



## From the President

Dear EURASLICers,

**We are busy preparing our upcoming conference and I hope that many of you will be able to attend and share your experience!  
It will take place in Brugge, Belgium, September 27 - October 1, 2009  
- please take a look at the conference website:**

**<http://www.iamslc.org/index.php?section=214>**

**This year we will meet with all of IAMSLIC and the other regional groups and I hope that we will exchange a lot of ideas and that it will be a very successful experience for all of us!**

**At this years conference we will also discuss the future of EURASLIC and a possible change in the structure of our organisation. The Board will prepare a proposal and we will vote on it during our business meeting.**

**As I wrote in the last newsletter, I am a bit worried, because the work within our group dropped down dramatically over the last few years and was reduced to Interlibrary loans and sponsorship request. I hope that with driving down the administrative tasks of the board and the members, we will have more time to share ideas and problems. IAMSLIC - which is our mother-organisation - will provide us with every tool we need and they will help us with all the problems we might discover.**

**There are - up to now - 5 other regional groups: AFRIAMSLIC, Cyamus, Latin America, Pacific Islands and SAIL ( see website: <http://www.iamslc.org/index.php?section=32> ). Please look at the websites to get an impression of the work the other regional groups are doing.**

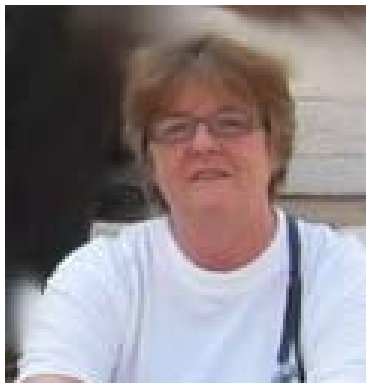
**We have some new members which I hereby welcome! I hope you will find that EURASLIC members are a very friendly and helpful bunch of people and I am looking forward to welcoming you in person during our conference!**

**Barbara Schmidt  
EURASLIC President**

## A word of appreciation

to our two outstanding members JEAN and SOFIA  
who retired in the beginning of 2009

WISHING YOU HEALTH AND PLEASURE OF LIFE  
THANK YOU JEAN & THANK YOU SOFIA  
for your dedication to EURASLIC and valuable  
help in the implementation of its goals!



**Jean Collins** - Fisheries Librarian at FAO where she has worked since 1990 providing information services primarily to the FAO Fisheries Department and fisheries organizations in developing countries. She is very active in the International Association of Aquatic Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC) strengthening professional network among fisheries libraries. She is also editor of several FAO publications addressing the issues of libraries in developing countries and the role of information in fisheries development.

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**Sofia Goulala** - Chief Librarian since 1975 at the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research in Athens. Following the vision of our leaders Allan Varley and David Moulder for the creation of an European Association she joined the effort from the beginning offering volunteered work and serving different tasks like being President (1998-2000), Web Manager, Archivist; edited and distributed Membership Directory, helped UNESCO in online Directory of European Marine Libraries & Information Centres, hosted the 10th EURASLIC Conference, edited the Proceedings, etc. She is a member of leading Information Management organisations: GEMIM (Group of Experts in Marine Information Management) of IOC, UNESCO; member of the Advisory Board of the International Database ASFA Aquatic Sciences Fisheries Abstracts), responsible for the Input Centre for the Greece.

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## **EURASLIC - European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centers – twenty years of activity (1988-2008)**

### ***Summary***

The year of 2008 marked the twentieth anniversary of the formation and work of the European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centers (EURASLIC), an association that was initiated by two British librarians, Allen Varley and David Moulder. The first Association meeting in 1988 in Plymouth Marine Laboratory, United Kingdom, was attended by 35 librarians from 8 European countries (Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Monaco, Portugal and United Kingdom). The idea of creating an European network linking aquatic and marine sciences libraries and information centers originated from the United States, due to an initiative of Carol Winn and Jane Fessenden who in 1975 formed the East Coast Marine Science Librarians (ECMSL) which, some years later, was transformed into International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC). The IAMSLIC in 1984 included 148 members from 16 countries, also from Europe.

