

NEWSLETTER

European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centres

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members,

Looking at the contributions that have been sent in for this Newsletter, I can only be very happy. The number of articles and the variety of topics are steadily increasing, and this shows the appreciation of many of our members for the Euraslic association as the best platform for information exchange with colleagues from all over Europe. So a warm thank you goes to all authors and contributors for this issue, to the Croatian co-editors and to our tireless Editor and Secretary, Snejina Bacheva!

Between the highly successful Euraslic Conference at Split (you will find an extended report inside this newsletter) and the Iamslic Conference in Rome (October 2005) a lot of discussion has taken place on the Euraslic forum (to be found at www.euraslic.org) on new ways of cooperation with our sister organisation Iamslic. Although these discussions are not concluded yet, I have seen many positive signs that give me much confidence for the future cooperation between Euraslic and Iamslic, and I will report on this issue in the coming weeks after consultation with the Euraslic Board. However, I'd like to thank the numerous Euraslic members who have already contributed to the discussions on this forum. Although the technical disadvantages of a forum are sometimes contraproductive, I still see a very broad Euraslic audience using this medium, not only for discussions but also for sharing resources and information with their colleagues. This was, is and will remain one of the most important tasks for our association: sharing our knowledge and expertise with our colleagues, and support them where we can.

Very soon now you will also receive your membership renewal form. I hope (and I am sure) you will not hesitate to join us for another year, and that you will appreciate the support, information and resource sharing, and will also take initiatives in supporting our colleagues in-need in 2006 again! Let's all add another year of success for the largest regionally-focused community of aquatic information specialists we know!

Jan HASPESLAGH



Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, Split

Recognising the contribution of Euraslic members

Euraslic comprises a network of individuals working together for the collective good. The most important inputs for a network such as Euraslic are the support it receives from its members, not only from officers and members serving on the Board, but also from individual members in many countries who have devoted substantial amounts of time, effort and resources to ensure the continued progress of the Association. Whilst every member of Euraslic is of equal importance to the Association, it is also important to recognise those individuals who, over an extended number of years, have worked for the benefit of us all. Three such individuals have been recognised this year by being awarded Honorary Membership.

David Moulder was a founding member of Euraslic and served as President from 1992 to 1996. David nursed the Association through its formative years playing a crucial role in organising many of the early Conferences as well as in the production of the first three versions of the Euraslic Directory of European Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centres. He worked tirelessly for many years in support of our activities and only took a back seat after moving to work at the World Maritime University (WMC) in Malmo, Sweden. He continued to provide support and advice until he retired from his post at WMC in early 2005.

Momzikoff of the Institut Nicole océanographique, Paris, was a founding member of Euraslic. She was responsible for engaging our large group of French members, hosting and organising the second Euraslic Conference in Paris, and establishing Euraslic as a legal organisation registered in France. She has served the Association on the Board for extensive periods both as Members' Representative and as Treasurer, and has continued to provide advice and represent the views of our large French contingent, quite vociferously at times. Nicole is always threatening to retire, and I am sure that will happen some time in the not too distant

future, but I am also sure she will continue to be a valuable source of advice about our activities for many years to come.

Michelle L'Excellent, formerly of the français recherche Institut de l'exploitation de la mer (IFREMER), Nantes, has been a long-serving and loyal member of Euraslic, admirably fulfilling the role of Treasurer from 2000-2004. She has shown a dedication to our Association well beyond the call of duty by continuing in that position for nearly 18 months into her official retirement, to complete the somewhat onerous task of reorganising our accounting system. remains on hand to provide advice and support to our new Treasurer when needed.

David, Nicole and Michelle, join Allen Varley and Henryk Ganowiak as Honorary Members of our Association.

Joan VARLEY

After Split: some thoughts

Dear colleagues,



We were about 50 attendants to be received at the Hotel Marjan in Split, which is a very large number, and we are

very happy for that. I want to especially mention here that our Croatian organizing team have done a splendid and excellent job! For months in advance, and throughout the whole week, they have been working behind the scene, but also at the front where needed, and I can only repeat the numerous remarks that I have heard from so many participants: " This conference is so well organized"!! So: once again our congratulations to the wonderful team! Thank vou: Alen. Jadranka, Marina, Milica, Mirjana and **Sofija!** Of course the two hosting institutes deserve a special mentioning. The Rudjer Boskovic Institute, Zagreb and the Institute

