

## Report by Andris Vilks to BI-International about the conference trip to Munich, Germany: participation in the LIBER 42nd Annual Conference, from June 26th – 29th, 2013

Conference registration fee and accommodation sponsored by *BI-International*

<p><b>General conference description</b></p>	<p>Association of European Research Libraries - Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche (LIBER) is the main network for research libraries in Europe that comprises more than 400 national, university and other libraries from more than 40 countries. LIBER was founded in 1971 as an Association under the auspices of the Council of Europe.</p> <p>Starting from the first years of its existence, LIBER organizes annual international conferences for the LIS professionals. Each year conference is organized in a different European city. In 2013 Annual LIBER Conference took place from June 26 to June 29 in Munich, Germany. Conference was organized by the Bavarian State Library (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek) in collaboration with the LIBER Secretariat (Hague, Netherlands).</p> <p>The conference title was Research Information Infrastructures and the Future Role of Libraries, including topics on the development of digital collections, digital preservation, e-books, leadership, policy and strategy, new technologies, Open Access, research infrastructures and data.</p> <p>In October, 2012 LIBER Board decided that the 43rd LIBER Annual Conference will take place in Riga, Latvia from June 29 to July 5, 2014, in the brand new building of the National Library of Latvia. The National Library of Latvia expresses its deepest gratitude to BI-International for the conference registration fee and accommodation sponsorship of four library staff members, who had a chance to participate in LIBER 2013 Conference and gain valuable experience from German colleagues. It will definitely help to organize next year's conference on the high level.</p>		
<p><b>Individual participation description and evaluation</b></p>	<p>Andris Vilks has chaired parallel paper session on June 27<sup>th</sup>. He has presented next LIBER conference during the meeting of the conference participants that was attended by approximately 400 people. Andris Vilks has attended LIBER Board meeting and reported on the current status of preparation processes for the next LIBER conference.</p>		
<p><b>Paper presentations, keynote speeches, plenary sessions attended</b></p>	<p><b>Date</b></p>	<p><b>Speaker-s</b></p>	<p><b>Title</b></p>
	<p><i>June 26th</i></p>	<p><i>Professor Dr Peter Strohschneider (President, German Research Foundation (DFG), Bonn, Germany)</i></p> <p><i>Dr Jan Velterop (Academic Concept Knowledge Ltd: AKnowledge, Epsom, UK)</i></p> <p><i>Jeannette Frey (Bibliothèque Cantonale et Universitaire (BCU), Lausanne, Switzerland)</i></p>	<p>Libraries - And Why We Need Them!</p> <p>The Future of the Science Publishing Ego-System</p> <p>Scriptorium – A New Open Access Platform for Digitised Newspapers</p>

		<p><i>Paul Ayrís (UCL (University College London), London, UK)</i></p> <p><i>Timo Borst (German National Library for Economics (ZBW), Kiel, Germany)</i></p>	<p>Managing the Data Deluge: A Roadmap for European Universities in the Era of Data-driven Science</p> <p>Opening Up Repositories for the Semantic Web: A Case Study in the Domain of Economic Research</p>
	<p><i>June 27th</i></p>	<p><i>Gregor Horstkemper (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Munich, Germany)</i></p> <p><i>Birte Christensen-Dalsgaard (The Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark)</i></p> <p><i>Jane H. Smith (Centre for Research Communications, University of Nottingham, UK)</i></p> <p><i>Dr Liz Lyon (United Kingdom Office for Library and Information Networking, UK)</i></p> <p><i>Carlos Morais Pires (DG Connect, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium)</i></p>	<p>Converging Parallel Universes: Library Services as Building Blocks of Digital Humanities Research</p> <p>User Involvement – Crowdsourcing</p> <p>Journals and their Policies on Data Sharing: Lessons from the JoRD Project</p> <p>Roadmaps, Roles and Re-engineering: Developing Data Informatics Capability in Libraries</p> <p>Enabling Data-Intensive Science Through Advanced Data e-Infrastructures and Services</p>
	<p><i>June 28th</i></p>	<p><i>Olli Nurmi (VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, Espoo, Finland)</i></p> <p><i>Aki Lassila (National Library of Finland, Helsinki, Finland)</i></p> <p><i>Professor Geoffrey Boulton (University of Edinburgh, UK)</i></p>	<p>User Evaluation of the eBook Service in Finnish Public Libraries</p> <p>Agile Development of the OSS-based Online Service Finna</p> <p>A Revolution in Open Science: Open Data and the Role of Libraries</p>
<b>Most interesting poster</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Title/ author-s</b>	<b>Short description</b>
	<p><i>National Library of Latvia</i></p>	<p><i>The National Library of Latvia's Digital Library Project 'In Search of Lost Latvia' (Ginta Zalcmāne)</i></p>	<p>Project 'In Search of Lost Latvia' is run by the National Digital Library <i>Letonica</i>, and contains unique information about lost and altered cultural history values in Latvia. Project has been developed by the National Library of Latvia in co-operation with national memory institutions, cultural heritage organisations and individuals. The project contains digital copies of historical drawings, postcards and photographs from the end of the 19th century to present days.</p>

			<p>The project depicts economic, social and cultural life of Latvian society from the second part of the 19th century – the work of peasants at farmsteads, ancient crafts and activities of different associations and organisations. Contemporary photographs of the cultural history sites and their descriptions are also included. Co-operation between cultural heritage organisations and public involvement makes this project unique among other Latvian digital projects. Collection users are also content creators. Registered users can add new objects from institutional or individual collections, comment on visual images, edit object descriptions and meet like-minded people. Project website: <a href="http://www.zudusilatvija.lv">www.zudusilatvija.lv</a>. Digital materials are also available on Europeana portal.</p>
<p><b>Professional tour</b></p>	<p><i>June 27<sup>th</sup>. Bayerische Staatsbibliothek.</i> Exhibition of rare books and manuscripts <i>Bibliophile treasures from the Wittelsbach Court</i>. Main conclusions: the Bavarian State Library collection has approximately 10% of all incunabula that are stored in the world's libraries. Exhibition area has excellent conditions (light, humidity, temperature) and neat design. Exhibition was supplemented with the modern technologies.</p>		
<p><b>General conclusions, benefits of attending the conference</b></p>	<p>Positive things: well organized conference, many useful conversations with foreign lecturers and colleagues.</p> <p>Negative things: rooms for the parallel paper sessions were not flexible enough to provide space for the changing audience size.</p> <p>Suggestions: next LIBER conference could focus more on the strategic management issues of the library and information services, changing concept of the digital collections and developing competencies of the library and information professionals.</p>		

Andris Vilks

July 30th, 2013

Riga, Latvia