

NEWSLETTER

European Association of Aquatic Sciences
Libraries and Information Centres

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear EURASLIC members,

We are coming to the end of a very special and memorable year, full of surprises. Although there were earthquakes, fires, floods and other threats, the most prominent was the COVID -19 pandemic that influenced and paralysed the whole world.

Apart from that, the year was also dynamic within the EURASLIC community. The new EURASLIC board was elected in 2019 for a two year term of office, but already in 2020 there were changes in the Board. Two Board members left EURASLIC community for a new job. Christina Schrader, elected Vice-President left in May 2020 – the Board appointed Snežina Bacheva as her replacement. Kathrin Brannemann, elected Member Representative left in November – the Board appointed Ingrid Čatić as her replacement. As a consequence of Kathrin's departure, the joint IAMSILIC/EURASLIC meeting that should have taken place in Bremerhaven, Germany in 2021 was cancelled. Even though there were offers to host the conference some other year, in order to stick to the date, call for expressions of interest for hosting the joint 47th IAMSILIC Conference/19th EURASLIC Conference was sent to EURASLIC members. Stephanie Ronan, Marine Institute Oceanus Library, Ireland showed interest in hosting the conference. Whether it will be in person or a virtual event depends on the situation next year. As after rain always comes the sun, hopefully we'll meet in Ireland in person.

Also Joanne Bowen from CEFAS Library left the library and EURASLIC community to start a new life elsewhere. With the best wishes for success in their future life and in professional achievements let's hope that their replacements are going to be active members as they were.

Haim Nahon replaced Roberta Hanfling at Marine Sciences in Ruppin Academic Center Marine Sciences Library. I welcome him as a new member to the community.

The quote says „When one door closes, a window opens“ and that's what happened this year, the physical space closed its doors, the virtual one opened its window offering numerous possibilities. In the IAMSILIC association two conferences were held online: SAIL regional group conference with two EURASLIC members attending, and 46th IAMSILIC Conference, first IAMSILIC virtual conference that gathered around 122 participants, among them 17 EURASLIC members. Informal EURASLIC meeting was held during the conference. At the conference, the EURASLIC Board presented the results of the survey conducted in order to find out how the EURASLIC libraries responded to the COVID-19 pandemic. [The paper](#) is already available online and will be published in the conference proceedings.

In the spring of 2020, the majority of the EURASLIC libraries were closed to the public fully or partially. In a few months after the lockdown the libraries began to open observing epidemiologic measures and recommendations, but in the fall, the situation worsened and then some of the EURASLIC libraries introduced a new lockdown and staff started to work from home fully or partially. The results of the survey showed the situation until the fall. In order to be aware how our colleagues are dealing with the situation another informal meeting called „Short EURASLIC catch up“ was held in December. Seven members gathered, some from home, others from the working place, and some joined with a view of the sea. It is agreed to have another meeting in January 2021 and to try to settle the date for the forthcoming conference.

Thank you all for your cooperation. I wish you Happy Holidays and corona-free 2021!

Sofija Konjević

EURASLIC President

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Welcome to Ireland!

Stephanie Ronan

Marine Institute, Oranmore, Co. Galway, Ireland



The 19th bi-annual EURASLIC conference and 47th Annual IAMSLIC conference will be held in Galway, Ireland in 2021.

At the Marine Institute we are excited to announce that we will be hosting this special conference in 2021. The date has not yet been set, as we are waiting to see what will happen with international travel restrictions, and if we have suppressed COVID-19 enough to allow us all to meet in person. However, it will be in the autumn, most likely early September.



The conference will go ahead no matter what, but we may have to hold it virtually again in 2021. We will have to decide either way by spring to allow time to book flight, accommodation and make all the arrangements. So please, wait until you hear that announcement before booking any travel and until we have finalised the date.

I ask you to wait with a heavy heart as I would love to show you all around my city and welcome you to this beautiful country.

The Marine Institute is situated on the edge of the Atlantic, in County Galway. We are the State agency responsible for marine research, technology development and innovation in Ireland. We provide scientific and technical advice to Government to help inform policy and to support the sustainable development of Ireland's marine resource. Our mission is

"to undertake, to coordinate, to promote and to assist in marine research and development and to provide such services related to research and development, that in the opinion of the Institute, will promote economic development and create employment and protect the marine environment."

www.marine.ie

We have a small library, with just one part-time librarian. Our library is open to our staff and by appointment to the public or visiting researchers. We have an institutional repository and a beautiful collection of marine related archived material: <http://oar.marine.ie>



of



Ireland has a lot to offer any visitor, especially the west coast and Galway. Galway is this year's European Capital Culture 2020. Unfortunately, with Covid-19 we didn't get a chance to show it off to the world as we would have liked. But the city is ready and waiting for visitors! <https://galway2020.ie>

The Marine Institute is also situated along the Wild Atlantic Way. WAW is 1600 miles (2600 km) in length and is one of the longest defined coastal route in the world. It winds its way all along the Irish west coast from the north to the south. This route from start to finish unfolds the wonders of nature, the power of the ocean and its imprint on the west coast of Ireland, and the stunning countryside in all its diversity.



