ig**e**lu *Newsletter*

International Group of Ex Libris Users

Welcome to Brno and

- ANUG, S-NUG, V-NUG Meetings 2nd September
- 2nd IGeLU Meeting 3rd to 5th September

Welcome to the 2nd IGeLU Conference!

One year of IGeLU – experiences, worries, expectations

I am very pleased to welcome you to the 2nd IGeLU conference in Brno, the great city of Moravia, Czech Republic. We are happy to come back to the Czech Republic as the Czech user group was one of the founders of the predecessor organization ICAU which was for many years hosted in Prague and where one of the early ICAU meetings took place.

I would very much like to thank the hosting institution, the Moravian Library, for its hospitality, and the organizing team, consisting mainly of Kateřina Jílková, Marcela Walterová, Petra Žabičková, Tomáš Prachař, Martin Fasura and others for the great job they have done, and especially Petr Žabička who chaired the team spending a lot of time and energy in preparation for this conference.

What did we experience in this first real year of IGeLU? Definitely a lot of traffic – the merge of Ex Libris with Endeavor Information Systems, incorporating yet another user group into our freshly constituted organization, defining new division of labor between the Steering Committee members and the new IGeLU bodies - the Product Working Groups, deepening the relationship with ELUNA and Ex Libris, exploring new fields of collaboration and new channels of communication, taking part in the planning of the content of the Systems Seminar and of this conference, and last but not least building up the new IT infrastructure of IGeLU as a base for the future work of the association.

During all of this, we also experienced a lot of fun and great commitment by not only the IGeLU officers but also others who were willing to help to „get IGeLU going". Maybe we have tried too much at the same time and didn't accomplish all we would have liked to, but I guess I can say we made quite a step forward.

In spite of the challenge to arrange this 3-day meeting as a communication platform for the users of the whole Ex Libris product suite, we have tried to create a rich agenda which we hope accommodates the wishes of all. We are especially very happy to see that our new colleagues from Voyager – some of them for their first time at an Ex Libris users meeting - participate intensively in this conference.

What do we worry about for the future? Nothing really, but we have realized very clearly that the wide range of tasks and projects we have started needs strong involvement by the user community in the work of the association to be able to carry on or to achieve even more. Some of the IGeLU officers like Pat Busby (SC), Sue Julich (Aleph PWG) and Pascal Calarco (Digitool PWG) cannot continue with the great work they have started and we hope very much that here in Brno new colleagues stand up to carry on.

What do we expect for the future? For the coming year: continuing growth of the association and further improvement of our working structures, deepening of the successful collaboration with Ex Libris, and exploring new fields of joint interest and ways to pursue the common aims. And for now? Of course a great conference with much interesting news, discussions, exchanges of user experiences and incentives from the keynote sessions in an open and friendly atmosphere, and enjoying the opening reception (sponsored by Charles University in Prague and MULTIDATA Praha Ltd) and the social event (sponsored by Ex Libris) organized by our Czech colleagues.

Welcome to the 2nd IGeLU annual meeting in Brno!

Jirka Kende, IGeLU Chair

Highlights of the 2ⁿᵈ IGeLU Conference

International Keynote Sessions

By Dale Flecker, IGeLU SC

> *"Two hot topics widely discussed in library space these days will be addressed at plenary sessions …"*

Two hot topics widely discussed in library space these days will be addressed at plenary sessions at the second annual IGeLU conference in Brno. On Tuesday, September 4, a panel (Marshall Breeding of Vanderbilt University, Michele Newberry of the Florida Center for Library Automation, and Jørgen Madsen of Det Kongelige Bibliotek, Denmark) will address their motivations for and experiences with implementing catalog discovery systems outside of the integrated library system. This session follows on lively discussions at previous meetings of IGeLU and ICAU about the increasing dissatisfaction with current opacs, and the perception that library discovery systems need to have a wider scope, provide more modern functionality, and be better able to integrate into the larger environment of our users.

On Wednesday, September 5, Hazel Woodward, Cranfield University, will discuss the impact of e-books on library services. E-book availability seems to be exploding around us: in commercial packages, as free resources created through digital library projects, through retail offerings (particularly oriented to the new generation of hand-held e-book readers), and through mass digitization efforts such as those of Google and the Open Content Alliance. E-books present libraries with different challenges than e-journals, and their implications for library services and systems need exploration. At the same session, Dale Flecker, Harvard University, will review the progress of a new IGeLU/ELUNA/ Ex Libris focus group working to define the requirements for supporting e-books across the entire suite of Ex Libris products.

General Ex Libris Q&A Session: Call for questions

By Peter Klien, peter.klien@obvsg.at

> *"All you always wanted to know… but were afraid to ask…"*

At the IGeLU conference in Brno, for the first time there will be *several* Q&A sessions. More *general questions* will be presented in the general Q&A session on Tuesday September 4 (plenary session), while *product-specific questions* will be part of the Ex Libris Product Update sessions given by the Ex Libris product managers.