Since its formation, the EURASLIC meetings have been held in various countries. Thus, 2<sup>d</sup> meeting was in Institut Oceanographique, Paris, France in 1990; 3<sup>d</sup> in Lelystadt, Holland in 1991. The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in Bremerhaven, Germany in 1991, was held jointly with 18<sup>th</sup> Annual IAMSLIC Conference. The following, 5<sup>th</sup>

meeting, was the first one that was hosted by an Eastern European country i.e., the Sea Fisheries in Gdynia, and was organized by Henryk Ganowiak in 1994. In the years that followed the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, the EURASLIC had grown and became stronger gathering many European libraries and information centers. The Association meetings provided a venue to exchange professional experience and to introduce new trends in the modernization of library work. One of many valuable EURASLIC initiatives was formation of an inter - library exchange network via email called „Submit ill request”, which is quite helpful and sometimes priceless in getting access to literature that is not available in a specific country.

Starting with the 7<sup>th</sup>, each EURASLIC conference was organized every two years, and had addressed specific topics which titles are shown in the Table below.



EURASLIC 10, Kiel, Germany

### **List of 7-12th EURASLIC Conferences in 1998-2007**

<b>Nr</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Title of the Conference</b>
<b>7th</b>	6-8 May 1998	Athina (Greece)	<i>People and technology. Sharing knowledge and shaping the future of aquatic information in Europe</i>
<b>8th</b>	3-5 May 2000	Aberdeen (United Kingdom)	<i>New skills for the millennium</i>
<b>9th</b>	14-19 Oct. 2002	Brest (France)	<i>Managing resources in a sea of change</i>
<b>10th</b>	7-9 May 2003	Kiel (Germany)	<i>Smooth sailing crossing the boundaries in aquatic sciences information management</i>
<b>11th</b>	4-8 May 2005	Split (Croatia)	<i>Open waters– open sources</i>
<b>12th</b>	2-4 May 2007	Sevastopol (Ukraine)	<i>From treasures of the seas – to treasures of the libraries</i>

With each conference more and more time was devoted to electronic sources of information and feasibility of using electronic journals. The topics of many discussions that took place included digitalization of library resources, positive and negative sides of graphics of research institutions displayed on the web, internet resources, and a free access to information. The last conference held in Sevastopol, Ukraine, entitled “From treasures of the seas – to treasures of the libraries” showed vividly how an enormous progress has been made in the last decade in respect to electronic sources of information, and that despite the progress there are many users of traditional paper - printed books and documents.

It is foreseen that future EURASLIC conferences will provide new opportunities to develop even further the cooperation and information exchange. Here, we would like to express our appreciation to the members who, in all those 20 years, were actively involved in the EURASLIC work and contributed significantly to the formation of cooperation among the European libraries and information centers in the field of freshwater and marine sciences and fisheries. These are: Allen Varley, David Moulder, Nicole Momzikoff, Bent Gaardestrup, Barbara Schmidt, Marcel Branneman, Sophia Goulala, Joan Baron-Varley, Henryk Ganowiak, Jan Haspeslagh, Sofija Konjevic, Marina Mayer, Michelle L'Excellent, Agnes Masoneau, Jacqueline Prod'homme, Olga Akimova, Snejjina Bacheva, Ian Pettman and many others. It has to be also mentioned that EURASLIC and IAMSLIC joint conferences are important because they allow for a broader exchange of information and experience.

**Jadwiga ZDANOWSKA**  
**Inland Fisheries Institute -Olsztyn, Poland**



## ODINECET Training Course on Marine Information Management

**3 – 7 November 2008  
Oostende, Belgium**

The Training Course was sponsored and hosted by the UNESCO/IOC Project Office for IODE in Oostende, Belgium November 3-7, 2008.

It is a continuation of intended instruction within the framework of the ODINECET project. The Training Course was attended

by 12 participants from 6 countries including Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Poland, Russia and Ukraine. There was no representative from Estonia.

We attended a series of lectures read by experts in marine information management (P. Nieuwehuysen, VUB, Belgium; L. Pikula, NOAA, USA; M. Goovaerts, University of Hasselt, Belgium, etc.) and spent much time in practical training on data input into the CEEMaRepository created specially for the participants in the ODINECET project.