Enchanting villages are nestled along the coast as well as ancient monuments – their origins having long sunk into the mists of oblivion dot the landscape. Behind every bend on this magical coastal road a new delight awaits. www.thewildatlanticway.com

I'm afraid to show you any more in case I build up your hopes and expectations, only to have to change to a virtual conference! I promise that when we make that decision in late spring, if we can go ahead with a physical conference, I will have all the information you could possibly need on the conference webpage for visiting us.

If the conference will be virtual, I will do my best to still make it an 'Irish experience' and build upon the great work achieved this year to make our 1st virtual IAMSLIC conference happen.

I look forward to welcoming you all next year to Ireland and will update you as soon as possible.

Slán
(Goodbye)

46th IAMSLIC Annual Conference

Sofija Konjević
Centre for Scientific Research
Ruđer Bošković Institute, Croatia

The 46th IAMSLIC Annual Conference should have taken place in Wellington, New Zealand. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, precautionary measures, international travel restrictions for New Zealand, possible restrictions in issuing the travel visas and making needed arrangements, the IAMSLIC Executive Board decided in May 2020 that instead of in person, the 46th IAMSLIC Annual Conference would be held online. Once everything goes back to normal and the international travels return to previous levels, New Zealand remains still a potential host for future IAMSLIC conferences.

Thanks to the sponsorship, the registration for the conference was free of charge for EURASLIC/IAMSLIC members, and there were opportunities for non-members since the conference fee included one year membership to IAMSLIC. Also, thanks to an anonymous donation, IAMSLIC was able to support up to 16 new members from low-middle income countries. The new membership included a free registration for the 2020 conference. In order to connect and engage with the conference attendees and content, Bingo game was created. Among various vendor items from Elsevier, the grand prize included FREE 1-year IAMSLIC Membership.

The 1st IAMSLIC Virtual Conference was held online via Zoom platform on 13 and 14 October 2020, from 2:30 pm CEST to 2:00 am CEST each day gathering more than 122 participants from all regional groups, including 17 from EURASLIC. The theme of the conference was *Changing Track: Adjusting our Sails to Navigate Uncertain Waters*, symbolizing the need for adaptation during turbulent times in order to overcome all obstacles and challenges, and move forward. The conference planning committee worked hard to ensure the program hours worked for all presenters and rotated through the IAMSLIC membership regions and time zones.

After the official opening the EURASLIC members had the honor to break the ice. The conference started with the EURASLIC panel and presentation of the survey that was conducted by the EURASLIC Board. The results of the survey showed that the EURASLIC libraries had responded very successfully to COVID-19 pandemic, providing all regular services while the access to digital materials was most commonly used. Library staff was also active in different projects, in professional associations and other tasks. During the lockdown, the most missing thing was personal contact with colleagues and patrons. The survey represents the situation until September 29, 2020. Since then the situation worsened, therefore the total impact of COVID-19 pandemic is not yet known.

Tamsin Vicary and Maria Kalentsits announced the 50th anniversary of ASFA and presented ASFA plans for adaptations to the constantly changing environment in aquatic and marine science, vision and objectives of the ASFA Partnership. Also, OPEN-ASFA was introduced. The aim of OPEN-ASFA virtual research environment is to facilitate creation and finding of records free of charge. The multilingual aspects of the ASFA vocabulary will be implemented into OPEN-ASFA.

The Irish Marine Institute library used the lockdown period as an opportunity to digitize two specialised collections: Sea and Inland Fisheries Reports (1852-1987) and Scientific Investigation Collection (1901-1926). Both collections are of great historical value. The process of digitization along with introduction of Open Interactive Marine Archive were presented by Stephanie Ronan.

Also the SPREP Library, Samoa used lockdown as an opportunity to digitize its collection in order to enlarge virtual collection and provide access to it, but hard copies are still of great importance, as there are countries in the Pacific region with lower infrastructure capabilities.

There were several presentations regarding online teaching and studying from home as the subject became very important during the COVID-19 pandemic. Denise A. Wetzel by using an example from practices showed how Zoom and Google Docs can be used for creation of interactive online learning environment. Ellen Brown had a similar subject and presented available tools that help engaging students in an Online Scientific Communication Course and showed collaboration between a librarian and a chemistry professor for a chemical scientific communications. Jeanine Scaramozzino in collaboration with Marisa L. Ramirez and Karen J. McGaughey presented research resources and services that support both faculty and students. The development of this service has its foundation on the results of a previously conducted survey. It was interesting to find out about information-seeking behavior of Phillipino students regarding COVID-19 subject and influence of mass media, Facebook, YouTube and other information sources on the level of knowledge. Facebook was identified as the primary source of information, but also the one that led to a high level of fear. YouTube or vlogs were the least preferred sources, although the ones that provided a higher level of knowledge.