Speaking of the *general* session, Ex Libris again has been willing to provide a first class panel to address these matters. You therefore are invited to send Peter Klien any question that you would like to see answered. To submit a question, please download the form from

http://igelu.mzk.cz/2007_question_form.doc

fill it in and send it to Peter Klien.

Peter will collect your mailings and hand them out to Ex Libris during the meeting, in order to give them some time to carefully prepare their answers.

Do not miss this wonderful opportunity to learn everything you always wanted to know about the merger between Ex Libris and Endeavor / the future of the Knowledge Bases / cross product authentication / Primo experiences / the Ex Libris owners... but were afraid to ask - right until now.

Product-specific questions should also be submitted on this form, but these should be sent to the Product Coordinator.

Special Meetings

Auditorium IGeLU 2006 in Stockholm.
Credit to Swedish Film Institute

By Michele Newberry, IGeLU SC

Business Meetings of the PWGs will allow attendees opportunities to hear about and discuss group activities, relevant enhancement procedures, common issues and problems as well as choose new leaders for the next year.

There will also will be sessions for the **Special**

Interest Working Groups. These are **Aleph Consortia** (Peter Klien, Austrian Library Network, moderator); **MetaLib/SFX Consortia** (Ari Rouvari, National Library of Finland, moderator); **ARC** (Marcus Zerbst , Zentralbibliothek Zurich, moderator); **Public Libraries** (moderator needed); and **Special Libraries** (Jesus Bustamante, Cedefop, moderator). See the conference programme for details of these sessions.

Highlights of the 2nd IGeLU Conference

Products, Programmes and Posters!!!

By Michele Newberry, IGeLU SC

For the 2nd IGeLU meeting, the Product Working Group leaders have arranged an exciting Product-Oriented programme for all of you while, at the same time, attempting to cross-fertilize wherever product integration experiences allow. Here is a snapshot of what you'll be seeing and hearing in Brno:

Examining our ILS is a two-part session that takes advantage of our newest colleagues, the Voyager customers, to create a shared programme track focusing on examining our ILS's as they are now and thinking about the directions they need to take in the future. The session includes presentations on ILS trends, comparisons and evaluations of Aleph and Voyager, a look at the OPAC and user expectations, and concludes with a panel discussion on the Next Gen ILS with Sharon Hu and Azungwe Kwembe (Chicago State Univ.), Daniel Forsman (Jonkoping Univ.), Gill Hamilton (National Library of Scotland), Marshall Breeding (Vanderbilt Univ.), Michele Newberry (Florida Center for Library Automation) and others, moderated by Clare Whittaker (Voyager PWG) and Gerard Bennett (Aleph PWG). Other sessions include:

Its All About Digitool – four presentations on different aspects of using Digitool moderated by Pascal Calarco, PWG Coordinator. The first by Matthias Gross (Bavarian State Library) is "DigiTool to Aleph and Back Again: Metadata Synchronization". Next, Pascal will describe their experiences with using Digitool 3.0 at Notre Dame to support image data in the appropriately titled "Its All About the Images". Next is "Implementation of Digitool 3.0 at Leiden University" by Peter Verhaar and finally, Luís Miguel Costa (Faculdade de Engenharia UP) will close the session with "Managing media objects with DigiTool and external streaming services".

Re-designing the MetaLib front end has two presentations that will provide the audience with first-hand accounts of two institutions' experiences with MetaLib beginning with "Coming to Terms with Search: Re-implementing MetaLib at Notre Dame" by Mark Dehmlow and concluding with Ere Maijala's (National Library of Finland) account of "Integration of SFX A-Z list into MetaLib". These presentations will be followed by a Q&A and discussion with both pre-

senters, moderated by Margaret Flett. In a second session, **MetaLib Miscellanea,** two more topics will be covered "Less is More - Results from a MetaLib Users Survey" by Stefan Lohrum (KOBV) and "MetaLib copy cataloging" by Martin Ledinsky (Charles University). They will be followed by a Q&A/discussion opportunity with both presenters, moderated by Lukas Koster, PWG Coordinator.

"Implementation of Verde in an Asymmetric Consortia Environment" is the topic of the Verde PWG session with Andreas Sabisch (Freie Universität Berlin and PWG Coordinator), Paul Bastijns (University of Gent) and Richard Cross (Nottingham Trent University) providing practical information on their respective experiences in this area.

Our new **Voyager** colleagues have really come on strong with their programming leading off with **Consortial Angles** in which Clare Whittaker (Scottish Digital Library Consortium) starts with "Using server performance statistics to make consortium fees fairer" and Angus Shaw and Nikki Herriott (Hertford Regional College/ University of Hertfordshire) finishes with "How upgrading Voyager in a consortia can work - lessons learnt". This is followed by a two-part session on **Improving the Voyager User Experience** with a myriad of papers on using, enhancing, integrating and supplementing Voyager's inherent functionality, presented by customers from three continents. Starting with "Link checking in Voyager" by Simon Huggard (Monash University Library, Australia); then "Top 10 (or so) WebVoyage Hacks", Edward M. Corrado (The College of New Jersey); "Harvesting the crop: Voyager and OAI-PMH", Ere Maijala (National Library of Finland); "In Search of the Lost Book: Improving Library Usability", Petteri Kivimäki (Helsinki University of Technology Library); and finishing up with Ari Muhonen's (Helsinki University of Technology Library) "Developing new RFID devices and features".

