

News for Members

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In the Service of University Libraries

Outgoing President's message

As I look back at the past eighteen months during which I served as President of the International Association of University Libraries, I feel optimistic about the future. A vibrant higher education sector is more important than ever to support the improvement of all aspects of the human condition. Many if not most of our institutions have placed a high priority on addressing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Our institutions have also demonstrated tremendous resilience in the face of the global pandemic. I am heartened by the ways in which university libraries are supporting research on the global challenges agenda and by our success in co-creating and supporting new virtual modes of teaching and learning.

I am convinced that IATUL has demonstrated its value in fostering the exchange of library experiences and findings at the institutional level during the pandemic. During these difficult times, IATUL held its first virtual Seminar (Innsbruck – November 2020) and first virtual Annual Conference (Porto – June 2021). These events were offered free of charge to all registrants. As a result, IATUL reached a huge audience (much larger than was possible during an in-person event). The presentations at these inaugural virtual events remain available through IATUL's YouTube channel.

I look forward to continuing to work with my IATUL Board colleagues as Anna Walek assumes the role of President of the organization in January. I look forward to connecting with all members of the IATUL network as we work to address the tremendous opportunities that lie ahead.

Dr. Charles Eckman, Dean of Libraries, University of Miami, IATUL Ongoing President

Incoming President's message

When I started my service on the IATUL Board of Directors in 2018, I joined the group of wonderful people who devote their time and commitment to our organisation's common good, development, and goals. Faced with the challenges we have all encountered with the pandemic, we worked together to ensure that the difficulties did not disrupt the organisation of the annual conferences and seminars and the work of the Special Interest Groups, which were even more active during this period. The entire IATUL Board of Directors, the great team in the IATUL Office at the TU Munich Library, and the teams organising the events in Innsbruck and Porto, worked together to give our community the opportunity to meet, albeit virtually, and to exchange experiences. After taking over the presidency from my colleague Charles Eckman from January 2022, I would like to continue the great work that has been done so far. I would also like to present myself and the entire IATUL community with new challenges, mainly related to education and new specialisations in the academic librarian profession. We would also like to focus on the challenges academic libraries face worldwide, both in the context of the effects of the pandemic and the development of new services and technologies.

Thank you for the trust and support I received when you endorsed my candidacy for IATUL President. I will do my best to continue the development of our previous achievements and, together with the Board and you, shape the further development and success of IATUL. I appreciate your support so far, and I invite you to contribute further. I hope we can meet soon at the IATUL Seminar (December 15th online) and in person at the Miami and the United Arab Emirates conferences.

Dr. Anna Walek, Library Director, Gdańsk University of Technology Library, IATUL Secretary and Incoming President

The IATUL Fall 2021 Seminar: You are invited!



IATUL Board of Directors and the Library of Gdańsk University of Technology in Poland, cordially invite current members and all who are interested in IATUL activities to attend the IATUL Fall Seminar, which will be held online on Wednesday 15th December, 12:00 - 15:45 CET.

The event theme “**Connecting in a Disconnected World**” aims to emphasize the benefits of belonging to the IATUL community in the challenging times we live in. The event will also highlight further possibilities offered to the IATUL membership such as collaboration and connecting with peers from around the world, exchanging ideas while working on one of many multinational projects, developing one’s professional career by applying for the International Study Programme, as well as attending events and workshops offered by IATUL. During the event, IATUL Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will also present their activities and achievements, which will be a great opportunity for all attendees who are considering volunteering to serve on one of these groups. Program topics are listed below:

- IATUL Serving University Libraries since 1955
- Interested in Hosting an IATUL Event? Reflections on the 2019 IATUL Conference
- SIG IL Special Interest Group for Information Literacy - Diversifying Information Literacy
- SIG MaRI Special Interest Group for Metrics and Research Impact
- SIG ALICE Special Interest Group for the Advancement of Library Services in Emerging Countries
- SIG DATA Special Interest Group for Research Data Management
- SIG SPACE Special Interest Group for Library Space

The seminar program and registration links are available from <https://event.mostwiedzy.pl/event/8/>
The event is free but registration is required.

IATUL 42nd Annual Conference in Miami



The University of Miami and Florida International University (FIU) will jointly host the IATUL 42nd Annual Conference and the General Assembly during **June 12-16, 2022**, in Miami, USA.

“Weaving our Future: Creativity, Innovation and Transformation in Libraries.”

<https://www.iatul.org/events/annual-conference>

The International Association of University Libraries (IATUL) invites you to attend the 42nd Annual IATUL Conference at the University of Miami and Florida International University in Miami, the USA from 12 June to 16 June 2022. This is an excellent opportunity to hear about the latest academic library initiatives, visit award-winning libraries, and network with colleagues and friends from all over the world. As higher education moves beyond the pandemic, libraries are positioned to lead in an environment in which teaching, learning, research, and work practices are shifting. The IATUL 2022 conference will provide excellent opportunities to explore, learn and share diverse experiences.