Jeanine Scaramozzino also presented a project of sharing the history of Swanton Pacific Ranch by using Artificial Intelligence (AI) which would enable interaction between patrons and platform. The questions asked will train the software to respond with more detailed answers and anticipate unique questions.

Eric Tans presented how Michigan State University adjusted collection development to new circumstances in order to support online learning by acquiring e-books of Society Publisher, especially those published by The American Fisheries Society (AFS).

Michelle Leonard in collaboration with Jean Bossart in regard to the very important topic of sea level rise identified knowledge that librarians need in order to understand the various metrics, and possibilities of partnership with scientific researchers to select relevant research impact strategies that will convey a compelling scientific story.

During the conference several panel discussions were held: SAIL Panel entitled SAILing Through the Pandemic and panel Sharing Lessons Learned from Libraries Changing Contributions During a Pandemic. Those panels offered the possibility of sharing libraries' experience during the pandemic and showed how libraries had counterbalanced the challenges faced during this time.

On behalf of AquaDocs Joint Repository Working Group, Sally Taylor presented the current state of the project. One of the decisions made at the 45th Annual IAMSLIC Conference held in Port Aransas, TX, USA in October 2019 was the creation of a new AquaDocs repository and migration of content from Aquatic Commons and OceanDocs into the new joint repository. A very nice design along with the structure of AquaDocs and preliminary plans for governance and operations was shown, while there's still some time needed for migration of the data.

Open forum on the future of IAMSLIC Conferences was held, discussing various possibilities regarding the future of IAMSLIC conferences like possibilities of having virtual conferences, biannual, whether to follow rotating order or not.

An IAMSLIC Conference isn't complete without at least one field trip. This year there were two virtual tours. One to University of Southern Mississippi Marine Education Center and second – to New Zealand's NIWA Invertebrate Collection.

At the end of the Conference a Business meeting was held. Along with reports from the President and the Treasurer, annual reports of Committees and Task Forces and Regional groups were presented. New officers were elected and installed. The newly elected JR President-Elected is Saida Messaoudi and Treasurer is Geoffrey P. Timms.

During the conference there was time reserved for Regional group meetings, so EURASLIC seized that opportunity and held an informal meeting. Around 12 EURASLIC members gathered together in the virtual room. Annual Report 2020 submitted as Regional group report for 46th IAMSLIC Annual Conference was presented. The most discussed subject was about attracting new members. The plans for new activities, e.g. webinars, online meetings, possible cooperation with ASFA were also discussed.

Before the business meeting Stephanie Ronan invited participants to visit Ireland for the joint EURASLIC/IAMSLIC 2021 conference. Wonders of Ireland were presented by excellent video followed by the presentation of the Marine Institute, Oranmore, Co. Galway, Ireland. All participants expressed their wishes to attend the conference in person. The 1st IAMSLIC virtual conference was a great success, and the experience gained through the organization of this conference would guarantee that the next virtual conference could be even better. Nevertheless, let's hope that the pandemic will be over by the next year, thus allowing us to meet each other in person.

PUBMET2020 – International Conference on Scholarly Communication in the Context of Open Science

Sofija Konjević
Centre for Scientific Research
Ruđer Bošković Institute, Croatia

The PUBMET international conference has been held regularly since 2014. The conference strives to present and discuss the plurality of approaches to the scholarly communication, scholarly publishing and assessment (metrics). It presents innovative approaches, best practice discussions and takes on future challenges. The field of scholarly communication, scholarly publishing and metrics includes all disciplines and a variety of skills, researchers from different research areas, information specialists and librarians, editors, publishers, educators, students, policy makers, communication specialists and managers.

Usually the conference is held in Zadar and once it was held in Zagreb. The 7th Conference on Scholarly Communication and Publishing in the Context of Open Science should have also taken place in Zadar, but due to a coronavirus outbreak, in May 2020 organizers decided that PUBMET2020 will be held online from September 16-18, 2020.

PUBMET2020 was organized by the University of Zadar, Croatian Association for Scholarly Communication, University of Zagreb and Ruđer Bošković Institute, under the auspices of the Ministry of Science and Education, OpenAIRE Advance, European Association of Science Editors EASE and SPARC Europe.

Webinar NI4OS Europe National Capacity Building Training for Croatia was an introduction to PUBMET conference. NI4OS-Europe is a Horizon 2020 project that supports the development and inclusion of the national Open Science Cloud initiatives into European Open Science Cloud (EOSC). Apart from brief overview about the project mission and activities, the topics such as open science in regard to EOSC, rewards and incentives in open research data management and FAIR principles were presented. The available national infrastructures and ongoing projects were shown as examples of good practice.