Product Updates/What's New/Q&As will be plentiful in Brno. Each PWG has arranged to have Ex Libris staff provide updates to their respective products as well as participate in product-specific question and answer sessions. Requests for questions in advance can be found on the conference programme page:
http://igelu.mzk.cz/2007_question_form.doc.

POSTERS

The posters will be set up in the Foyer outside the meeting rooms throughout the conference for your viewing pleasure. However, during the last half hour of the lunch breaks on Sept. 4 and 5, the poster presenters will be sharing their content with the attendees so please take advantage of this opportunity to listen to the presentations and ask your questions. The posters cover all the products from Aleph to Voyager:

"From Aleph to CMS – dynamic generation of course reserve lists and their integration in Typo3" Ben Burkard, (Technical University of Berlin)

OPAC Export to RefWorks & EndNote -- Mark Dehmlow, Electronic Services Librarian (University of Notre Dame)

ExLibris and UoP a year in the life -- Fiona Greig. Electronic Resources Development Manager (University of Plymouth)

webreporting@cambridge -- Huw Jones and Lesley Gray, Systems Librarian and Administrator (University of Cambridge)

Short bibliographic record enrichment -- Huw Jones and Lesley Gray, Systems Librarian and Administrator (University of Cambridge)

LiveTrix : a library 2.0 Metalib mashup, André Keyzer (University of Groningen);

See the full conference programme at http://igelu.mzk.cz/programme.php

Product Working Groups – the best and the worst of IGeLU's challenges

By Ana Azavedo, IGeLU SC

Use your library often!
Credit to marklarson (Flickr)

"The PWG's have maintained continous contact with Ex Libris Product Managers"

The newly-born IGeLU brought up a complex organizational structure to deal with a complex reality: a Steering Committee and different Product Working Groups (PWG's).

A year ago it was hard to explain this structure, which was still not very clear in all minds, but at the 1st IGeLU Conference during the different PWG sessions each group discussed and agreed on basic guidelines to begin working. Three PWG's were formally constituted each with a coordination team: ALEPH PWG, MetaLib/SFX PWG and DigiTool PWG, with the main tasks being to:

- support the organizing of the Annual Conferences;
- work on enhancement requests and in focus groups with Ex Libris;
- maintain product communication between the PWGs and the National User Groups; and
- raise issues of importance with the Steering Committee.

Since then a PWG for VERDE also began working and a VOYAGER PWG is in the process of constitution.

The PWG's have maintained continuous contact with Ex-Libris Products Managers through the participation in meetings or regular conference calls which permitted a follow up of the problems, enhancements and developments being done.

In a significant decision taken by IGELU and ELUNA all products, with the exception of ALEPH, will have a joint enhancement process jointly managed by IGELU and ELUNA. The enhancement process will be supported by Bugzilla, software that will be integrated into the new IGELU website. Hopefully in autumn all these facilities will be ready to use and then joint voting will be possible for IGELU and ELUNA members.

Considering that the DigiTool PWG needed to move quickly for a new release, a temporary solution was implemented so that the members could vote before September.

Separate PWG mailing lists have facilitated communication between PWG members, as well as between the Steering Committee and the PWG's, but higher member participation in the list discussions is desired to enhance the value of open communication and the sharing of problems, ideas and solutions.

In a ground-breaking initiative, facilitated by the IGeLU and ELUNA MetaLib/SFX PWG's, some MetaLib customers from both user communities participated in a process of testing MetaLib version 4, being the first time that customers could test a version before its release. The fact that the test went so well with no delays in feedback from testers and important contributions being made will no doubt facilitate the replication of this testing in other products.
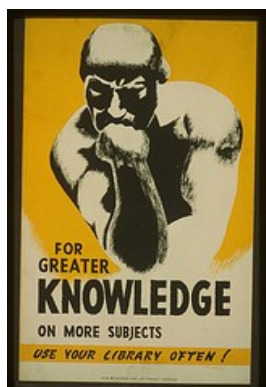

Discussion in Stockholm, IGeLU 2006
Credit to Swedish Film Institute

The PWG's have also been actively engaged in organizing the product sessions for the 2nd IGeLU Conference in Brno which was a challenging task but the results will be appreciated in September.

The PWG's and SC members were in permanent communication in order that common strategies, policies and practices could be developed during this period of setting up the new organization, with excellent team work from members from four continents working closely together.

After twelve months of work we are certain that the PWG's are a very good bet, as long as we go on having volunteers to do the hard job and active members to contribute towards decisions.

