

Word from the President

Dear EURASLIC members,

2019, in addition to being a rainy year, was also a very active one. The 18th EURASLIC conference was held in Zagreb, Croatia, organized by Centre for Scientific Information of the Ruđer Bošković Institute. We were very honored by the presence of Jeanine Scaramozzino, IAMSILIC president and Kristen LaBonte, IAMSILIC treasurer at the conference. Many thanks to Maria Kalentsits for holding ASFA workshop and Katerina Kulakova for organizing the post conference OcenDocs workshop, which wouldn't be possible without the support of IODE and Mr. Peter Pissierssens.

During the Conference a new Executive Board was elected. I would like to welcome Kathrin Brannemann and Olga Kopytova as new members of the Board and to thank Olivia Diehr for serving to the previous Board. I also want to thank Olga Akimova for being ECET representative for many years, Marina Mayer for accepting the duty of Executive Secretary and Bart Goosens for his presidency in the past four years. Many thanks to the Nominating Committee: Olga Kopytova (chair), Stephanie Ronan and Natalja Kondratjeva for their work and to Steve Watkins for setting up the ballots. My gratitude goes to all members of the EURASLIC Executive Board and EURASLIC Members that participate in the IAMSILIC committees and activities for their commitment and also to the editors and contributors to this Newsletter.

My cordial welcome to Aleksei Baiandin, Tatiana Kukhoronok and Iaroslavna Grabowska as the new members of the EURASLIC family. And to some members – I wish them to enjoy their parenthood!

As well as the rain didn't stop the participants to enjoy the EURASLIC conference, some of them were not even afraid of hurricanes and went to Texas. Considering that Texas is not so close to Europe, it seems that EURASLIC was well presented at 45th IAMSILIC Annual Conference. I would like to give special thanks to Kathrin Brannemann and Olga Kopytova for representing EURASLIC at 45th IAMSILIC Annual Conference.

We have recently heard about the tragic event caused by the fire at the Troyitska Street in Odessa that caught Institute of Marine Biology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, including the Library. Besides the huge material damage, unfortunately, there were also human victims. We share our sympathies with our colleagues and wish them to recover as soon as possible.

The end of the year is time for membership renewal and I invite you to join us for another year or even longer.

It is my great pleasure to announce the next **19th EURASLIC Conference** that will be held in **Bremerhaven, Germany, 12-17 September 2021** jointly with 47th IAMSILIC Conference.

Thank you all and wishing you Happy Holidays and all the best in 2020!
Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sofija Konjević
EURASLIC President

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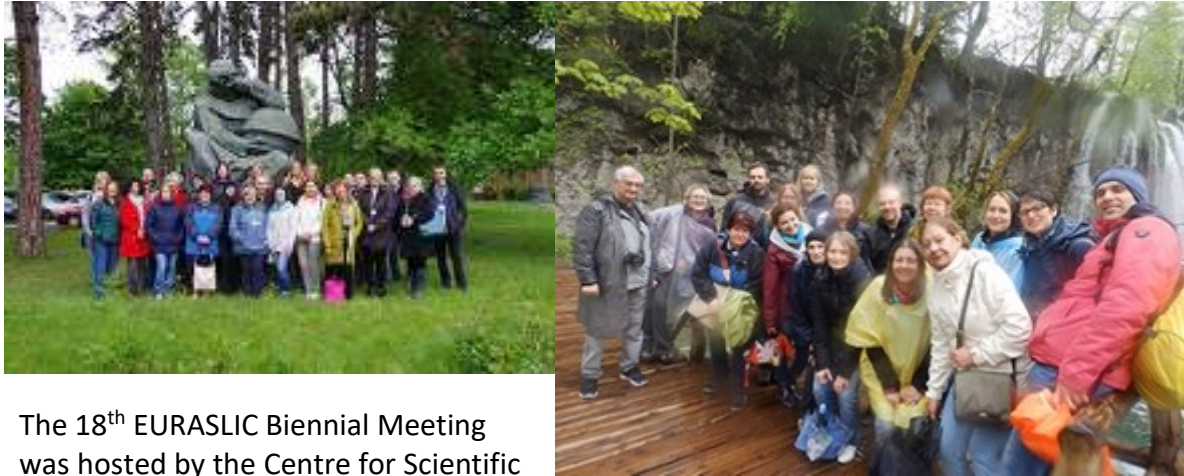
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18th Biennial EURASLIC Meeting, Zagreb, Croatia

Bart Goosens

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The 18th EURASLIC Biennial Meeting was hosted by the Centre for Scientific Information of the Ruđer Bošković Institute in Zagreb, Croatia, 6-9 May, 2019.

The conference was entitled “River of no Return: Sail or Sink”. It signifies the changing role of libraries in the information age and their ability to sail with the flow in order to maintain their presence in today's digital environment.

Most of us could not wait to see each other again after 2 years and, despite the drizzling weather, joined for a walk in Maksimir Park. After the pleasant walk, we all enjoyed the tasty snack together in the 'Choco café'.

During the conference a lot of interesting and inspiring presentations were presented on various topics like GDPR, Open Science, data management, copyright issues, new and innovative library services and activities, new publishing models, and so on. All presentations are available online and the conference proceedings were published a few months after the conference and are available on EURASLIC [web page](#) and in CSI-RBI [institutional repository](#).

Maria Kalentis gave an interesting workshop about the new developments in ASFA. This was followed by a discussion to gain ideas from the attendees and to encourage European countries to renew active participation in ASFA. The new developments are looking very promising...