There were 4 keynote speakers: Arianna Becerril García, Marin Dacos, Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, and Johan Rooryck.

Arianna Becerril García from Autonomous University of the State of Mexico (UAEM) presented publishing practices in Latin America that bypass commercial publishers and publish quality OA research articles through Redalyc, AmeliCA, technology and services freely available to journals that meet the criteria.

Marin Dacos, Open Science Advisor to the Director-General for Research and Innovation at the French Ministry of Higher Education presented French National Open Science Plan that includes Digital Republic Law that demands for research that is 50% publicly funded, that the author retains the right to publish in open repositories. The National Open Science funds are established not for APC charges, but to support development of infrastructure, platforms and for editorial content. Although national OA plans are in force, international cooperation is essential.

Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, University of Illinois-Urbana presented different open publishing models along with different agreements: subscribe-to-open, transformative agreements, pure publish agreements, etc.

Johan Rooryck, University of Leiden, Coalition S ambassador presented Plan S: goals and policies. The Plan is supported by Coalition S. Plan S requires that all publications that are based on publicly funded research must be published in compliance with Open Access journals or platforms from 2021. Transformative arrangements will be supported until 2024.

Besides the keynote speakers, 12 sessions were organized by leading institutions, associations and communities from different cities/countries, 2 Panel Sessions, 3 workshops on Good Practices in Academic Writing, PlumX Metrics, and FAIR research data, along with a Short Talk Session that presented 8 peer-

reviewed papers. Among others, OPERAs project and SPARC Europe highlights were presented. Current state of OA and the projects in neighboring countries were shown through various sessions.

Thanks to [sponsors](#), the conference fee was waived, and information about the conference was spread around the world. The conference gathered together more than 500 participants and it was a great success.

The tribute was given to Jon Tennant, one of the pioneers and crucial figure in Open Science and one of the key lecturers at PUBMET2018 conference that community lost in April this year. Many presenters stressed his words in regard to Open Science: „Open Science is just good science“.

The first orientation session for the Russian ASFA network on November 26, 2020

Kateryna Kulakova
Azov-Black Sea Branch of VNIRO, Kerch, Crimea

On November 26, 2020 the first ASFA Orientation Session was held, which was aimed at familiarizing over 50 representatives from the Russian academic universities and research institutes with collaboration between the FAO ASFA and Russian Federation; using the ProQuest Database; raising the awareness of how essential it is nowadays to move towards the Open Access trend through indexing all types of literature, in particular grey literature, for global usage.

The webinar took place under the umbrella of the ASFA National Partner in Russia (All Russian Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography, VNIRO, Moscow). The FAO ASFA Secretariat (Rome, Italy) and IODE (Ostend, Belgium) had earlier proposed organizing a similar event with a perspective of enhancing the Russian grey literature share in the European open access publishing segment.

The webinar contained three major parts:

1. Orientation Session held by Maria Kalentsits, Editor-in-Chief, FAO ASFA Secretariat;
2. Russian long-term activities and significant contribution into the ASFA Database presented by Sofia Levashova, the representative of the National ASFA Partner in Russia;
3. E-Repositories as a full text storage space for providing open access to grey literature indexed in the ASFA Database (Kateryna Kulakova, Azov-Black Sea Branch of VNIRO, Kerch)

Maria Kalentsits introduced quite a wide range of issues in her presentation:

1. Benefits of the participation in the ASFA information system;
2. ASFA Information Products;
3. ASFA Partnership Model;
4. Associated Membership Scheme.



Fig. 1 The introduction slide of the Orientation Session Presentation (M. Kalentsits, FAO ASFA)

The webinar participants belong to different niches of the ASFA hierarchy; thus, it was important to emphasize the benefits they could obtain from using the database and to make sure which obligations they need to perform at each of the presented levels.

Ms Kalentsits gave a thorough insight into the statistics of the Russian activities related to ASFA dating back to 1972, when the Soviet Union joined the database. She also mentioned that Russia had successfully built up the most numerous network of the Collaborating Centers and Associated Members, to compare with the rest of the National Partners worldwide. She welcomed all the Russian universities and institutes to increase the number of the submitted metadata, disseminate the knowledge about ASFA among the other Russian research institutions as well as encouraged a joint collaboration within the ASFA Working Groups related to developing controlled vocabularies and software products, which would serve for improving the ASFA database.

Sofia Levashova has been a representative of the ASFA National Partner in Russia since the early 2000s. She participated in a number of the ASFA Advisory Board Meetings and is now a Member of several ASFA Working Groups. Ms Levashova addressed the audience with the appeal to index more grey literature into the ASFA database, rather than only journals and books. She explained the definition “grey literature” (GL) and noted that most of the GL published in Russia is still not indexed in the international databases.