Voyager Product Working Group

By Lesley Gray and Simon Huggard, IGeLU SC

Establishing the Voyager Product Working Group (VPWG) has begun:

The formation of the IGeLU Voyager Product Working Group (VPWG) is well under way. Lesley Gray and Simon Huggard have been acting as interim co-ordinators of the VPWG to ensure an official team is established to take care of Voyager matters.

In July a nominating committee was formed which was asked to draft a call for nominations to the voyager-L email list, and to receive and assess nominations as well as work on the setting up of Bylaws and an approval process for nominees. The nominating committee consisted of Angus Shaw (University of Hertfordshire, Hertfordshire, UK), Laurie A. DuQuette (National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland. USA) and Helen Brownlie (University of Otago Library, Dunedin, New Zealand).

A call for nominations for the VPWG was sent in August with a closing date of early September.

Any members who have been put forward as candidates for official positions in the VPWG will hopefully be available at the IGeLU conference for discussion about the formation of the VPWG itself.

Official Voyager meetings at Brno - where we need your input.

In order to facilitate the formation of the VPWG, there will be two official Voyager business meetings at Brno as follows:

1. Joint ANUG/S-NUG/Voyager National/Regional Reps meeting on Sunday 2 September from 2:00-3:30pm.

All official representatives (or their nominees) have been asked to attend this meeting, so that reports can be tabled and common interests/concerns raised with the representatives and the IGeLU Steering Committee.

2. Voyager business meeting on Sunday 2 September from 4:00-6:00pm.

This meeting is open to all Voyager customers attending the IGeLU conference in Brno and we would encourage you all to come along to help us in the early days with the formation of the VPWG within IGeLU. We will be asking you all for formal ratification of the VPWG itself and will be discussing detailed issues such as Bylaws, ap-proval mechanisms, terms of office, official positions and duties, publicity and communication with users, enhancement procedures and so on.

Structure of the VPWG - where we need your candidacy.

The newly formed IGeLU Voyager Product Working Group Executive Committee will consist of:

- The Chair (one year term initially)
- The Vice Chair/Chair Elect (two year term)
- The Enhancements Co-ordinator (two year term)
- Two Programming Co-ordinators
- Four Executive committee members (one or two year term)

The executive committee members will have responsibility for Voyager modules and for liaison with National User Groups. In the initial start-up phase, some members will have a one year term and others will have a two year term in order to avoid all members' terms expiring at the same time. Two of the executive committee members will have a one year term, with another two having a two-year term. After this time (from September 2008 onwards) all positions will have a two year term.

Programming Co-ordinators - now and in the future

The Voyager Product Working Group already has two programming co-chairs who have done an excellent job to put together the Voyager programme that you see in this year's conference in Brno. The co-ordinators are Clare Whittaker (Scottish Digital Library Consortium Support Librarian, Edinburgh University Library & National Library of Scotland, UK) and Annu Jauhiainen (The National Library of Finland, Helsinki, Finland).

Positions for programming co-ordinators for the next IGeLU conference in 2008 will be worked out after the VPWG has been formed and has had time to evaluate the planning experience for the conference in Brno.

We are looking forward to seeing Voyager customers in Brno, talking and working with you in this new phase of our user group development as part of the world-wide Ex Libris users family.

See you in Brno!

"We are looking forward to seeing Voyager customers in Brno"

Amendments to the Statute – IGeLU needs your vote!

By Guido Badalamenti, IGeLU past Chair

The IGeLU Statute is quite new but as soon as we started working for the organization of the new Association we realized we had missed something that would be useful to facilitate the future activities of IGeLU.

The first problem was related to the administrative affairs. When we decided to open a new bank account we were informed by the lawyer of the bank that it would have been advisable to have a sentence in our Statute that clearly states that the Assembly, when electing our Chair, confers all ordinary and extraordinary administrative powers and the power to delegate them to the Chair.

The second problem is connected to the seat of

the Association. According to what was stated in the old ICAU Statute, we decided that the seat of IGeLU was initially in Siena (Italy), and thereafter the seat will reside at the home institution of the Chair in office. Since IGeLU is a registered non-profit organization, and we have discovered that we have different regulations country-by-country for the acknowledgement of a non-profit organization, it will be very complicated and extremely expensive to change the seat and consequently the law to which the Association is subject, each time a Chair is elected from a different country.

Therefore the IGeLU Steering Committee is going to propose to the Assembly of members the approval of some amendments to the IGeLU Statute.

Effective Statute	Proposed amendments
Art.VIII. Chair	
1. The Chair shall function as an Administrator	**1.** The Chair shall function as an Administrator, who shall have all ordinary and extraordinary administrative powers and the power to delegate them
Art. X. Seat	
The seat of IGeLU is initially in Siena, (Italy), at the University of Siena, Banchi di Sotto, 55. Thereafter the seat will reside at the home institution of the Chair in office.	The seat of IGeLU is in Siena, (Italy), at the University of Siena, Banchi di Sotto, 55.