of Oceanography and Fisheries, Split have been so kind and generous in supporting this conference and in enabling their staff to organize this whole meeting. The Euraslic Association really sees this as a sign of appreciation for the work of librarians and their importance within scientific institutes. I will also.(together with all the participants, I'm sure!) keep a very special memory of our visits to the Library of the Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries!! This must be one of the most beautiful and ideally located marine libraries in the world, a working place to be jealous of! I would also like to thank all contributors to this meeting, who presented keynote and other papers, presided and participated in workshops, presented country and institutional reports, and submitted posters. The content of all these contributions was very varied and interesting, and I think that there was "something for everyone's taste and interest". The quality of it all was outstanding, and it showed again that our profession is a very challenging one and in constant evolution. The networking and support provided by Euraslic plays a key role in the professional development of many of our colleagues, and our meeting in Split has provided 'fresh oxygen' that we all can use to motivate ourselves again for the coming years. I also want to acknowledge the continuing interest of international organisations in our activities by sending two representatives to our meeting, Mr José Luis Garnica Carreño for FAO, and Mr Richard Pepe, editor-in-chief of ASFA. We have a lot of mutual topics and issues with FAO and ASFA, and I'm glad for the excellent level of cooperation between Euraslic members and FAO and ASFA. I also thank our sponsors for this conference, who have been generous in financial and in-kind contributions, very much needed to lift our conferences to a professional level. Special thanks go to the local sponsors and to the city of Split who provided a professional guide to us for the very interesting city tour we enjoyed! There were appreciated commercial also presentations that gave us a look into some interesting solutions for information management provided by the private sector. We hope that many of us can continue to benefit of an efficient and hopefully affordable cooperation with our information

management colleagues from the private sector. There was also a representation of Iamslic (a thank you goes to the Iamslic Board for funding this representation) at our conference, and we have been able to discuss a number of important issues in the Euraslic-Iamslic relationships. I am particularly pleased to say that, here also, we have made some fundamental progress, especially on the topic of the combined Euraslic-Iamslic



membership. In the coming period, the Euraslic Board will discuss a proposal, jointly made by Euraslic and

Iamslic, to review this combined membership and to simplify the different memberships existing in both organizations. The eventual result of this will have to be that all Euraslic members can enjoy the benefits and services of Euraslic AND Iamslic through one single membership. Of course, the Euraslic Board will have to safeguard the independent status of our organization, and we will take no action at all that would lead to dependency from other organizations. The Euraslic Board will also keep the members informed of all evolutions in this issue and discussion.



During the workshops several of our projects have been reviewed and discussed. We have been able to make

substantial progress with several projects and project-related issues, and I am very hopeful that results will follow shortly. Possibly, some of our projects will be embedded in a larger initiative of establishing a European Oceanographic and Information Data Network (in conjunction with the IOC – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission), but it is at present too early to predict the outcome of this initiative.

Especially for those among you who were unable to attend this meeting, but also for the participants, we will work hard to publish the Proceedings of this conference as soon as possible. Besides a paper version, published in Split, we will also provide these proceedings on line at the Euraslic website. Conclusion: This was a great 11th Euraslic Conference... and now for the 12th Conference in 2007...most probably in Ukraine!

Jan HASPESLAGH

LIBRARY OF THE CROATIAN HYDROGRAPHIC INSTITUTE

Vesna TOMIĆ Hydrographic Institute of Croatia



Most maritime countries have established a national hydrographic service with the primary task of

surveying and charting their sea to ensure safe navigation, help to safeguard life and property at sea, and facilitate the protection of marine environment. In some countries the hydrographic service is part of the national navy and in others, as in Croatia, it is a government institution within its appropriate ministry.

Origins of today's Hydrographic Institute of Croatia can be traced back to the year 1860 when the Austrian navy founded a hydrographic office in Trieste. Several years later the Office was moved to Pula, and in the years to come it changed locations a number of times, from Pula to Tivat, Dubrovnik, Split, Hvar and Vis, to finally establish premises in Split in 1944.