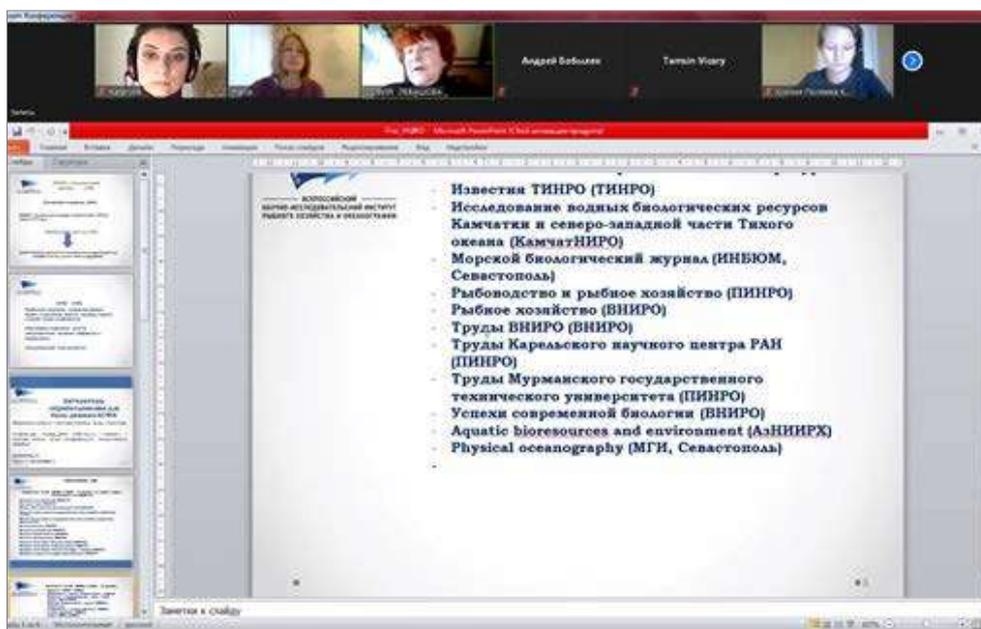


Fig. 2 A fragment of the ASFA Monitoring List of the Russian serial publications

The final presentation was introduced by Kateryna Kulakova, who discussed the importance of providing a full text link while making submissions into the ASFA database, because the metadata only have become insufficient when the end user is in search of the publication.

Ms Kulakova presented a new e-repository AquaDocs, which has become a joint project as a result of data migration from both OceanDocs Repository (initiated and supported by IODE, IOC, Belgium) and Aquatic Commons Repository (initiated by IAMSLIC and hosted by IODE). New function features of AquaDocs on the DSpace platform have been shown; benefits of depositing into this new data/publication storage resource have been emphasized. Compliance of the AquaDocs main goals with FAIR principles has been indicated.



Fig. 3 A fragment of the “Introducing AquaDocs” presentation (Kateryna Kulakova, VNIRO)

Ms Kulakova welcomed all the participants to join the project and held a poll to help the audience define which role they would be happy with while working with AquaDocs. Most of the ASFA members replied that they would like to join the repository as depositors to make sure their publication has a full text link before indexing it into the ASFA database. This means that in the near future the Russian collection of publications on AquaDocs may be considerably enriched by a larger number of serials and grey literature from the Russian universities and research institutes.

The Orientation Session made it evident that such venues are recommended to be held on a regular basis. The participants expressed their wish to exchange new approaches and suggestions related to the open access in general and collaborating with the international databases in particular. Most ASFA Members in Russia see the idea of working towards the easier findability and better visibility of the Russian publications globally and agree that the ASFA information system is the best resource, which targets to bring together grey literature related to fisheries, aquaculture and aquatic sciences.

ASFA Update on the Associates Scheme

Maria Kalentsits
ASFA Secretariat, FAO, Rome, Italy

It’s been quite a challenging year for the FAO ASFA Secretariat and for the whole ASFA Partnership. The pandemic has its impact on our activities: teleworking has become a normal practice and all meetings were moved into the virtual environment, including the 2020 ASFA Advisory Board Meeting.

The ASFA Associates Scheme was introduced to EURASLIC members in the previous issue of the Newsletter. We are now pleased to report that since then, around 30 institutions have expressed their interest to join the scheme. All these institutions were provided by complimentary access to the ASFA database on the ProQuest platform, and those interested can be trained on providing input into the OpenASFA, a new product focused on grey literature which will be freely available online in the beginning of 2021.

The ASFA Secretariat, in collaboration with the Publisher (ProQuest), earlier this year has conducted a number of training workshops on searching the ASFA Database for the institutions who joined the

Associates Scheme; all interested ASFA Partners and the Collaborating Centres took this opportunity to participate and refresh their knowledge of the ASFA database. More training workshops are to come in 2021!

