisheries, aquaculture, hydrobiology, ichthyology and related sciences. Its collection includes **over 17,000 items**. Books, journals, reports etc., deposited in storage, are searchable via Library Catalogue and lists of subscribed journals are found on the Library website or through the card catalogue in the library of FFPW USB. The most of the library material is borrowed outside the library.

The Library collects and archives Czech and foreign print and electronic journals. Many titles of journals are unique in the Czech Republic. The Library collection of journals is valuable for its integrity. Library has been subscribing some journals for over 60 years (*Aquaculture, Rybářství*). The Library cooperates with foreign institutes, with which maintains exchange of publications. The Library makes available collection of dissertation and complete collection of publication of FFPW (*Bulletin VÚRH, edice Metodik*).

The Library preserves and provides access to interesting book collections. **E. K. Balon Library** was donated by Canadian ichthyologist and writer **Eugene K. Balon** (1930-2013). **Absolon Library** is collection of books from personal library of the Czech archaeologist **Karel Absolon** (1877-1960). **Prague Library** is a historical collection of books from the former branch of the Research Institute of Fish Culture and Hydrobiology in Dol near Libčice. Another important book collection was donated by the leading Czech hydrobiologist **Vladimír Sládeček** and **Petr Obdrlík** in 2014.

The Library is located in the first floor of the building of the Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters in Vodňany. It is equipped with a computer with access to the library catalogue and databases.

The Library provides interlibrary loan service, reference and information services.

The Library is member of **International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC)** and **European Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (EURASLIC)** since 2014.



Picture 2. E. K. Balon Library



**Picture 3. Storage of books**

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## ODINECET Activities and Its Continuation...

**Olga Akimova**, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas; Library (IBSS Library), Ukraine

Dear ODINECET group, this is a short report about the activity of the project in 2013/2014.

There was the proposed work plan for 2013/2014 submitted at the IODE-XXII meeting. Some main items of the plan were:

- We planned to organize joint ODINECET workshop and meeting of Russian librarians of aquatic libraries and information centers at VNIRO, Moscow in 2013. The purpose of these workshop and meeting were to attract more Russian marine librarians in the ODINECET group and projects. Due to the lack of money for the meeting in 2013 I asked to finance it in 2014 and plus for organization of the ODINECET coordination meeting in 2014 back to back to the Workshop. These suggestions were also rejected by IODE.

In November of this year I visited Moscow and met Irina, the head of VNIRO library and MIM for Russian Federation. We agreed to apply for a grant from IODE and the Russian Foundation to organize both mentioned above meetings in 2015. We need it indeed to renew our activities and discuss the future development and renewal of the ODINECET project.

- Maintaining of CEEMaR and IBSS repositories. During these years IBSS and CEEMaR E-repositories were updated and enriched with new documents. I would like to say some words about the renewal of the VNIRO Repository. The RuFIR (Russian Fishery Industry Repository) is a thematic digital repository covering marine, brackish and freshwater environments and providing access to papers produced by the staff of the Russian Fishery Industry Institutes. It is well done and has more than 4400 items (<http://dspace.vniro.ru/>). We also agreed with Irina to put logos and links of IBSS and CEEMaR repositories to RuFIR.
- Installation of Koha software in ODINECET partner institutions.

IODE has allocated money for the implementation of this project only in 2014. The main tasks of the project are to do all work on installation of Koha software and mainly to make data conversion from the old electronic catalogue into Koha. Firstly it would be done with the electronic catalogues of IBSS and MHI (Sevastopol) and later involve other 6 libraries and make a Union catalogue of Ukrainian and Russian marine libraries. I have found a well-educated IT person for realization of this task and he has started work. We hope to receive funds from IODE to accomplish this project.

- Continuing the work on the project "Digitization of Rare Monographs Related to Marine Sciences". You know about this project "ECETRAR"- digitization of rare monographs related to marine sciences held by ODINECET partner libraries. A List of rare books was compiled. A project proposal was submitted to the Elsevier

Foundation. Despite being among the final 40 of 500 proposals it was not approved for funding. It was a pity, but now we have an opportunity to apply again with this project to the Russian Foundation. We discussed it also with Irina. Hope for approving!!!



## FOSTER

**Bojan Macan**, Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb, Croatia

Rudjer Boskovic Institute (RBI) Library is participating as a third party in EU-funded FP7 project FOSTER (<http://www.fosteropenscience.eu>), which stands for Facilitate Open Science Training for European Research. The aim of this project is to raise awareness of importance of open access (OA) among policy makers, funding agencies, young researchers, postgraduate and graduate students and librarians.

In order to achieve that goal in Croatia, the RBI Library organized 19 lectures/workshops at the University of Dubrovnik, University of Split, University of Zadar, University of Rijeka, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Ruđer Bošković Institute and the Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sports for various stakeholders – from librarians, students, researchers to journal editorials, project managers and policy makers. Organized lectures/workshops covered three main topics – open access to publications, open research data and open science.