A second workshop was organized by the EURASLIC and IAMSLIC presidents. This workshop presented an overview of the joint activities between EURASLIC and IAMSLIC and focused on the structure of both organizations. The goal of this workshop was to gather suggestions for new activities and projects that are relevant to both EURASLIC and IAMSLIC. A lot of suggestions were collected around the following topics: “increasing EURASLIC and IAMSLIC conference participation”, “professional development”, “maintaining and increasing

membership”, “participation in services/committees at regional groups or IAMSLIC” and ‘ideas for sponsorship”.

Two very interesting scientific presentations were given. One about the mysterious 'Dragon's Eye', a marine lake (Rogoznica Lake) located on the eastern Adriatic Coast (Croatia) with rare and specific features. The second presentation gave an overview of the functioning of “The Blue World Institute of Marine Research and Conservation”. Their dedication to securing the future of the Adriatic Sea is very encouraging.

The EURASLIC executive board and business meetings were held as well. Elections for a new executive board were closed just before the conference. The old board was discharged and the new board appointed. Sofija Konjević will be our president and Christina Schrader is re-elected as vice president. New in the board are the members representatives Kathrin Brannemann and Olga Kopytova.

We’re happy to announce that Kathrin will be the host of the next EURASLIC conference. This will be a joint meeting with IAMSLIC and will take place in Bremerhaven, Germany in 2021.

Katheryna Kulakova organized a post-conference workshop on Ocean Docs. The workshop was sponsored by IODE. It was great that many of you attended this workshop.

The hosts organized wonderful excursions and a superb conference dinner. On Monday we had the guided tour of Zagreb. The guide was very entertaining and showed us a few of the most interesting places in Zagreb.

On Tuesday evening the conference dinner was held in the very cosy restaurant Klub Književnika (Writers’ Club). On the balcony we had a fantastic view over the main square of Zagreb. The food was excellent and we had great music and some of us are really good dancers ;-).

On Thursday we had a superb trip to the Plitvice Lakes National Park. Although it was raining, we had a lovely time together. We all enjoyed the exceptional natural beauty. We finished the day and the conference with a great lunch/dinner and a last rakija, a perfect way to say dovidjenja!

Thank you Sofija and Marina and the entire conference and program committee for the most wonderful conference. Your conference has been a great success in all possible respects!



**OceanDocs workshop held in terms of the 18th Biennial Conference of
the EURASLIC “River of No Return: Sail of Sink” in Zagreb (Croatia)
8 May, 2019**

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The main outcomes of the OceanDocs workshop held in terms of the 18th Biennial Conference of the EURASLIC “River of No Return: Sail of Sink” in Zagreb (Croatia) on 8 May, 2019 are summarized. The history and current missions of the OceanDocs (OD), a thematic marine e-Repository, supported by the IOC (IODE) for a more efficient discovery and access of the research output of the scientific community members, are presented. The principal specifications for working with the DSpace platform are emphasized. Benefits of participating in this IODE project are discussed with a special interest for low-income libraries and publishing centers, which cannot afford an institutional repository (IR). Roles and responsibilities within the OceanDocs structure are analyzed taking into account different targets of its usage. Examples of the institutions’ pages are given as their own IRs, structured by the library staff but supported by the technical members of the IODE Project Office. The quality of deposited metadata and necessity to monitor the metadata control process are focused on, with the major metadata errors enlisted as a way to improve depositing and editing interrelations. As one of the possible developments of this resource, ASFA (Food Agriculture Organization, FAO) and OceanDocs (IODE) joint activities are considered as a future prospect for digitization projects funded by the ASFA Trust Fund and archived on the OD (DSpace) platform as a reliable source for submitting scientific publications in appropriate formats and for long-term archiving. Perspectives of migrating the OD and Aquatic Commons (e-repository, initiated and supported by the IAMSLIC but hosted by the IODE as well) into one merged archive system are covered.

INTRODUCTION

Data sharing and reuse under FAIR Principles [1] are the two concepts that are fast gaining ground; however, researchers remain understandably cautious about the quality and trustworthiness of data collected by others.

To move forward with the grand visions for Big Data, this suspicion has to be overcome; ways have to be found to ensure both primary and secondary data, which are stored and made available, are trustworthy.

What does “trustworthiness” mean in this context?

Trustworthiness comprises both the quality of the data and sustainable, reliable access to it. Together, both will enhance scientific reproducibility by ensuring the data are selected, collected, organized, and stored using agreed-upon, established criteria.

What are those criteria?

The European Framework for Audit and Certification proposed three levels of certification for a Trusted Digital Repository (TDR). In recent years, there have been multiple efforts to assess repositories with the objective of making repository practices and procedures transparent, and assuring that valuable digital assets are protected [2]. The major assessment areas are the same for all three levels and include:

- Organization
- Management of intellectual entities and representations

- Infrastructure
- Security

OceanDocs (OD) is supported by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) to collect, preserve and facilitate discovery and access to all research output from members of the ocean research and observation community and specifically their Ocean Data and Information Networks (ODINs). It is one of a number of complementary thematic digital marine and aquatic repositories including the Aquatic Commons, which is supported by the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC).

Within its structure, the OD includes geographically-oriented communities such as Africa, Latin America, Western Pacific etc. as well as the international organizations worldwide (GEOHAB, ICAN, POGO). Inside each community, an end-user will find subcommunities (governmental establishments and scientific institutes) and collections (deposited documents of the organizations) which resemble any Institutional Repository (IR).

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

Unlike institutes from Latin America or Africa, the European organizations in the OD structure are underrepresented due to a wide range of possibilities for each institution to set up their own institutional e-repository, taking into account both financial component and technical maintenance.