In November 2020, the Secretariat in collaboration with VNIRO, the National ASFA Partner in Russian Federation, has organized a webinar for the Russian ASFA network. A total of 24 institutions (55 participants), including those who are considering joining ASFA, were present. In addition to presentations by the ASFA Secretariat and VNIRO, participants were also introduced a merged repository AquaDocs, being jointly developed by IAMSLIC and UNESCO/IOC IODE, with support provided from ASFA, by Ekaterina Kulakova (AzNIRO, Russia).



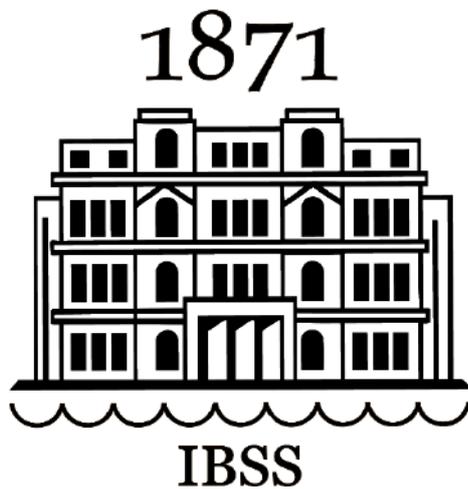
Here is the list of new ASFA Associates in Europe, these institutions not only benefit from complimentary access to the database, but also from training, networking and conference events open to all institutions participating in the ASFA network.

1. **TECHINFORMI (Georgia)**
2. **Altai Branch of VNIRO, “AltaiNIRO” (Russia)**
3. **Atlantic Branch of VNIRO, “AtlantNIRO” – (Russia)**
4. **BaikalNIRO – Baikal branch of VNIRO (Russia)**
5. **Branch for the Freshwater Fisheries of VNIRO, “VNIIPRKh” (Russia)**
6. **Kerch State Maritime Technological University (Russia)**
7. **Krasnoyarsk branch of VNIRO, “NIIERV” (Russia)**
8. **Sakhalin branch of VNIRO, “SakhNIRO” (Russia)**
9. **Tyumen branch of VNIRO, “Gosrybcenter” (Russia)**
10. **Institute of Marine Biology of the NAS of Ukraine (Ukraine)**



Please contact [the ASFA Secretariat](#) if your institution is interested to participate in the ASFA Associates Scheme.

The information about ASFA's completed and scheduled activities, and much more(!) can be found from the ASFA Newsletter and the ASFA Magazine, the first issue of which has just been published. The links are available from the [FAO ASFA Website](#)



IBSS scientific information department: What's new?

Olga Kopytova
Aleksei Baiandin
Olga Akimova

A. O. Kovalevsky Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas of RAS, Sevastopol, Crimea

The Collins English Dictionary named the word of 2020, and this is "lockdown" [1], which hardly surprises anyone. The year turned out to be very unusual, but even under long weeks of self-isolation [2] and other difficulties, the staff of IBSS scientific information department were able to implement some interesting ideas.

The main news is related to "Marine Biological Journal" (<https://mbj.marine-research.org/>), published on our own:

1. The issues are now indexed in the Scopus abstract and citation database. An email with this pleasant and important news came in October 2019, and the first articles appeared in the system in February 2020. To date, there is information about all publications of 2019 and 2020.

Source details Feedback > Compare sources >

Marine Biological Journal

Open Access ⓘ

Scopus coverage years: from 2019 to Present

Publisher: Kovalevsky Institute of Marine Biological Research, RAS

ISSN: 2499-9768 E-ISSN: 2499-9776

Subject area: Environmental Science: Ecology Agricultural and Biological Sciences: Aquatic Science
Agricultural and Biological Sciences: Ecology, Evolution, Behavior and Systematics

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CiteScore 2019 counts the citations received in 2016-2019 to articles, reviews, conference papers, book chapters and data papers published in 2016-2019, and divides this by the number of publications published in 2016-2019. [Learn more >](#)

CiteScore 2019

0.1 = $\frac{3 \text{ Citations 2016 - 2019}}{45 \text{ Documents 2016 - 2019}}$

Calculated on 06 May, 2020

CiteScoreTracker 2020 ⓘ

0.2 = $\frac{12 \text{ Citations to date}}{73 \text{ Documents to date}}$

Last updated on 08 November, 2020 • Updated monthly

2. Since this year, we have a translated version of the journal. The decision to publish full texts in English mostly resulted from indexing in Scopus: the level-up makes sense only with articles, visible for the world community.
3. We updated the web interface but stayed true to the Open Journal System software. The main innovations are a "Statistics" tab and a more concise presentation of publication data. Well, the changes are mostly invisible to the eye, so you have to believe that the website has become faster and better.

Cell types diversity of H4 haplotype Placozoa sp.