In lectures about OA to publications the participants were introduced with the concept of open access and various ways of achieving it. Scientists are usually concerned about copyright issues related to their work so practical examples were given with demonstrations of rights which authors retain with their work. Especial emphasis was given to OA to publications within the Horizon 2020 framework and practical tips for scientists how they can satisfy Horizon 2020 requirements. The topic about open research data was rather new concept to majority of Croatian scientists, so it was explained in details with emphasis on its benefits and practical tips about creating data management plan. Participants were also introduced with Open Research Data Pilot launched within Horizon 2020 program which commits scientists from certain scientific fields to publish research data from their Horizon 2020 projects in open access. In open science lecture participants were introduced with possibilities of open science where open access to publications and research data are just one part of the ultimate goal of

opening the whole science. Topics like open peer review process, altmetrics, open formats, tools, etc. were presented and discussed with the participants.

Although RBI Library's planned activities on FOSTER project are coming to the end, Library plans to advocate open access to publications, research data and open science in general through its activities on maintaining and further developing of institutional repository of the Rudjer Boskovic Institute – FULIR (<http://fulir.irb.hr/>), Croatian Scientific Bibliography – CROSBIB (<http://bib.irb.hr/>) and its latest activity of building the national infrastructure for institutional repositories with other Croatian partners. And last but not the least, advocating of OA will be continuously done through national OA helpdesk established through OpenAIRE plus and the latest OpenAIRE 2020 project.

## **Publishing research data at INBO: A state-of-the-art**

**Bart Goossens, Peter Desmet, Dimitri Brosens**

Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO)

The Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO) collects biodiversity data for research purposes and to support policy in Flanders, Belgium. Until 2011, scientific research results were disseminated essentially by publishing articles without a well-established practice of publishing the underlying data.

As the volume and complexity of INBO's digital research data increases, so does the need to address the challenges of managing, selecting, retaining and storing those.

Since 2011, INBO has been publishing its data in the framework of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF, <http://www.gbif.org>). The INBO has currently published 17 datasets, covering 5.2 million occurrences, including plant surveys, fish observations, and bird tracking data and is one of the major biodiversity data publishers in Belgium.

In collaboration with the LifeWatch project (<http://lifewatch.inbo.be>) the INBO is now publishing its data as open data, under a Creative Commons Zero waiver, referencing norms for data use (<https://github.com/LifeWatchINBO/norms-for-data-use>) modelled on the Canadensys and VertNet norms.

The INBO is also opening up our data publication process. Each new dataset now originates as an internal database view, a test IPT environment and a public GitHub repository (e.g. <https://github.com/LifeWatchINBO/vis-inland-occurrences>) with the same short name as the to be published dataset. Metadata are written in Markdown, in article format and are versioned (e.g. <https://github.com/LifeWatchINBO/bird-tracking-gull-occurrences/blob/master/metadata.md>): this often forms the basis of a data paper.





**Fig. 1. Visualization Gull tracking data**

The quality of the data is assessed using several tools, such as Open Refine and QGIS, and issues and tasks regarding the data and metadata are publicly recorded on Github (e.g. <https://github.com/LifeWatchINBO/vis-inland-occurrences/issues>), which allows external users to see current issues and submit their own. Once most issues are resolved, the metadata are imported to the INBO production IPT (<http://data.inbo.be/ipt/>) and a Darwin Core archive is created, published and registered.

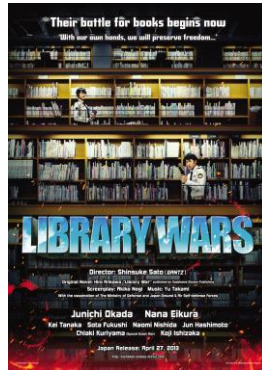
This year, INBO has started publishing its data supporting scientific publications using Dryad (<http://datadryad.org>). The Dryad Digital Repository is a curated resource that makes the data underlying scientific publications discoverable, freely reusable, and citable.

An example can be found at <http://datadryad.org/resource/doi:10.5061/dryad.9067>.

On June 12, 2014 INBO signed the “Bouchout Declaration”. As signatory the INBO will promote free and open access to data and information about biodiversity by people and computers and to bring about an inclusive and shared knowledge management infrastructure that will allow the biodiversity society to respond more effectively to the challenges of the present and future.

## “Library Wars”

Sofija Konjević, Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb, Croatia



(Poster domain: <https://eigapedia.com/movie/library-wars>)

In order to protect its citizens from disreputable and harmful literature, the Government undertook measures like censorship and confiscation of unsuitable books. To ensure the survival of physical copies of banned books, as well as freedom to choose literature, book lovers established elite unit LDF (Library Defense Force) and the war for Libraries and books began.

Fortunately this is not reality, but synopsis of the Japanese movie “Library Wars” (Toshokan Sensō). The movie is based on light novel series with the same name written by Hiro Arikawa. It is interesting that the story was inspired by *Statement on Intellectual Freedom in Libraries* of the Japan Library Association. There were four original novels and they were quite popular in Japan. More than million copies were sold. And that's not all folks: there was comic book adaptation (manga), radio show, animated TV series, animated movie and the movie presented here. So, the librarians and the books are not forgotten yet.

**EURASLIC Executive Board**  
**15 May 2013 – 15 May 2015**

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