The OceanDocs Community of the Central and Eastern Europe was initiated a couple of years ago (comparing to the “whole” OD which started in 2007), when a number of libraries from Latvia, Poland, Russia and Ukraine began to upload their born-digital or OCR-digitized collections in the OD. So far, the community includes over 500 submissions, which document types range from rare books/monographs (published in the beginning of the XX century to modern serials on aquatic topics).

The OD Workshop during the EURASLIC Conference in Zagreb, Croatia (6-9 May, 2019) was sponsored by the IODE (IOC) and aimed at raising awareness of the importance to provide easy accessibility and dissemination to those publications, which cannot be deposited in their own IR due to the low income of the institutional library nor in the major archiving systems due to their falling into the “grey literature” scope. Its target was to show that libraries or information centers within the scientific institution do not need to maintain their own website to deliver the data; once deposited, management of these data is assured by the OD administration staff.

WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

The OceanDocs Workshop was attended by 20 representatives of the scientific institutions from Belgium (INBO, Brussels), Bulgaria (Institute of Oceanology, Varna), Croatia (Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb), France (National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture, Irstea), Germany (Alfred Wegener Institute), Italy (FAO, Rome), Latvia (Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment Scientific Institute, Riga), Poland (Morski Instytut Rybacki, PIB, Gdynia), Russian Federation (Kovalevsky Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas, RAS), and the US (California Polytechnic University, University of California, Santa Barbara).



Fig. 1 The OceanDocs Workshop. The 18th Biennial EURASLIC Conference, 8 May 2019

During the Workshop the participants were given a short overview of the OD history, scope and development, as well as current general missions and future perspectives. A comparatively low number of records submitted by the European organizations was discussed among the participants as well as ways to promote the OD repository among the European aquatic community.

OCEANDOCs BENEFITS

Some of the major benefits for depositors were emphasized down the line, for example, the most frequent situation when researchers move to another institution, they would like to be able to easily obtain their data, knowing that its integrity is secured. IODE's world-class provenance lets depositors and end-users know that they are getting authentic research data outputs from the OceanDocs repository. A big advantage of depositing the data is that they will be preserved, even for your own future use.

What makes users more likely to use publications they find in the OD e-Repository? Hopefully the careful guidance which is given to depositors about how to make their output usable, the quality checks done upon submission, as well as the rule that every data item must include some human-readable documentation, reaffirms the commitment of administrators and reassures users that they are accessing and using quality data.

The data submission process creates a PID (Persistent Identifier) (Handle System), so that the research work can be accessed and formally attributed when re-analyzed by others.

The data will be discoverable through Google and other search engines to maximize visibility and impact. The service can provide all the stakeholders with usage statistics so they know the number of times the publication has been downloaded.

Research Councils are nowadays under pressure to get the most value out of publicly funded research. Increasingly they are requiring data management plans at the proposal stage, indicating how the data will be managed during the life of the project and how data will be shared after publication of your results.

The OceanDocs e-Repository acts as a trusted repository for the research output. The data will be discoverable and accessible for others to use beyond the life of the research project. A permanent identifier can be recorded with a funder to ensure persistent access.

In addition, some publishers require that the data on which a publication is based is made available by the author. By depositing once, the submitter can meet all future requests by researchers wanting a copy of the data.

The Workshop group shared opinions concerning their institutions' digital collections, platforms used for launching their IRs (DSpace/EPrints), interoperability of the CRIS (Current Research Information System) with the IRs, observed standards for archiving/preservation of the documents and the costs those facilities involve. The benefits of the OD usage as an independent IR-like storage space for the low-income institutions were considered; the responsibilities and roles of depositors/editors/administrators within the OD community were outlined.

One of the evaluation exercises at the Workshop was familiarizing the participants with the OD interface through the intuitive usage of the site in order to know the end-users' opinion concerning the following parameters:

- Aesthetics
- Content
- Customization
- Navigation
- Metadata richness
- Search Results
- Help Desk / User Guides

All the feedback replies were collected and discussed in the group, which, summarized, led to the necessity to some important features to add and some improvements to consider. For example, end-users wished a more clarified user-friendly structure of the OD; there were some recommendations on the metadata detailed format style, requests for the My Profile or Export buttons etc. Such on-the-spot exercise proved to be straightforward and useful in terms of evaluation impact of the product.

Suggestions were made as for the joint efforts of the ASFA and IODE activities with the OD serving as the main (or one of the main, with the Aquatic Commons used in parallel) e-repositories for the outcomes of any collaboration work within the ASFA-IODE (from the digitization projects funded by the FAO to the new ASFA vocabulary on the VocBench).



Fig. 2 Discussion on IODE and ASFA joint activities involving the OD Project. Maria Kalentsits (in the middle) is the Editor-in-Chief of the ASFA Secretariat (FAO)

OCEANDOCS FUTURE

Since the Workshop took place in Zagreb in May 2019, there have been some significant news on the OD and Aquatic Commons future development for the last couple of months. Another venue (45th International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC) Annual Conference “Living on the Edge”), which was held in October 2019 in Port Aransas, Texas, the US, revealed the results of the survey carried on the evaluation of the business models proposed for the long-term future of the Aquatic Commons. The three proposed business models were as follows:

- 1a. Maintain Aquatic Commons as a separate repository and upgrade to eprints v3.4.
- 1b. Maintain Aquatic Commons as a separate repository but migrate to DSpace software.
2. Migrate content to the existing IODE OceanDocs repository but retain Aquatic Commons identity by having a separate DSpace community.
3. Create one new repository that is jointly managed by IAMSLIC, IODE and possibly FAO-ASFA with content merged from Aquatic Commons and OceanDocs [3].