According to the Statute this announcement has been published on the IGeLU website 30 days before the Assembly of Members and it has also been announced through the listservers.

Please use your privilege and responsibility as an IGeLU member to ensure your vote is registered, either at the IGeLU meeting in Brno or by means of delegating a proxy vote on your behalf to a colleague.

You can find all you need to know on proxy voting at:

http://www.igelu.org/conferences/conference2007/2007_material/

ALA Bill of rights 1948
Credit to marklarson (Flickr)

Why we need your vote

By Guido Badalamenti, IGeLU past Chair

All paid-up IGeLU members have the opportunity to actively participate in and influence the decision-making process of the Association. You have the right to participate in the Assembly of members and to approve or disapprove decisions about projects and activities, define the aims of the Association, approve the budget, approve amendments to the Statute, participate in the PWG (Product Working Group) activities and vote for the officers in the Steering Committee or in the PWG etc.

According to the Constitution, we have different rules for each vote. We usually need a quorum of one third of all Members to validate the decisions of the Assembly of Members (art. V,8,b), but for a resolution to amend the Statute, or to dissolve the Association, we absolutely require a vote of the membership in which 2/3 (two thirds) of the Members cast a vote, and a simple majority of those voting approve the resolution (art. V,8,f).

According to the list of participants registered on the Brno website we will not be able to reach the needed quorum for the amendments to the Statute and for this reason we ask you to seriously consider the opportunity that our Constitution (art.V,8,c) gives us to use a proxy vote.

As is stated in the Statute (art. V,8,c) those members who will not have their representatives attending the meeting will have the right to give a proxy vote to a representative of a different institution.

In order to manage the proxy voting process, we have organized a "proxy vote engine" with a form to fill in that will take just a few minutes of your time!

On the website you will find more information about that and a FAQ's list that we hope can be useful for you
http://www.igelu.org/conferences/conference2007/2007_material/ .

Past experience bears good witness to the fact that very few Institutions usually seize this opportunity and in this case it would be a pity if the vote of the Assembly will not be validated. For this reason we kindly asked the representatives of the national user groups to press all the institutions that are not going to attend the meeting to use the proxy vote.

Thank you very much for your cooperation!

Fight for the right to vote
Credit to drdrewhonolulu (Flickr)

"For a resolution to amend the Statute … we absolutely require … two thirds of the members casting a vote"

What is the membership fee for?

By Jirka Kende, IGeLU Chair

Especially the new Voyager colleagues have asked why we need to charge a membership fee at IGeLU as their former vendor-driven user organization, EndUser, didn't charge such a fee.

Although generously supported by Ex Libris, IGeLU is a vendor-independent association and can therefore openly act on behalf of the user community. Representing the entire user community, the level of influence on the vendor's development strategy and priorities we have achieved over the past years is much higher than any single institution could ever achieve. The price for this independence is a moderate membership fee needed to finance the work of the association.

Membership of IGeLU gives the single institutions the possibility to participate in this influence, either directly by serving on committees and groups within the organization, e.g. the Steering Committee or the Product or Interest Working Groups and in Focus groups with Ex Libris providing advice on strategic planning, developing product specifications, etc. or indirectly by voting for the organizational bodies and development priorities. In the enhancement procedures of IGeLU every member institution can submit its enhancement suggestions for any product development. The member voting then decides in which priorities the enhancements are going to be implemented.

Last but not least, membership of IGeLU gives the member institutions the right to participate in the IGeLU meetings at a reduced conference fee, where the internationality of the IGeLU meetings brings an additional enrichment of experiences from users from countries world wide.

And if nobody volunteers to work for the SC or the PWG's?

By Ana Azavedo, IGeLU SC

After a challenging but satisfying year on the Steering Committee, I decided to reflect on the value of my input – and that of the other office bearer's – when seeing the calls for candidates that have recently gone out to IGeLU members.

Sometimes I wonder, what would be if there were no candidates … if there were no IGeLU at all? Maybe it is worth thinking of the consequences seriously.

Consequences of not having candidates:

If nobody runs for the SC or the PWG's there will be no IGeLU. Let's imagine ourselves without IGeLU. Let's think about what we would lose:

- A meeting point with people coming from all different countries, being Ex Libris clients. The possibility of learning from the others, knowing about useful developments, perceiving that a problem can not be a result of our deficit in knowledge but in the system.
- A permanent "observatory" of the characteristics and functioning of the systems and its implementation and use, which permits the debate and the knowledge about the different products and feeds a permanent flow of information to and from Ex Libris through an open and permanent communication channel.
- The certainty that Ex Libris receives the information related to an overall client's satisfaction and dissatisfaction and that it has an impact on Ex Libris strategy, product development and management practices.
- The possibility of having a transparent enhancements process by which all the institutions, being small or big, situated in Europe, North America, Asia, South America or Africa, are able to take part in the decision making, at the same level, which are the desired features to be implemented in a certain system.
- The possibility to have continuous discussions, related to the product that you use, with other product users.
- The possibility of testing new versions before being released and of participating in various focus groups to improve the system functionalities according to the user needs.