The Training Course enhanced the work on the CEEMaR which resulted in as many as 356 original documents put into the repository by the end of April 2009.

### CEEMAR INPUTS 2008-2009

\* - total number of repository items for each institute are bracketed

\*\* - total number of items in the repository are bracketed

Country	Bulgaria	Poland		Russia			Ukraine					
Institute	BAS Institute of Oceanology	Institute of Oceanology Sopot	Sea Fisheries Institute Gdynia	VNIRO, Moscow	SakhNIRO, Sakhalinsk	Yuzhnc	AZNIIRKH, Rostov-on-Don	Odessa branch IBSS	Institute of Hydrobiology Kiev	Marine Hydrophysic Institute, Sevastopol	YugNIRO, Kerch	Karadag Nature Reserve, Crimea
Dec. 2008	1	9	10	5	3	3	29	5	1	1	0	
Jan. 2009	0(1)*	21(30)	12(32)*	2(7)*	2(5)*	0(3)*	5(34)*	0(5)*	1(2)*	0(1)*	0	
Feb-March 2009	0(1)*	10(40)	18(50)*	4(11)*	0(5)*	0(3)*	129(163)*	0(5)*	2(4)*	0(1)*	0	
Apr. 2009	0(1)*	0(40)*	5(55)*	1(12)*	0(5)*	0(3)*	50(213)	0(5)*	13(17)*	3(4)*	0	
<b>Total (356)**</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	

*Olga AKIMOVA*  
ODINECET Project Coordinator

## **FIRST MEETING OF THE MEDITERRANEAN MARINE AND AQUATIC SCIENCE LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTRES NETWORK**

**MARINE SCIENCE INSTITUTE OF ANDALUSIA (CSIC), CADIZ. SPAIN  
17 – 18 NOVEMBER 2008**



### **Participants on the Opening Day of the Workshop**

*From left to right: Vivian A. Osta-National Centre for Marine Sciences (NCSR); Marina Mayer- Rudjer Boskovic Institute Croatia; Sofia Goulalas-Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR) Greece; Carmen Reverté-Centro de Documentación en Ecosistemas Acuáticos (IRTA) Spain; Avelina Fernández - Universidad de Laí Palmai de Gran Canaria Spain; Nicole Momzikoff- Institut Océanographique France ; Agnès Massonneau - Arachon Station Marine, France ; José Luis Garnica Carreño - FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Library Italy; Gaspar Olmedo, Regional Coordinator for Andalusia, CSIC Library Network Spain ; Dr. Carmen Sarasquete, Director Marine Science Institute of Andalusia (CSIC) Spain; Margaret Watts-UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan Greece; Enrique Wulff-Barreiro - Marine Science Institute of Andalusia (CSIC) Spain.*

The First Meeting of the Network was held under the auspices of the European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centres (EURASLIC) and was hosted and supported by the Marine Science Institute of Andalusia (CSIC) in Cadiz, Spain from 17 to 18 November 2008.

Rich and informative presentations from Libraries in Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Spain and Tunisia were given, as well as special presentations on the work of MED POL, IAMSLIC, EURASLIC, Aquatic Commons and open access sources in the marine sciences that are applicable to the region.

There was a lot of enthusiasm to develop the Network as a tool for exchanging information on new projects, training and technology in the region. Much of this will be achieved through an online Portal that is currently being developed in English, French, Spanish and Arabic, and to work together with the European and International Associations of Marine Science Libraries. For further information don't hesitate to contact Ms Margaret Watts at: [mwatts@unepmap.gr](mailto:mwatts@unepmap.gr) or [library@unepmap.gr](mailto:library@unepmap.gr)

A copy of the Report of the Meeting, including an executive summaries and summaries of presentations, in English, French and Spanish can be downloaded from [http://195.97.36.231/dbases/MedLibs/Final\\_Report\\_Cadiz.pdf](http://195.97.36.231/dbases/MedLibs/Final_Report_Cadiz.pdf)

**Margaret WATTS**  
UNEP- Mediterranean Action Plan



## **News from the science library of the Sea Fisheries Institute in Gdynia**

Significant changes have recently taken place at the science library of the Sea Fisheries Institute in Gdynia. This specialized library holds the only collection of literature on the subject of marine fisheries sciences in Poland and is the oldest institution of its type in the country.