According to the survey, it was found out that the stakeholders are greatly concerned about the future sustainability of this e-repository, and are aware that the DSpace software is gaining popularity when working with the archives. That is why Business model #3 was selected with increased collaboration between the IODE, IAMSLIC and FAO.

With those points in mind, since autumn 2019, there have been constant conversations and analyses performed by the AC Board, OD Steering Group, ASFA (FAO) on how to create a completely new e-repository, which will merge the content from the OD and Aquatic Commons and will be jointly managed by the interested parties.

So far the virtual conferences are held monthly (weekly if needed) where the representatives of all the three groups (IAMSLIC, IODE, and FAO) meet and discuss the most essential points before reaching any decision.

Such an important development for both repositories will require thorough consideration and making very careful decisions as it will concern not only rebranding of the new project and restructure of the whole system but also migrating of a bulk of information from one platform onto the other with minimum (if any) corruption and data loss. In spite of the work load to be implemented by those who are involved, both the OD and Aquatic Commons are enthusiastic to share the same future in the coming years, which inspires for more sustainable, fruitful and productive efforts within the aquatic knowledge sphere.

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45th IAMSLIC Conference

Kathrin Brannemann

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Olga Kopytova

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Crimea*

Under the motto “Living on the Edge”, 45 librarians and Information professionals gathered at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute to attend the 45th Annual Conference of IAMSLIC and the 29th Regional Meeting of SAIL from 20 to 25 October, 2019 in Port Aransas, Texas. Most of the participants came from the United States. There were four from Europe, one from Uruguay, one from Mozambique, one from Canada and two from the Philippines. Olga Kopytova and Kathrin Brannemann, both members of EURASLIC Executive Board, represented EURASLIC at the conference and attended all IAMSLIC Business and Executive Meetings.

Subthemes of the conference were:

- Valuing of Libraries
- Best Practices in Aquatic and Marine Libraries and Information Centers
- Media and Information Literacy
- Fake News, Misinformation, Trolls, Historical Revisionism
- Ocean Literacy
- Climate Change and Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries
- Strategies for Providing Access to Information
- Preservation of Aquatic Marine Information to ensure Access
- Serving Millennial Users
- Disaster Management

During the conference Stephen Alayon took over the presidency from Jeanine Scaramozzino, who is now past president of IAMSLIC. Jaime Goldman was elected as new president elect and Angela Clarke-Hughes was elected as new junior president elect.

As a result of the Aquatic Commons Evaluation Survey it was agreed that merging of Aquatic Commons and OcenDocs repositories could be a possible solution for their future existence. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) was approved to continue and advance future cooperation between ASFA and IAMSLIC as well as between IAMSLIC and IODE. IAMSLIC is considering a total re-launch and migration of its website. Jaime Goldman presented the software Wild Apricot Membership, that can be used also for membership database and for payment transfers having in mind that the contract with RegOnline ends at 31 December, 2019.

The opening reception was held on the beach, and the participants will remember the evening with the sincere atmosphere. They enjoyed the amazingly delicious Texas food and participated at the outings that were organized perfectly. The visit to Harte Research Institute was a great opportunity to listen to key speakers and to learn about the so called marine snow (shower of mostly organic detritus that slowly drift to the seafloor) and about the sharks in the Gulf of Mexico. The banquet dinner allowed the participants to prove themselves in Texas dances.

The next 46th IAMSLIC Conference jointly with the PIRG Meeting will be held in Wellington, New Zealand, 11-15 October, 2020. The joint **47th IAMSLIC and 19th EURASLIC conference**

will take place in **Bremerhaven, Germany, 12 -17 September, 2021**. Conference hosts will be AWI and ZMT.

ASFA Update

<http://www.fao.org/fishery/asfa/en>

Maria Kalentsits

ASFA Secretariat, FAO, Rome, Italy



Photo credit: UMT

Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) is a network of over 100 institutions around the world who monitor research and publications for inclusion on the ASFA database. With four new Partners joined ASFA during intersession, the Partnership now consists of 4 UN-collaborating Partners, 10 International Partners, 51 National ASFA Partners, 1 Publishing ASFA Partner, and more than 40 Collaborating ASFA Centres.

ASFA has entered a challenging and exiting period by implementing a number of new initiatives and moves towards adopting a new Business model by December 2021. Work is progressing on a number of areas, such as ASFA technologies (new input software; online controlled vocabulary); ASFA collaborations (partnering with FAO departments and projects as well as external collaborations); ASFA partnership (a new Publishing Agreement with increased access to ASFA for institutions in developing countries).

ASFA Partners agreed to take more responsibility for important areas of work in the form of five working groups: Software WG; Impact and Strategies WG; Vocabularies WG; ASFA Partnership Agreement WG; and ASFA 50th Year Anniversary Committee.