Will we want to give away what we have achieved over decades? What would we have?

A situation in which each institution deals directly with Ex Libris, gets its own business, tries to be smarter and have better benefits than the others. Do you think that it is still possible? Are you asleep? Have you been off the Planet?

Reasons for running for a vacant position:

- I will be known worldwide! (Yes, for the good and the bad)
- My institution will benefit.
- Every member should work, at least once, for the benefit of the Association, so I consider that it is my turn, now.
- I consider that my expertise in a certain area can be useful to the others members.
- I think that a certain geographic area or a certain system's user group is not well represented on the SC or the PWG.
- Although I know that it will make my life more complicated and busy, I feel good when perceiving that the community I am involved in can benefit from my work pro bono.
- I fell that the team work experience is a challenge that always enriches my life, my way of living and the way I interact with other persons.

Reasons against running for a vacant position:

- It is a lot of hard work (for everybody)
- I am too busy (who is not?)
- I can't express myself well in English (were you responsible for the Babel Tower?)
- I am not sure if I can help (working for IGeLU can help you with that)
- I cannot due to other reasons (we understand this)
- Perhaps I have not deep expertise (Good gracious you are not a genius!)

So don't forget:

- Candidate yourself.
- If your institution is not an IGeLU member, do register immediately.
- If your institution is a member: pay the fees, vote in all the situations that you are asked to vote, participate in product list discussions, keep active and keep IGeLU alive.

I'm glad I did!

Passports to adventure
Credit to marklarson (Flickr)

"Candidate yourself …keep IGeLU alive … I'm glad I did!"

Two Chairs at IGeLU 2006: the new and the old, Jirka Kende and Guido Badalamenti.
Credit to Swedish Film Institute

Call for candidates - IGeLU needs you!

By Guido Badalementi, IGeLU past Chair

We are looking for volunteers - eligible users - who are willing to share their experience and knowledge and are able to devote some of their time to IGeLU and its activities.

This year we will be asked to elect 3 new members of the Steering Committee. This exceptional situation is due to the fact that two members of the existing Steering Committee that we elected last year, Ana Azevedo (University of Porto, Portugal) and Beate Rusch (KOBV, Germany) have been selected to remain in charge for one year only according to the Statute, and the third free position is due to the resignation, for professional reasons, of Pat Busby (University of Cape Town, South Africa).

All the newly elected members of the SC will stay in charge for a two-year term.

IGeLU SC at IGeLU 2006 in Stockholm.
Credit to Swedish Film Institute

We will also have some free positions available in the Product Working Groups (PWG's).

The Aleph PWG will have a vacancy for a Deputy Coordinator as Sue Julich (University of Iowa, USA), is unable to continue in this role due to work commitments.

For the MetaLib/SFX PWG, Lukas Koster (Library of the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands) accepted to act as coordinator of the group for one year only and other positions are still vacant in the Executive body of the PWG. We also have to consider the eventuality

that the MetaLib/SFX PWG decides to split into two different PWG's. In this case other positions will also be available.

In the DigiTool PWG, we need to replace Pascal Calarco (University of Notre Dame, USA) as coordinator, as Pascal has a new position in ELUNA and cannot act as coordinator anymore.

The Voyager PWG is a new group that will be established during the IGeLU meeting and the participants will be asked to appoint some office bearers for the organization of the PWG.
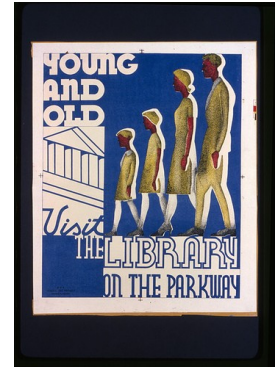
According to our Statute the right to vote and to be elected is associated with the membership*: Each membership carries with it one vote in the IGeLU elections and in any voting procedure* (art. III,8). In order to check if your institution is a paid-up member of IGeLU you can easily check our database on the IGeLU website http://www.igelu.org/organisation/ membership/members_list .

Our Association is quite new but many things have been done during the last year and the general framework is sufficiently defined. Now what we need is the enthusiastic energies of some of you to provide suitable leadership and support to accomplish our goals.

With the experience of eleven years of activities in the ICAU and IGeLU organizations let me bear witness to the fact that your contribution will be an opportunity to improve your knowledge of the Ex Libris products, and is a way to get much information and to actively contribute to the improvements of our software. In this sense, being an IGeLU office bearer represents also an interesting and valuable investment for your institutions.

If you are interested, please feel free to answer the call for candidates for the SC or for the PWG's. We kindly ask you to send a brief description of your experiences and curriculum to the IGeLU Chair or to the PWG Coordinators. It would be advisable to prepare 2/3 slides with your introduction that could be presented during the meeting.

Take the initiative and join us – we need you!

Young and old
Credit to marklarson (Flickr)

"Our Association is quite new but many things have been done during the last year..."