According to archival documents, the library of the Hydrographic Institute has been functioning since 1947. It is not certain

whether the Office in Trieste had a library, but there is no doubt that on its later locations the Institute kept at least its own editions of charts and nautical publications, and possibly collected other library items. From the very beginning of its founding it was a scientific library intended for the needs of the navy. Today, the library of the Hydrographic Institute is a special scientific library, a repository of valuable information in the field of marine sciences, whose holdings comprise about 8000 books and periodicals. The library collections cover the fields of oceanography, marine geology, marine geophysics, marine meteorology, hydrographic chemistry. surveying, cartography, shipping, nautical science and navigation. In addition to serving the staff of the Institute, the library is also available to the scientists in related institutions, as well as to the teaching staff and students of maritime faculties and nautical schools.



Over the years, library holdings were supplied by purchasing from eminent foreign publishing houses, because hydrographic, oceanographic and cartographic research, data analysis, reproduction and printing required scientific

and technical literature for experts in different subjects of study. Another very important source of supplying the library collections is an exchange of all printed material with the hydrographic institutes and related institutions from all over the world.

The library has an alphabetical card catalogue and provides open access to shelves, which are arranged by subject. In order to facilitate and promote access to library resources, special efforts are being made toward developing computerised catalogues and making them available on the Web.

The collections are particularly strong on oceanographic literature, chiefly in English language, but there are also items in Italian, French and Russian.

In addition to Institute's own editions of nautical publications and navigational manuals, the library holdings also include editions of numerous hydrographic institutes worldwide, received on exchange basis, in different languages: Sailing Directions and Pilots covering different oceans and seas, Tide Tables, Lists of Lights, Nautical Almanacs, Annual Reports, and other nautical Another important segment of library collections, certainly one of a kind in Croatia,

are editions of the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO). Croatia is one of 78 Member States of the IHO, represented by its Hydrographic Institute, which takes an active part in the work of the Organisation, regularly receives its publications and keeps them in the library holdings.

Importance of this library lies not only in valuable items, but also in its coverage arising from the primary purpose to serve marine navigation and shipping, thus embracing different maritime countries and diverse languages, as well as their achievements in different branches of science for the purpose of hydrography.



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Introduction

An e-print archive is a collection of digital research documents such as articles, book chapters, conference papers, data sets etc. Eprints are the digital texts of peer-reviewed research articles, before and after refereeing. Before refereeing and publication, the draft is called a "preprint". The refereed, accepted, final draft is called a "postprint". The term eprints include both preprints and postprints¹. According to principles of collecting documents now there are two basic groups: Institutional and Subject archives. Institutional based archives collect published or non-published scientific production of only institution. Subject based one everything done in one area of science. In both types focus is on collecting documents (papers) published in peer-reviewed journals but big impact also lies on other types of documents thus open archives also collect: conference papers and proceedings, conference posters and presentation, books, books' chapters, thesis.

Now days, number of institutional open archives largely exceeds number of subject ones but there are disciplines/areas of work that, because of specific communication among themselves, still need subject archive

more than institutional ones. Librarianship and information science is such an area.

E-LIS in general

From 2003, when it has been founded, E-LIS has grown into the largest LIS archive in the counting world around 3000 records (documents) with 36 countries involved, from all around the world (October 2005). It is the first international archive in LIS, formed as a result of projects RCLIS (Research in Computing, Library and Information Science) and DOIS (Documents in Information and has partners similar Science) in organizations around the world.

"E-LIS is an open access archive for scientific or technical documents, published or unpublished, on librarianship, information science and technology, and related areas. It relies on the voluntary work of individuals from a wide range of backgrounds and is noncommercial. It is not a funded project of an organization. It is community-owned and community-driven. E-LIS serves researchers by facilitating their self-archiving, ensuring the long-term preservation of their documents and by providing word-wide easy their papers." access to (http://eprints.rclis.org)

E-LIS is divided into three sections: administrative, editorial and technical. Administrative section deals with strategic issues including the future direction of the initiative, its policies and their impact on the user community, and its connection with other scientific communities. The editorial section is devoted to metadata quality and guidelines. The technical section concentrates on software - its implementation, enhancement,

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http://www.eprints.org/openaccess/self-fag/#OAI

development, added-value functionality, and its operation within the OAI framework². E-LIS embraces Open Archive Initiative protocols and standards – it is OAI compliant. Thus, the content of the archive could be harvested and searched by any service or search engine that follows the same principle and set of rules. This makes E-LIS content, and LIS research in general, more visible and accessible, which increases its status and value.