After the completion of a long-term renovation project in the fall of 2008, the reading room has gained new, more functional bookshelves, the stacks have been expanded, and the librarians now enjoy better working conditions.

In April 2009, Bożena Janusz, MSc. Eng., retired from the Scientific Information Center after 36 years of employment, including her term as Director of the Center from 1998 to 2006. She is well-known among the librarians working in scientific libraries throughout the Pomeranian region. Ewa Szymańska has been hired to fill Mrs. Janusz's vacated position at the Center.

As of 15 April 2009, the readership of the library has easier access to the resources available at the library. Thanks to the program written by Jacek Sen, Msc., of the SFI IT



Department, the catalogue of books and periodicals is now available via the Internet. It is also now possible to reserve books and periodicals on-line (after logging into the library website). Information regarding reservations is automatically forwarded to both library personnel and borrowers. These reservations expire after three days. Borrowers are also reminded electronically when books or periodicals are due back at

the library.

Currently, the collections of the SFI scientific library exceed 10 000 volumes, with the oldest dating to the eighteenth century. There are also more than 12 000 volumes of periodicals from the world over.

***Małgorzata GRABOWSKA – POPOW***  
Sea Fisheries Institute, Gdynia, Poland



## **Koha – open source integrated library system and its implementation at the Ruđer Bošković Institute Library in Croatia**

Koha is the first open source integrated library system (ILS) which was developed by Katipo Communications LTD for the Horowhenua Library Trust from New Zealand in 1999 and it has been continuously improving since. Its last released version is 3.0.1 and it dates with February 19<sup>th</sup> 2009. Koha uses library standards and protocols that ensure interoperability between Koha and other systems and technologies. It supports both UNIMARC and MARC21 bibliographic standard. Among others, Koha includes also modules for circulation, cataloging, acquisitions, serials, reserves, patron management and branch relationships which are available in English and completely or partially translated to other languages. Koha and all of its modules are web based, as well as its OPAC on which users can have their own account. After login to their account, users have access to

their personal information, ability to search the database, comment or tag specific records, make their own lists of titles, reserve specific book, make a recommendation for a new acquisition and much more. Until now, there are more than 180 libraries of all sizes and types which are using Koha in their everyday work.

In few weeks, Ruđer Bošković Institute Library will also join the numerous Koha community. The process of implementation of Koha in the RBI Library is at its very end. In this phase of implementation of Koha RBI Library will import its book database from CDS/ISIS, import information about its users which are needed for establishment of electronic lending and barcode for books. RBI Library will also use acquisition module, and at the final phase of implementation module for serial publications.

***Bojan MACAN***  
**Ruđer Bošković Institute Library**  
**Zagreb, CROATIA**





## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Confluence of Ideas: Evolving to meet the challenges of global change*  
*The 35th IAMSLIC Annual Conference & 13th Biennial EURASLIC Conference*  
*September 27 - October 1, 2009*



**Brugge, BELGIUM**

Hosted by [IOC/UNESCO Project Office for IODE](#) and the [Flanders Marine Institute \(VLIZ\)](#).

**For more information please visit Conference website:**

<http://www.iamslc.org/index.php?section=214>

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## 13th European Conference on Digital Libraries



Close to the turn of the first decade of the third millennium, digital libraries are facing critical challenges that lead to major transformations. The expansion of social networking applications is an important development, which has led to the creation of new user communities and the cohesion of already existing ones. Although user communities have been under the research lens of the digital library community, they never had higher interest than nowadays. User communities have abandoned pathetic participation in information environments and have developed an active behaviour expressed in a multitude of ways... [Read more: http://www.ecdl2009.eu:80/](http://www.ecdl2009.eu:80/)

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**1 May 2008 – 30 September 2009**

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Please send all items for inclusion to the Newsletter Editor or Co-editors. If possible, send it as an email attachment.

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