ANUG, S-NUG, V-NUG

By Pat Busby, IGeLU SC

We have a saying that different professions, and groups, speak in "alphabet soup" – where no-one else understands all the acronyms. Within IGeLU (more soup) we are familiar with ANUG, are getting to know S-NUG after 1 year, and will be introducing V-NUG: all very important to our "group-speak".

At the 1st IGeLU Conference in Stockholm in 2006, the Aleph National User Group (ANUG) continued its tradition of meeting just before the conference, and the SFX and MetaLib National User Group (S-NUG) was born. This year we look forward to a new birth, when the Voyager National User Group (V-NUG) will meet for the first time.

The value of the National User Group meetings is seen as the opportunity for representatives of the different National User Groups to discuss issues that arise in their countries with each other and the Steering Committee. The forum addresses concerns, provides suggestions, shares information and considers big develop-

ments, and input from users at these meetings assists the SC and the PWG's in working with Ex Libris on behalf of all of us.

Issues range from the general to the product-specific, so this year we decided to start with a general meeting, including ANUG, S-NUG and V-NUG representatives, followed by separate meetings for the 3 groups. As this is the first year that Voyager customers will meet within IGeLU, the V-NUG meeting will also be a business meeting addressing the establishment of the Voyager Product Working Group (VPWG).

The SC and the PWG Coordinators see this as an important opportunity to hear different country's concerns and successes and look forward to seeing NUG Representatives at these meetings.

A request has gone out to all NUG Representatives asking for a report on their NUG's activities since the last meeting, and these are invaluable in developing an agenda.

See you in Brno!

"We view all user-group meetings as great opportunities to interact with you — our customers..."

The Ex Libris Customer Community – Collaboration in Action

By Laura Gilinski, Ex Libris

Ex Libris employees from around the world are eagerly looking forward to the second annual IGeLU conference, which will take place in Brno, Czech Republic, in September 2007. We view all user-group meetings as great opportunities to interact with you—our customers—learn from your experiences, and brainstorm together on the future directions of our industry.

During the past year, some exciting Ex Libris-user projects took place. The successful outcome of these initiatives illustrates the strength of our collaborative work and serves to reinforce the commitment of all involved to continue working in this cooperative manner. Here are a few highlights of the year's projects:

Collaborative testing
Earlier this year, four customer institutions joined forces with the MetaLib product management and development teams to test the pre-release functionality of MetaLib version 4.0. The success of this product version, released in February 2007, was no doubt influenced by this collaborative effort, which came in response to a request from the IGeLU and ELUNA communities. As the result of this successful effort, a joint decision has been made to conduct collaborative testing on all major releases for all

products before they are released for Beta testing.

Primo
Like the other Ex Libris products, the Primo system, released in May 2007, was developed in collaboration with a group of development partners, brought on board during the earliest stages of the system's design. After endorsing the Primo product vision, members of the Primo charter program joined Ex Libris and the development partners to help fashion a next-generation solution, unmatched in the library marketplace.

Digital Preservation System
Ex Libris is working in conjunction with the National Library of New Zealand to develop a revolutionary end-to-end trusted digital preservation system for preserving national cultural heritage collections. The two parties have reached beyond the immediate Ex Libris customer base to work with an international peer review group (PRG) made up of recognized thought leaders and innovators from library and academic communities. The PRG serves as an independent resource, consulting on the scope and design of the initiative and its compliance with emerging industry standards. The group's participation will help ensure that the system conforms to general access and archiving trends so that it may be broadly applied.

Social event at the Vasa Museum, IGeLU 2006. Credit to Swedish Film Institute.

Welcome to Brno - the country, the place, its people and libraries

By Petr Žabička, MZK — Moravian Library

The Czech Republic consists of the historical territories of Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia. Traditional Czech products, which have a centuries-long world reputation, are decorative glass, porcelain and glass bijouterie. An excursion to the plants where these products are made is always very interesting for visitors.

The Southern Moravia region represents the crossroads of Europe. Since time immemorial, routes travelling from east to west and from north to south have intersected here. The region remains attractive today with its position in the southeast corner of the Czech Republic.

Brno, the Czech Republic's second largest city, has a population of nearly 370,000 people. It lies in the centre of the Southern Moravia Region.

Brno is the metropolis of Moravia and an important tourist centre for all who want to explore the natural and cultural beauties of the region.

Read more about Brno at www.brno.cz.

Currently, there are three large Aleph installations and one infiltration :-) in Brno. Apart from the Moravian Library, there is the Masaryk University and the Brno University of Technology installation (only one of Brno's large libraries, the municipal library, uses a non-Aleph system). Some research institutes which are part of the Czech Academy of Sciences also use Aleph on a central server in Prague.

The Brno University of Technology Central Library, co-organizer of this year's meeting, is located in a university rectorate building next to the city centre. The Central Library is relatively small and is responsible for running the central Aleph installation for all the university's libraries, located in different parts of Brno.