Depositing

Authors can self-archive their works if they are subscribed to E-LIS service. Contribution policy is very simple, any language and almost any format are accepted but the use of PDF and HTML is recommended. Submitted documents are then placed into a submission buffer where they wait for a final approval from an editor who can: transfer the document into database and make it public and freely accessible: return the document to depositor for corrections; reject it if it doesn't fulfill basic criteria: relevance and competency. This is done on daily basis. Although it is possible to deposit works in any language, abstract and keywords in English are obligatory as well. Archive accepts any scientific or technical document that is finished and ready to enter a process scholarly communication. Documents accepted can be preprint (version prior to publications) and post print (after the publication) articles, books, books' chapters, conference papers and proceedings, conference presentations and posters, thesis, guides, tutorials, manuals, working papers, datasets, syllabus, newspaper articles etc. Archive uses JITA classification scheme, two level scheme for simple yet effective categorization.

Copyright

Authors are responsible for confirming that there are no restrictions on the electronic distribution of the submitted document. Copyright policy varies from publisher to

² De Robbio, Antonella and Subirats Coll, Imma (2005) E-LIS: an international open archive towards building open digital libraries. *High Energy Physics Libraries Webzine*(11/2005).

http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00004476/

publisher and authors should check whether there are any restraints for submitting the document. E-LIS has agreements with certain publishers and institutions providing authors to freely deposit their documents without worrying about legal matters.

Usage

End user accesses E-LIS content via interface on web page http://eprints.rclis.org. Archive offers variety of services:

- Search through metadata and full text
- Browse by author, editor, journal, book, subject, country, year, latest addition
- RSS feed last 20 items are displayed
- Email alerts

Search - basic, simple and advanced Anyone can access E-LIS and its content since it is freely available - it is open.

Conclusion

Numbers and statistics clearly show usage of E-LIS, whether by authors for depositing or by end-users for reading. But more to this, it is a fast changing environment librarians and information specialist face every day that makes this kind of subject based archive important. Both users and us benefit and that is why fast and efficient service like E-LIS is valuable and needed. You are welcome to participate.

ON THE WEB

The French group «Omer» which is a national network of 80 libraries and documentation centres specialised in marine and aquatic sciences launched a website in July 2005:

http://www.obs-banyuls.fr/biblio/Omer

It provides access to information on the group and includes links to the proceedings of the last 3 annual meetings and the Directory of member libraries (only in French at the moment).

Marie-Thérèse PANOUSE

Tool for search information on coastal research vessels



Taking into account importance the of marine coastal research, EurOcean has developed an interactive map for easy access

to information on the coastal research vessels operating in the European seas. This friendly interface intends to provide a quickly search of information by homeport, by country and by maritime areas.

http://www.eurocean.org/contents.php?id=36
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Database of the European Organisations with Activities on Marine Research, Technology and Development

The EurOcean Office has completed a preliminary inventory of European

organisations involved in marine research, technology and development. Three main categories have been identified: 1) European organisations mainly dedicated to marine research, technology and development; 2) institutions, agencies and services of the European Union with activities in maritime affairs; 3) other maritime organisations. Each identified organisation includes a short description of its main activities, the address of the related website and an email address to get more information.

http://www.eurocean.org/contents.php?id=36

IOC-XXIII adopts programme and budget for 2006-2007

The IOC Assembly, during its twenty third Session (21-30 June 2005) adopted the programme and budget of the Commission for the biennium 2006-2007. It adopted Resolution XXIII-16:

http://ioc3.unesco.org/iode/contents.php?id=3 50

IODE/EURASLIC workshop on the Oceanographic Data and Information Network (ODIN) for ECET countries initiative was held in the IODE Project Office in Oostende, Belgium 27-28 October 2005.

Maria Kalenchits from Estonia, Olga Akimova from Ukraine, Ludmila Kulagina from Russia, and Jan Haspeslagh from Belgium have discussed the establishment of an ODIN network in Eastern Europe as well as further development of the ongoing project "Union List of Serials available at the EURASLIC ECET Group Aquatic Libraries" in the framework of the ODIN Europe for ECET project.

A list of the proposed activities for the first stage of the project was discussed in detail by the participants. Next planned actions for the 2006 include the kick-off meeting where the project proposal will be finalized as well as a training course for the aquatic librarians from Russia and Ukraine at the IODE Project Office. Regarding the "Union List of Serials" it was decided to make the part of the database containing the national serials available *on-line* from the EURASLIC website at the beginning of 2006. The ILL request option will be added to the database.