The major ASFA activities planned for a next two-year period (2020-2021) include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Development and implementation of the new software
2. Focus on grey literature
3. Implementation of new Associates Scheme
4. Development of new freely accessible products

5. Diversifying funding schemes through participation in FAO and non-FAO projects
6. Enhancing existing, and entering into new collaborations
7. Efforts on communication and promotion
8. Knowledge sharing
9. More efficient administration

New Partnership Model

At the ASFA Advisory Board Meeting (22-24 September 2019, UMT, Terengganu, Malaysia), ASFA Partners showed support for ASFA's future direction and plans. A number of major changes were approved by Partners, including a **new Associates Scheme** enhancing free access to ASFA products for aquatic, fisheries and aquaculture institutions that would not otherwise be able to afford access to the database. The scheme will initially run from January 1st 2020 – December 31st 2021 and foresees providing up to 200 institutions with complementary access to the online ASFA Database on ProQuest platform. In order to become an ASFA Associate, institutions must satisfy the following criteria: (1) be an aquatic sciences, fisheries or aquaculture institution which produces scientific or technical literature; (2) be willing to explore contributing to ASFA, for example this could include contributing ASFA records to the database; permitting their institutional repository to be harvested, or participating on one of ASFA's working groups; (3) complete a quarterly online survey on usage of the ASFA Database; (4) be unable to currently subscribe to the ASFA Database or fulfil the responsibilities of an ASFA Partner. Institutions will be identified by FAO with the help of National ASFA Partners. ProQuest agreement will be needed for an institution's participation in the scheme.

If interested, EURASLIC members representing small- and medium-size European aquatic and fisheries institutions, are welcome to apply to participate in the scheme and to become the ASFA Associate. If you are interested in becoming the ASFA Associate or the ASFA Partner, please contact ASFA-Secretariat@fao.org.

ASFA partners in Europe



5 UN and International ASFA Partners
(FAO, IOC, FAO/ADRIAMED, ICCAT and IUCN)

14 National ASFA Partners

- Estonia	- Portugal
- France (1 collab. centre)	- Poland (4 collab centres)
- Greece	- Russia (14 collab centres)
- Iceland	- Spain
- Ireland	- Turkey
- Italy	- Ukraine (1 collab centres)
- Norway	- UK
- ADRIAMED Collab centres in Croatia & Macedonia	

5 former National ASFA Partners

- Belgium (2015)	- Lithuania (2003)
- Bulgaria (2018)	- Sweden (2009)
- Germany (2017)	

1 former International ASFA Partner

- ICES (2016)

ASFA and IAMSLIC

ASFA has long-standing collaboration with IAMSLIC, formalized in 2005 by signing the MOU between FAO and IAMSLIC. The joint activities include but are not limited to the following: (1) utilization of the ASFA Trust Fund to pay IAMSLIC membership fees for the ASFA Partner institutions that are not able to meet the costs of yearly subscriptions for financial and/or administrative reasons – currently, 37 active subscriptions are paid through the ASFA Trust Fund; (2) ASFA partners promote and provide content to the Aquatic Commons digital repository – a number of ASFA Trust Fund digitization projects has been completed; (3) Participation by the ASFA Secretariat in the Aquatic Commons Board. ASFA is looking forward to enhanced collaboration with IAMSLIC in the years to come. [New Annex to the Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\) between IAMSLIC and FAO-ASFA](#) describing proposed joint activities for next biennium (2020-2021) is available on the IAMSLIC website.



How to join ASFA: Depending on the level of involvement you want, there are three ways to join ASFA. If you want to create records of your institution's research on the ASFA database, you can join as a Partner or Collaborating Centre (if a Partner already exists in your country). If you are unable to contribute to the database, you could join as an Associate which would enable free access to the



Want to contribute research to the database?		Want free access to the database?
↓	↓	↓
1. ASFA Partner	2. ASFA Collaborating Centre	3. ASFA Associate
If you are located in non-ASFA affiliated country you can join ASFA as a Partner. You will monitor the research in your country for ASFA, and in return you will benefit from: free access to the ASFA database; participation in the ASFA Advisory Board; eligible to bid for funding for projects from the ASFA Trust Fund; option to participate in ASFA Working Groups.	If you are located in Partner Country you can join ASFA as a collaborating centre. You will be responsible for contributing the research of your institution to ASFA and in return will receive free access to the database and the option to participate in ASFA Working Groups.	If you are unable to commit to becoming a Partner or Collaborating centre, your institution may be eligible to be an ASFA Associate. You would receive free access to the ASFA database in return for providing feedback on the database and exploring ways your institution could contribute to ASFA.
To find out more: about participating in ASFA, contact ASFA-Secretariat@fao.org		

More information on ASFA, including details of the 2019 ASFA Advisory Board Meeting and the ASFA-UMT Conference “Enabling Grey Literature Discovery Benefits Aquatic Science,

Fisheries and Aquaculture Research” (25-25 September 2019, UMT, Terengganu, Malaysia) can be found in the recent issue of the [ASFA Newsletter](#)

IFLA WLIC 2019

Sofija Konjević

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IFLA World Library and Information Congress and 85th IFLA General Conference and Assembly entitled „A Dialogue for Change“ was held in Athens, Greece, 24-30 August, 2019. The Conference took place in the Megaron Athens International Conference Centre (MAICC) that is located in the city centre, and forms an integral part of the Athens Concert Hall Organisation.

At the Opening Ceremony Alexandra Papazoglou, President of the Association of Greek Librarians and Information Scientists and Filippos Tsimpoglou, Director General of the National Library of Greece, welcomed the participants on behalf of the National Committee, and Sofia Zacharaki on behalf of the government. Glòria Pérez-Salmerón, IFLA president at the time, gave an opening speech, reflecting her own path and achievements during her presidency. Gerald Leitner, IFLA Secretary General, highlighted the results of IFLA Global Vision Initiative. The keynote speaker, Dr. Loukas Tsoukalis, gave insight into current situation of the world, and emphasized the necessity of cooperation giving importance to libraries and librarians as „guardians of the memory of the world and keepers of knowledge“.

Lykeion Ton Hellinidon (Lyceum Club of Greek Women) performed traditional Greek folk dances from different Greek regions. The performance choreographed by Sofia Spyratou depicting Greek mythology and tradition from antiquity to the present days was magnificent.