Authors: D. Y. Romanova
 Affiliations: 1. Novikovsky Institute of Marine Biological Research RAS, Sevastopol
 Issue: Vol 4 No 1 (2019)
 Pages: 81-90
 Section: Scientific communications
 Keywords: Trichoplex adhaerens, Hailingia, Placozoa, evolution, cell types
 DOI: 10.21072/mbj.2019.04.1.07
 Published: Mar 31, 2019
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Romanova D. Y. Cell types diversity of H4 haplotype Placozoa sp. *Marine Biological Journal*, 2019, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 81-90. doi: 10.21072/mbj.2019.04.1.07

Abstract Authors References Statistics

Statistics

Citations
 Scopus - Citation Indexes: 3
 PlumX - see details

Captures
 Mendeley - Readers: 1

Total citations: 4
 Recent citations: 4
 Fields Citation Ratio: n/a
 Relative Citation Ratio: n/a

- Web of Science included our journal in additional indexes: Biological Abstracts, BIOSIS Previews, and Zoological Record.

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The archive covers publications since 1860: we uploaded Karl Kessler's "Travel with a zoological purpose to the northern coast of the Black Sea and to the Crimea in 1858". Let us remind you that a year ago the "oldest" work in the repository was that of Vasiliy Ulyanin "Turbellaria of the Black Sea"(1870).

Next year is a jubilee one for the Institute: in September 2021, IBSS turns 150 years old. We started preparations by launching the media archive (<https://media.marine-research.org/>). We scan and describe every single image, falling into our hands. To date, the database contains as follows:

- Unique documents, helping to trace history of Sevastopol Biological Station foundation (letters of application for the establishment and allocation of a land plot; construction estimate; appropriations for maintenance; *etc.*);
- Archives, carefully collected by the staff of scientific departments;
- Photographs of the research vessels "Professor Vodyanitsky" and "Academician A. Kovalevsky";
- Shots from expeditions, taken by the famous Soviet photographer Boris Sheinin;
- Portraits of scientists of the Sevastopol Biological Station and the Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas;
- Materials from personal archives, *inter alia* photographs and drawings from the albums of Vladimir Vodyanitsky;
- Letters of Alexandra Shmeleva and Grigory Tregubov with text interlinear.

We apologize for the interface in Russian and encourage you to seek help, while we are just planning to make this database bilingual, or to use Google Translate, if you are too shy.

References

1. *BREAKING NEWS The Collins Word of the Year is... lockdown.* URL: <https://twitter.com/CollinsDict/status/1325951598489690113> (accessed 16.11.2020)

2. *Global report: Russia to end national lockdown as French shops reopen.* URL: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/may/11/russia-to-end-national-covid-19-lockdown-as-cases-hit-record-high> (accessed 16.11.2010)

The Scientific Library of the National Marine Fisheries Research Institute in Gdynia, Poland in times of plague...

Małgorzata Grabowska-Popow
National Marine Fisheries Research Institute
Gdynia, Poland

When we left Zagreb in 2019 after the EURASLIC conference, it did not occur to anyone that the next meeting with colleagues would only be possible virtually, on the occasion of the IAMSLIC conference, and the joint EURASLIC-IAMSLIC conference would be in question at all...

The year 2020 brought a pandemic to the world and all of us had to adapt to new living conditions. This also applied to the work of libraries.

In Poland, as elsewhere, libraries were closed to readers in March and reopened after two months, but under new conditions. Since November they have been closed once again.

The scientific library in our Institute was closed to patrons in March and the staff (2) started working remotely. Much could be done in this way – importing electronic scientific articles for the employees, updating databases, cataloguing new acquisitions, creating employee bibliographies, or writing articles on topics related to scientific information. Unfortunately, we were not able to lend books from our collections, and the exchange of books between libraries was stopped.

We returned to the institute in May, first working twice a week on site and three days remotely, and since June, normal operation has returned. Since October, when the pandemic intensified, we have been working again at the institute twice a week and the rest of the days remotely.

A number of restrictions have been imposed in the institute. There is only one entrance door in the building with a hand disinfection machine, standing next to it. In the main hall, there is one directional movement. Everyone wears masks on the premises of the institute. Only two people can go together in the lifts. The library is closed to external users and our researchers make an appointment by phone or e-mail for a specific day and time to pick up the ordered materials. Returned books and magazines are placed in a special container and are quarantined for 5 days before they return to the shelves.

The Covid-19 pandemic is not just one shock that meets the scientific library in 2020. Although it will reach the age of 100 next year, the institute's management has decided that the library's current formula has been exhausted. The stocks will be transferred to a special storeroom in the basement. The reading room is being closed down and thus external users will no longer be able to use the collection, as they will have no place to use it on site and they can only borrow it through interlibrary loan. The handy collections that could be used on site (current issues of magazines, encyclopedias, dictionaries, compendia) disappear. The library staff received a small room for their own work. In this way, the scientific library has lost its character of a special place of culture and has become a point of materials transmitting, only. This is a very specific way of celebrating its centenary!