Masaryk University has no central library, only a small department responsible for Aleph maintenance and numerous faculty libraries, many of them in recently built or reconstructed buildings and with a large campus library to be opened soon.

The Moravian Library in Brno will host the IGeLU pre-conference event in it's new building, which was opened in 2001. The Moravian Library is the traditional research and regional library in Moravia, founded in 1808. With its 3.7 million volumes it is the second largest library in Czech Republic second only to the National Library in Prague. It has had legal deposit library status since 1935. It also has valuable historical collections including 384 incunabula, about 800 manuscripts and 60,000 old prints. The annual acquisition is about 40,000 volumes. The library staff of 165 is serving 33,000 registered users (about 60% of them students) that make some 1,500 visitors per day lending 600,000 items per year. It is one of the founding member of CASLIN (Czech and Slovak Library Network, est. 1991), a group of libraries which were the first to implement Aleph in our country.

The rise in the number of Aleph libraries and introduction of other Ex Libris products in the beginning of this millenium coincided with the appearance of a new local distributor and support centre - Charles University in Prague and MULTIDATA Praha Ltd .

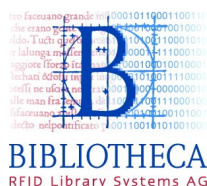We look forward to welcoming you to Brno!

Moravian Library

Places to eat

As there is no evening event scheduled for Tuesday or Wednesday, you might be asking us for recommendations of some good places to eat. From Brno's numerous restaurants, we recommend these fine establishments:

- Potrefená husa - Moravské náměstí 8
- Švejk Restaurant U Formana - Česká 29
- Pegas (microbrewery) - Jakubská 4
- Středověká krčma (Middle Ages Pub with wide selection of beers) - Česká 6
- U císaře Leopolda - Orlí 3
- Sherlock Holmes - Jakubské náměstí 2
- Rodeo Drive - Rašínova 2
- Pizza Colosseum - Dominikánská 3
- La Peda (very large portions of very good food) - Pekařská 80

The Penguin Discussion

By Beate Rusch, IGeLU SC

Let's start chronologically. What was first, what second? First was the decision to move the host for the IGeLU website from Siena to Berlin, second the decision to migrate to a more simple, more lightweight content management system. Then we thought: Now or never. Let's take the opportunity for a professional re-launch. We soon realized that we would need professional help. A small, thus dedicated, German company [http://www.siteform.de/] which is well known for standards and accessible good web design was hired.
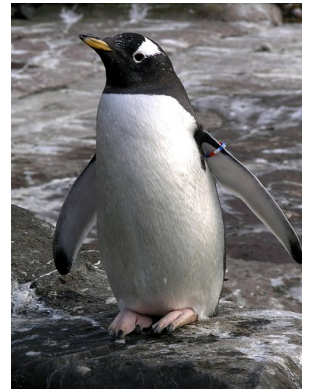
The committed group of IGeLU activists involved in this process soon learned that eye-catching conceptual pictures in websites are hot these days. We thought: Why not have such a metaphor picture as well, a picture which visualizes what we stand for? But no books please, we said immediately, maybe something with an "igloo", we suggested.

In the first draft we didn't exactly see an igloo but instead five penguins before a night blue sky were watching us. Yes penguins, those funny, truly social animals ... Our reactions could be described as between "Great, I love it" and "We are not in a zoo, are we".

In a second draft we saw an eye-catching white igloo sitting on fresh green grass with azure blue sky. Again, responses were rather split. Maybe we are not used to arguing with our heart only, but are always trying to understand the deeper meaning, so the phrase of "disastrous climate changes" was heard more than once.

Pictures have to do with identity, this is what we have understood already, and how hard it is to reflect the identity of our Association with one picture only. Maybe we'll need more than one, maybe we'll need more flexibility. The current idea is to have a picture bar – with our own pictures. They may change from time to time ... depending on our activities, the season and the side of our identity we want to stress more ... Here you may see also penguins and igloos once in a while. Discussion is still underway.

Penguin posing
Credit to Lord Biro (Flickr)

International Group of Ex Libris Users

Many of the photos in this issue are from flickr.com, licensed under Creative Commons. Pictures on p 4-9: New Deal-era posters from the Works Progress Administration poster collection in Library of Congress. Thanks to all who have contributed!

WWW.IGELU.ORG

Welcome to IGeLU

IGeLU:
The International Group of Ex Libris Users

As we all know, insufficient communication is the source of much disappointment. **IGeLU** *provides an open and transparent organization for all users of all Ex Libris products.*

IGeLU: *promotes information exchange among institutions that use Ex Libris products in order to enhance their library services by sharing information, documentation and resources; and represents the user community in dealings with the vendor, Ex Libris.*

IGeLU *is the successor organization of ICAU and SMUG.*

You are invited to join **IGeLU!** *Simply download the registration form from www.igelu.org, fax us the completed form (see fax number in the right top corner of the form), and we will send you the invoice for the 2007 annual fee (EUR 220).*