All the interested librarians from the ECET countries are invited to join the initiative group of the ODIN Europe project. Maria Kalenchits (maria.kalentshits@ut.ee) has agreed to coordinate the project.

NEWS from France, Germany and Russia:



In Cherbourg, France from October 10th to 16th a Fête de la science is

organised to promote the scientific studies and learning. Three scientists of our institute (Institut national des sciences et techniques de la mer/Cnam) are going to take part in the event. Natacha JEAN and Isabelle POIRIER have already prepared



an experiment with micro-organisms. Emmanuel POIZOT will participate in a forum on 'Spatial measurement in oceanographical studies'. These meetings will be organized in the old Transatlantic Terminal building.

Maguy GUARY

KDM - The German Marine Research Consortium is an association of universities and non-university research institutes in the field of marine sciences. It was formally founded in March 2004 to conduct, research planning, strategic research management, infrastructure management and public relations. KDM currently has ten member institutions: Alfred-Wegener-Institute of Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven (AWI); DFG - Research Center of Continental Margins, University of Bremen (RCOM); Center of Marine Tropical Ecology, Bremen (ZMT); Center Marine and Climate Research, University of Hamburg (ZMK); GKSS Research Center Geesthacht Institute of Marine Chemistry and Biology, University of Oldenburg (ICBM); International University of Bremen (IUB); Leibniz Institute of Baltic Research, Warnmünde (IOW); Leibniz Institute of Marine Sciences, Kiel (IFM-GEOMAR) and Max-Planck-Institute of Marine Microbiology, Bremen. KDM associate members are: Bundesanstalt für Geowissenschaften und Rohstoffe, Hannover (BGR); Ifremer, France and Southampton Oceanographic Centre (SOC).

Barbara SCHMIDT

XIII Conference on Fishery Oceanology Svetlogorsk, Kaliningrad region, Russia, 12-17 of September, 2005



The Conference was attended by participants from Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine. The conference programme included 125 reports and posters. The most important results of environmental and biological investigations in the Russian seas, Atlantic and Pacific Oceans were presented. Monitoring and forecast of multiscale variability of

meteorological and oceanographic conditions in fishing grounds, estimation of ecological conditions, ocean remote sensing and modern information technologies in fishery researches were considered.

The Conference Proceedings have been published by AtlantNIRO in printed and electronic formats. For more information about the Conference please visit: http://www.atlantniro.ru or contact Tchernyshkov Pavel Petrovich: pthern@atlant.baltnet.ru.

Ludmila KOVAL



DOCUMENTATION SCIENCES FOUNDATION

INVITATION TO EURASLIC Madrid, October 20, 2005

On behalf of the Documentation Science Foundation I address you a message of salutation. Those involved in the Aquatic sciences information generally agree that scientists and librarians contacts are to be encouraged. To share their points of view give credence to the idea of an european infrastructure for the marine and fisheries information.

The questions on how available is the information, what costs and storage conditions could be shared, on which are the information officers implications, on free of charges information sets distribution, are all professional contents.

The Documentation Science Foundation has founded a conference on Life Sciences Information (TICvida '05), with a prominent number of scientists and librarians as contributors coming from both America and Spain. It is why I wish to both:

- To propose you all the celebration of a "e-Congress on Aquatic Sciences Information", using for that reason the e-platform of the Foundation;
- To express a requirement on topics in order to define the major subject topics to afford with along the sessions.

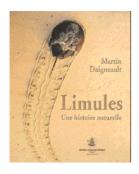
This invitation would be eventually also addressed to the "IAMSLIC Latinoamerican Group", if you agree. As the Documentation Science Foundation policy is well supported by several educational and research institutions we can afford in the future with a financial support to an eventual research project prepared after the works of this e-Congress.

My very best regards!!

José Raúl Vaquero Pulido Presidente Fundación Ciencias de la Documentación Protectorado - Ministerio de Cultura Español http://www.documentalistas.org/

Submitted by Enrique-Wulff BARREIRO

PUBLICATIONS



Limules/Horseshoe crabs (Limulus)

Emerging directly from prehistory, when the mammals themselves were no more than a probability amongst the designs of Providence,

the horseshoe crab has pursued for 500 million years a simple but efficient survival strategy: near perpetual burial. With a single exception. Once a year, under a full moon and at the biggest tides, the animal drags itself out of the sediments of the sea bed to rejoin the sandy shores of North America and Asia.