Image source: <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/ECzxngQXsAA8hMj.jpg>

IFLA WLIC 2019 gathered together more than 3300 participants from over 130 countries. Among them were a few EURASLIC members as well. Before the conference, 20 Satellite Meetings were held in Greece and neighbouring countries. Various topics on library and information science were covered by 500 speakers at over 250 open sessions, while eleven key sessions were live streamed. For some sessions simultaneous translation was provided. The topics encompassed different subjects such as intellectual freedom, publishing, bibliographies, knowledge management, digitization, data management, library buildings, special interest groups, all type of libraries and from all continents. There were also 30 lighting talks, i.e. 5 minutes talks on subjects like advocacy, governance, publishing, immigrants, innovative projects etc. Especially interesting was the session on library love stories with short talks about love among users, love among librarians or love between librarians and library users. Unlike some conferences where poster session seems neglected, for me it was the best session. About 200 posters were presented. It was lively and very dynamic. A huge crowd of people was passing by, observing posters, discussing with presenters and making connections. Also more than 80 exhibitors presented their activities. It would be negligent not to mention the wonderful cultural evening that took place at Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre, designed by the architect Renzo Piano. Both National Library of Greece and the Greek National Opera are situated there. While tasting Greek food, the participants could enjoy folk dances performed by The Lykeion ton Hellinidon, famous ethno group Estoudiantina performance and disco music for the end. IFLA Strategy 2019-2024 was launched during the conference. At the closing session honours and awards were announced. Donna Scheeder and Deborah Jacobs received honorary fellowships. Kai Ekholm and Barbara Schleihagen received IFLA medal. The poster „Every Good Adaptation is Also an Innovation“ by Donatas Kubilius, Lithuania, was chosen as the best poster. Helsinki Central Library Oodi was elected as the best public library in the world. Along with the new Governing Board, Christine Mackenzie was elected as a new IFLA president.

There are several ways to participate in an IFLA conference: regularly by paying all the fees, volunteering or by receiving one of the numerous grants. Volunteers and grant receivers are waived of conference fee at least. For the volunteers lunch is usually provided. Volunteers are helping with the conference and working in shifts, so in their free time they can attend the session of their own interest or even give a presentation or submit a poster.

The next two IFLA conferences are going to be held in Europe: Rotterdam in 2021, and Dublin in 2020. Call for Volunteers for Dublin is already announced, available at: <https://2020.ifla.org/call-for-volunteers/>. The deadline for application is 20 December 2019. The grants are yet to be announced.

References:

1. Libraries: dialogue for change opens in Athens! <https://2019.ifla.org/libraries-dialogue-for-change-opens-in-athens/> (visited 2019-11-20)
2. IFLA WLIC 2019: a dialogue for change brings the transformation of libraries <https://www.ifla.org/node/92536> (visited 2019-11-20)

Conference FORCE2019

Marina Mayer

Center for Scientific research

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This autumn I had the opportunity to attend conference FORCE2019 which took place in Edinburgh UK, 15-17 October, 2019. It was organized by initiative FORCE11 and the University of Edinburgh. [FORCE11](#) is an initiative which emerged in 2011 and it focuses on bringing change into scholarly communication through effective use of information technology. It brings together scholars, librarians, archivists, publishers and research funders. The goals of the movement are stated in [Force11 manifesto](#). This was the 5th FORCE11 annual conference and the next one will be held in San Sebastian, Spain in October 2020.

Conference has brought together more than 200 participants and presenters from different backgrounds (high education, publishing houses, libraries and information centres, various initiatives and projects connected with Open Science...) and therefore it was a very inspiring environment for networking, meeting new colleagues, planning collaborations and hearing about lots of very different topics.

First day of the conference was reserved for workshops and some of the topics were: Wikidata, ROR (Research Organization Registry – project about unique persistent identifiers for research institutions), project Metadata 2020 – project for improvement and standardization of quality of metadata.

Two days of the main conference programme offered to the participants more than 60 longer and shorter lectures, five panel discussions and more than 20 posters. The programme covered a wide range of topics and here are the most important:

- open peer review
- role of universities in using scientific data for common good projects
- new platform for open science/open research trainings and education: The Open Science MOOC
- open citations
- Wikidata, Wikimedia and other Wiki-projects
- implementation of Open Science politics and rewarding of openness of scientific work
- programming code – openness, publishing, sharing, archiving
- research data – openness, sharing, archiving
- open source software – application in science, publishing, archiving, accessibility
- scientific publishing – initiatives for Open Access, innovations in publishing
- promotion and advocating of Open Science
- persistent identifiers and related projects.

Part of the conference was also [Open Publishing Rewards](#) reception. Awards went to 11 projects from categories *Open Contents*, *Open Source Software*, *Open Publishing Models* and *Open Publishing Lifetime Contribution*.

Programme and all other details about the conference are available on web page: <https://www.force11.org/meetings/force2019> and most of the presentations are available in Zenodo: <https://zenodo.org/communities/force2019/> (some presentations are linked in the conference programme as well).

6:AM Altmetrics Conference

Sofija Konjević

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In October 8-11, I participated in the 6th Altmetrics Conference (6 AM) that was held in Stirling, Scotland, UK.

In order to evaluate research, traditional metrics is based on citation analysis, journal coverage mostly in Scopus and Web of Science databases, journal impact factor or SCImago Journal Rank. With the proliferation of social networks and many other media for promoting science, the need for alternative metrics has emerged, which is why altmetry is being introduced.