Below there are pictures illustrating the restrictions in the institute, related to Covid-19:



Hand disinfection machine



One directional movement in the main hall



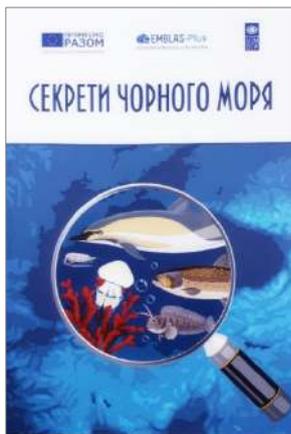
Only 2 persons in the lift



The entrance to the library



Instruction of hand washing in the bathroom



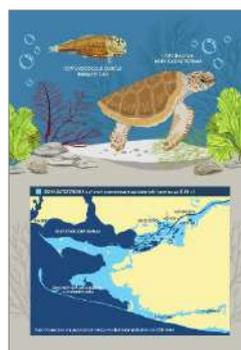
Promotion of the book “Secrets of the Black Sea”

Olena Mykhalechko

Institute of Marine Biology of the NAS, Odessa, Ukraine

The book “Secrets of the Black Sea” is a popular science book presented and promoted by the Institute of Marine Biology of the NAS. The book was published thanks to the support of international project EU/UNDP “Improving Environmental Monitoring in the Black Sea – Selected Measures (EMBLAS-Plus)”. The idea of the book belongs to Dr. Boris Aleksandrov, Director of the Institute of Marine Biology in Odessa, who was a partner on the EMBLAS project. He tragically died in a fire in winter 2019 and didn’t finish the book. Through the joint effort of colleagues and companions the idea was finally realized.

The book is a collection of 28 stories about the Black Sea and its inhabitants. The book is telling an interesting story about the Black Sea, its biodiversity resources, new aliens, rare species, opportunities for mariculture development, etc. Besides the answers to simple questions as “Why does the sea glow in the dark?” or “Where do Black Sea sturgeons come from?”, the book also provides deep insight into complex scientific problems, like chemical composition of sea water, the temperature variations, vertical migrations of plankton, and the rise of hydrosulphuric layer.



The book was presented at several events in Odessa and Ukraine, including the International Book Festival “Green Wave” on August 6th, and International Black Sea Day celebrated on October 31st.



The book will be published in four languages: Ukrainian, Russian, English and Georgian. The book is also available online in Ukrainian, Russian and English at the EMBLAS-Plus project page: <http://emblasproject.org/book>.

TRY THE FILM
My Octopus Teacher
Fantastic Fungi

Marina Mayer
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This year we all have been spending more time at home than usual. By now you have probably figured out many interesting and creative things to spend your time (knitting, dusting, baking, eating...), but there are days when you just want to relax and let something/someone else do the entertaining for you. Then a good film saves the evening. Here's one recommendation thematically connected with aquatic life and nature preservation.

One of this year's popular documentaries is South African Netflix documentary *My Octopus Teacher*. It follows a year that filmmaker Craig Foster spent building a relationship with a common octopus while diving every day in a kelp forests at a remote location in False Bay, near Cape Town in the Western Cape of South Africa. He filmed the octopus, its life cycle and habits, showing the beauty, richness and importance of life of kelp forests through really beautiful shootages.

Craig Foster is a South African documentary filmmaker and co-founder of the [Sea Change Project](#), a nonprofit group to protect marine life and raise awareness of the importance of the kelp forest in South Africa.

More about the film at: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt12888462/>

There is one more nice documentary not with aquatic topic, but also stressing the importance of nature preservation: *Fantastic Fungi* (2019). It is about the magical, mysterious and medicinal world of fungi and their power to heal, sustain and contribute to the regeneration of life on Earth.

More about the film: <https://fantasticfungi.com/>, <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8258074/>

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Participation of EURASLIC members in IAMSLIC committees and activities

- **Sofija Konjević:** Regional Representative in the IAMSLIC Executive Board (2019-2021)
- **Heike Lust:** member of the Joint IODE/IAMSLIC GE-MIM
- **Maria Kalentsits:** FAO-IAMSLIC joint activities; ASFA/FAO liaison at the Aquatic Commons Board (2019-)
- **Stephanie Ronan:** Member of the IAMSLIC Website and Communications Committee (2018-2020, second term)
- **Bart Goossens:** Conference Site Selection Committee (2018-2020)
- **Kateryna Kulakova:** Member of IAMSLIC Membership Committee (2019- , 2nd term)
- **Olga Kopytova:** Member of IAMSLIC Membership Committee (2020-)

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.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!