Neither spider nor crab, a mysterious animal that does not fit into any of the familiar animal groups, it was the horseshoe crab that inspired the artist H.R. Giger in 1978 to create his mythical creature *Alien*.

Martin Daigneault is a Canadian oceanographer who studied in France, obtaining his doctorate at the School of Mines (EMSE). Specialising in shore dynamics, he has been fascinated since childhood by these strange animals and their close relations with Man. His passion for photography linked to the curiosity and wonderment of the old naturalists, has produced a most readable and very artistic book for the general public. In French.

Éditions de l'Institut océanographique ISBN 2-903581-36-3 21 x 27 cm, 120 pages, 30 euros

Marées noires et environnement Oil spills and the environment

Catherine Bastien Ventura, Michel Girin & Judith Raoul-uval



The wreck of the *Erika* in December 1999 led to an unprecedented oil spill.

Setting up a governmental programme to follow the ecological consequences of this oil spill revealed the need for a reference base in French in this area. This book provides a comparative analysis of the ecological consequences of 17 oil spills that took place worldwide over the past 35 years. One of its aims is to enable information to be obtained about the different strategies utilised to cope with these events, and to compare their consequences upon the different ecosystems involved. Part of this synthesis is especially concerned with the evaluation of the economic costs of the environmental damage.

The book is designed for administrators, for all the public and private parties involved needing better to understand the impact of black tides; their ecosystem consequences; how to evaluate the economic damage they cause; and the best cleaning and restoration strategies. It should equally interest students of ecologial and environmental sciences.

Éditions de l'Institut océanographique, collection « Propos » ISBN 2-903581-37-1 17,5 x 24,5 cm, 410 pages, 38 euros

Published with the financial assistance of the French ministère de l'Écologie et du Développement durable (ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development) and with the collaboration of the Centre de documentation, de recherche et d'expérimentations sur les pollutions accidentelles des eaux (Brest).

Submitted by Nicole MOMZIKOFF

UPCOMING EVENTS

take place in Ukraine in the beginning of May 2007

The host institution for the next EURASLIC



meeting is the Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas. The conference will take place at the *Karadag*

Biological Station. The director of the Station Dr. Alla Morozova officially confirmed to co-host our conference.

Karadag National Reserve is a unique place

on the Black Sea coast in the Crimean Peninsula. We will convene right next to the beautiful volcanic Karadag mountain. The Organizing Committee will send out more information soon. Reserve these weeks in your agenda now!



Olga AKIMOVA Head of Library Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas



http://www.elpub.net/

Welcome to ELPUB 2006

It is a pleasure to invite you to ELPUB 2006, the 10th International Conference on Electronic Publishing, focusing on challenges for the digital spectrum, organised by the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria, 14-16 June 2006.

Three distinguished features of this conference are: broad scope of topics which creates a unique atmosphere of active exchange and learning about various aspects of electronic publishing; combination of general and technical tracks; and a condensed procedure of submission, revision and publication of proceedings which guarantees presentations of most recent work.

Specialists from Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYROM, Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia and Montenegro, and Ukraine who are interested to attend the conference are encouraged to send a note to Milena Dobreva dobreva@math.bas.bg. The conference is applying for grants for participants from the listed countries.

This 10th ELPUB conference will keep the tradition of the nine previous international conferences on electronic publishing, held in the United Kingdom (in 1997 and 2001), Hungary (1998), Sweden (1999), Russia (2000), the Czech Republic (2002), Portugal (2003), Brazil (2004) and Belgium (2005), which is to bring together researchers, lecturers, librarians, developers, businessmen, entrepreneurs, managers, users and all those interested on issues regarding electronic publishing in widely differing contexts. These include the human, cultural, economic, social, technological, legal, commercial and other relevant aspects that such an exciting theme encompasses.

ELPUB 2006 offers a variety of activities, such as workshops, tutorials, panel debates etc.:

- The communication of scientific papers specially prepared for the conference; all papers are to be peer-reviewed by the international ELPUB Programme Committee;
- · Workshops and tutorials that aim to provide opportunity for attendants to update themselves in topics of high interest within this community of experts;
- Plenary sessions that aim to summarise the main ideas presented and discussed during the presentation of the conference papers;
- Panel debates on selected topics; possible topics include news item publishing or new methods, including Open Access for publishing scientific literature;
- Demonstration sessions and presentation of posters.