Altmetrics is a new metrics based on the Social Web for analyzing and informing scholarship (Priem et al 2010). It is web based metrics that count author or article influence monitoring social media, blogs, you tube, some Reference Management Tools and other alternative sources. Altmetric Attention Score is presented by coloured donut where each colour represents a different source of attention.

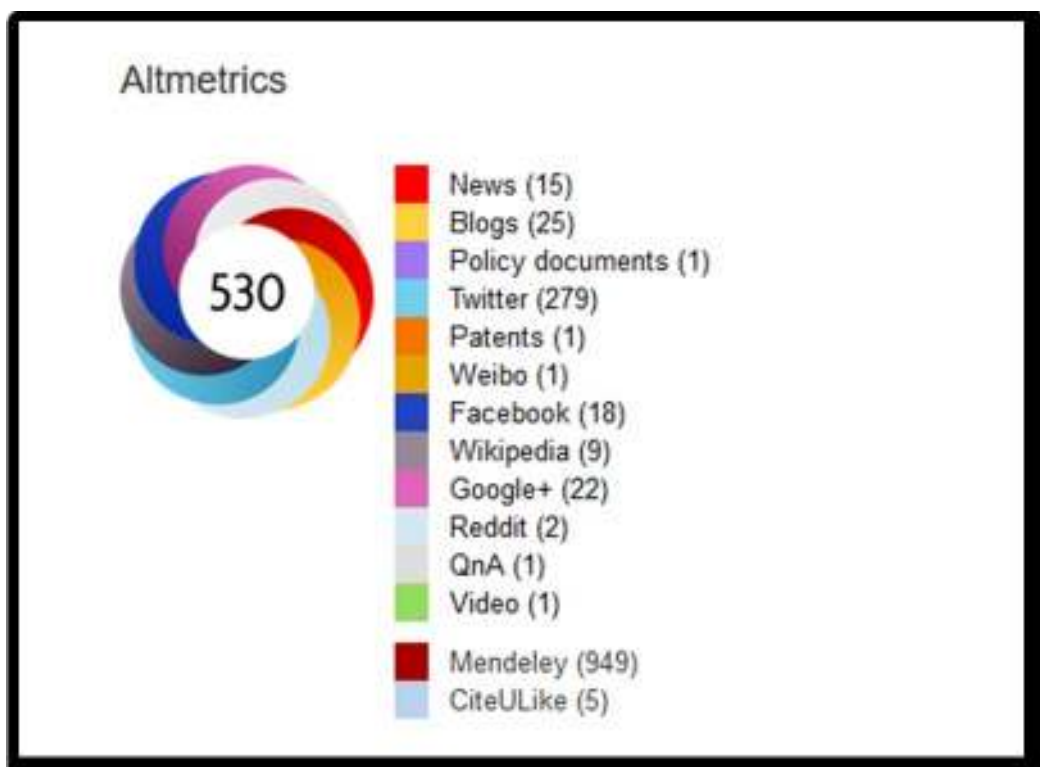


Image 1 Croatian scientific bibliography record:

Chatrchyan, S. et al. Observation of a new boson at a mass of 125 GeV with the CMS experiment at the LHC // Physics letters. B, 716 (2012), 1; 30-61 doi:10.1016/j.physletb.2012.08.02

<https://www.bib.irb.hr/673107>, Altmetric source: Altmetric.com

Actually the conference itself was just a two-day event, but there were two workshops Do-a-thon that preceded the conference and Altmetrics19 Workshop right after the conference. At Do-a-thon attendees were divided into groups and discussed on given subject with conclusions presented at the end of the workshop. Some of the attendees brought their

own research to the Altmetrics19 Workshop and presented it as requested by the organizers. Analysis of PLOS ONE papers and their Facebook appearance was given. Persistent Identifier and their presence in online citations were mentioned as well. EurekaAlert page, a combination of blog and news, was presented. A new contract between Twitter and the Altmetrics was introduced. Also the stability or instability of Twitter metrics due to deletion of previously published posts was discussed.

John Rogers welcomed the participants at the University of Stirling where the conference was held. Cat Williams (Altmetric, UK) & Hans Zijlstra (Elsevier, The Netherlands) introduced the audience into 6 AM conference. At the beginning of the conference the community remembered two members that have passed away this year, Christine Hone from Crossref and Judit Bar-Ilan, founder and editor of Journal of Altmetrics, and one of the conference organizers.

First Keynote speaker was Martin Kirk from King's College, London. He presented implementation of Altmetrics at the university in order to increase its visibility. Euan Adie (Overton) one of the Altmetrics founders gave an overview of „policy documents“ metrics, that is difficult to measure as these documents are available from different sources, can appear in various forms, which make tracking very complex. The conference gathered together representatives of various altmetrics data providers such as Altmetrics, Crossref, Cobaltmetrics, PlumX and Kudos.

Mike Taylor (Digital Science) talked about the lifecycle of research that is linear today. Funds are available for certain research, scientist apply for funding, do the research, then write articles and get citations. In his opinion, different kind of research can have different kind of impact and therefore should be measured differently. Although the research is fund driven it can be other way around and the research can stimulate the funding. A good example is the sexual harassment topic: even though it was studied before, the number of research on the topic increased after Me Too movement.

Andy Miah represented scientists as citizens, introduced Cheltenham Science Festival and stressed out that the science can be promoted through video, podcast, radio and TV, discussed in the pubs, and through various events like explaining process of falling in love through dating dinner.

Ten posters were presented at the conference introduced by Poster Lightning Talks. Topics as open science, predatory publishers, Unpaywall application, metrics of grey literature, clinical trials, and metrics at the countries of „Global South“ were addressed at the conference. Charlotte Spinner (AARP) stressed out that promotion in social media had led to higher visibility of their research. Some presentations are going to be published in the Journal of Altmetrics as articles, and some are available as video: <http://www.altmetricsconference.com/video/>.

Unlike the other conferences, at Altmetrics the attendees were sitting around round tables and for the conference dinner several restaurants were at disposal, so split in groups the participants went to a random restaurant with a random group of people. Not to forget the city of Stirling with magnificent Stirling castle and William Wallace monument.

Reference:

Priem, J., Taraborelli, D., Groth, P., Neylon, C., 2010. Altmetrics: a manifesto <http://altmetrics.org/manifesto/> (visited 2019-11-27)

Internet fraud (scam): phishing/spoofing

Sofija Konjević

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The Internet becomes indispensable part of our life providing easy and immediate access to information, it changed the education and research, the way of doing business, shopping, travelling and especially the way how we communicate and interact with each other. Although Internet has brought many positive changes it can be misused and opportunities for fraudsters are countless.

Who hasn't received an inheritance from faraway country or won the lottery he didn't even play? Some even received false sextortion emails in which extortioner claims to have some compromising photos or information and asks for money in return.



The most common type of scam is phishing. Phishing is an attempt of gathering personal information in order to deceive someone. The word represents alteration of fishing, the sender is throwing a bait hoping a victim will be hooked. Usually the fraudster sends an urgent email claiming that there are problems with the account and asking to verify personal data either by replying to the email or by following the link attached. The scammers pretend to represent bank, government or some well known company although those companies probably wouldn't ask for data by email. Also very common are emails „your mailbox is almost full“, that offer a link to click to reduce the size. Sensitive information can be obtained also by installing Trojan via email. Besides installing antivirus protection, everybody has to be cautious in opening emails from unknown sender or following links to suspicious sites.

Phishing was present from mid-nineties, so people became familiar with it and many can recognize it easily. So, scammers became more sophisticated and try to obtain financial gain by spoofing. It is also a way of phishing. *Spoof* stands for mocking imitation of someone or something.¹ The sender sends an email faking the real email address of the person he is pretending to be. That way the email bypasses the spam filters and for the receiver the address seems correct, so it looks less suspicious. Besides email spoofing, there are Website spoofing when the web page is fake and there are many other spoofing methods. The email

spoofing works in a way that sender pretends to be someone else, the email address looks correct and the language used is more familiar. Usually first mail is not that suspicious as it contains some introductory request, but if you answer, then the following mail asks for some transfer of money due to an urgent issue with a promise to reimburse it later or something similar.

Examples of spoofing emails:

From: Sofija Konjevic [mailto:sofija@irb.hr]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2019 5:36 PM
To:
Subject: EURASLIC Logistics Services Payment

Dear ,

Are you in office or away on travel?

Please confirm back as soon as you can.

I need your assistance for an urgent EURASLIC logistics Service payment.

Look forward to your reply if you can assist.

Best wishes
Sofija.

Thank you for your email reply.

Sorry to be a bother at this time but we have an urgent transfer of 2,987 euros logistics services payment, unfortunately our Secretary is unavailable to process the transfer.

I am currently out of town working on a project with no access to make the transfer as my card reader is back in the office.

Can you personally assist in making the transfer while we reimburse you back the amount next week when I am back to Croatia. Please confirm if you can assist with making the transfer on behalf of EURASLIC and I will have the details forwarded to you.

I look forward to your reply.

With regards
Sofija.

In combination with spear phishing where the fraudsters study hierarchical structure of an organization targeting employees by sending emails as someone in higher position, it can have devastating effect. Many officials transferred a large sum of money producing a huge loss to the companies. The Austrian aerospace parts maker FACC lost almost 50 million euros that way.ⁱⁱ

So, what should you do if you receive such a mail? First check the reply address, it usually is not the same as the sender's email, e.g. sender: sofija (at) irb.hr, Reply to: president.association002@gmail.com. If the mail seems suspicious it is a good way to ask directly the sender if he/she is somewhere nearby or to contact him/her by some alternative channel (another email address, chat or a phone call). It is also important to educate people about different fraudsters' methods in order to prevent the Internet fraud.

ⁱ <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/spoofing>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-facc-ceo/austrias-facc-hit-by-cyber-fraud-fires-ceo-idUSKCN0YGOZF>

EURASLIC New Members for 2019

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Participation of EURASLIC Members in IAMSILIC committees and activities

- **Maria Kalentsits:** FAO-IAMSILIC joint activities; ASFA/FAO liaison at the Aquatic Commons Board (2019-)
- **Sofija Konjević:** Regional Representative in the IAMSILIC Exec Board (2019-2021)
- **Bart Goossens:** Conference Site Selection Committee (2018-2020)
- **Ingrid Čatić:** Member of the Aquatic Commons Board (2017-2019)
- **Kateryna Kulakova:** Member of IAMSILIC Membership Committee (2019, second term)
- **Stephanie Ronan:** Member of the IAMSILIC Website and Communications Committee (2018-2020, second term)
- **Heike Lust:** member of the Joint IODE/IAMSILIC GE-MIM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Editorial staff of the Newsletter expresses its gratitude to all contributors to this issue. There is nothing more authentic and exciting than the information presented firsthand. We would like this to encourage everyone to not hesitate with sharing the events you have been involved in and personal professional experience, because sharing is a source of knowledge and maintains the integrity of the community.

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2019 – 2021

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