The overarching theme of the 42nd IATUL Conference is “Weaving our Future: Creativity, Innovation and Transformation in Libraries.” Examples of topics that align with the theme include:

- The changing landscape of research: open science; problem-based interdisciplinary research; community-based research; data governance.
- Trends in teaching and learning: virtual learning platforms; lifelong learning; education of librarians; digital fluency; critical information literacy.
- Space planning: permeable library facilities; incorporating outdoor spaces; healthy study and collaboration environments.
- Workplace and organizational culture: telework; workflow redesign; inclusive practices; new skillsets.

We look forward to welcoming you to this exciting event in Miami! More information including the conference website, preliminary program, call for papers, travel grants and registration information will be posted soon on the IATUL website, Twitter, and mailing list.

Short survey: in-person attendance at the 42nd IATUL 2022

The IATUL 2022 in-person Annual Conference – Weaving our Future: Creativity; Innovation and Transformation in Libraries – is scheduled for June 12-16, 2022 in Miami, USA. Due to recent events, the IATUL Board has endorsed the distribution of a short survey proposed by the IATUL conference planners to assist in conference planning. Please take a moment to review and complete the survey based on information currently available to you. The survey link is available at

https://umiami.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3BOfIyeWB2YxQ6q

IATUL 43rd Annual Conference and General Assembly: save the dates

The IATUL Board is happy to announce that our institutional members from the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Zayed University in Dubai and the American University of Sharjah will jointly host the IATUL 43rd Annual Conference and the General Assembly during March 2023 for the first time in the region. More details will be announced at the Miami conference and please follow our Twitter and news sections on the website for detailed announcements.

41st Annual Conference in Porto: a report



41st IATUL Annual Conference was hosted virtually during 13th-15th July at Porto, Portugal.

The conference kicked off with Professor Fernanda Rollo (NOVA Lisbon University) with the keynote calling the academic libraries as “actors and connectors” in this new age, and emphasizing the need for enhancement and extensions of our role, continuously supporting and investing in its resources and services. The first morning had the presentations of four interesting posters, and this year’s Irmgard Lankenau best poster prize was awarded to “Expect the Unexpected: One Library’s response to crisis and change” by Caitlin MacKenzie Mannion, Qinghua Xu, Xiaojing Zu (NYU Shanghai Library). Heather Joseph and Vanessa Proudman shared a keynote on “Libraries as Catalysts to an Open Future.” Prof. Sarita Albagli, with an inspiring lecture, stressed the importance and the centrality of Open and Citizen Science should have in today’s global crisis, requiring new agendas and new ways of interventions by libraries and other institutions. Prof. Teresa Leão (Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto) delivered her brilliant keynote entitled “*Can libraries be a safe haven in the midst of a pandemic?*”. It was an inspiring and original communication, well connected to the theme, which was very enlightening for all delegates. Also, a particular reference to the Panel “Bridging to Open Research,” which brought together four experienced speakers in Open Science. Maria Vicente (Plataforma de Ciência Aberta) talked about projects held in Citizen Science. Cristina Ribeiro (FEUP) spoke about her work on Open Research Data. Alastair Dunning (TU Delft) started a discussion around the new Skills for Libraries on Open Science. Finally, Kathleen Shearer (COAR) explained COAR’s work and role on Open Repositories. It was the most exciting and insightful panel with a follow-up discussion on working methods and best practices.

Though we have missed a great opportunity to visit beautiful Porto and in-person meeting and networking experiences, the organizing committee, and the host have done a great job in organizing such an interactive conference using the FLOOR platform. The feedback received was very positive for the first

fully online IATUL Annual Conference. 341 registered delegates were able to interact with each other, with speakers, and also with our sponsors ExLibris, Elsevier, Springer, and IEEE. All sessions are also made available on the IATUL's YouTube channel and proceedings will be available at Purdue University Repository very soon. *IATUL community extends a big thank you to the organizing committee and the host committee led by Luís Miguel Costa, from the Faculdade de Engenharia University of Porto.*

The General Assembly was held as part of the 41st IATUL Annual Conference 2021 in Porto, as a webinar on Tuesday 13th July, 11:00-12:30 CEST via the online conference platform FLOOR. The assembly allowed the members of IATUL to get to know and review all the work done through the last year, especially in such difficult circumstances.

Call for Nominations - IATUL Board of Directors



IATUL is calling for interested and qualified candidates to serve on its Board of Directors, the executive body of IATUL responsible for leading the development of the Association, its strategic direction, and actions. IATUL is looking for nominations to represent below regions;

- The Americas (1 seat)
- Africa and Middle East (1 seat)
- Asia and the Pacific, including Australia and New Zealand (1 seat)

Ordinary and Associate Members may propose representatives for election. Nominations shall name the candidate and shall show evidence of the candidate's consent. Nominators must be official representatives of a member institution. The decision as to who shall be invited to join the Board will be made by the Board and presented to the General Assembly for approval at the Annual Conference, which will take place in Miami, Florida, from 12 to 16 June 2022. Members of the Board are elected for a term of three years and shall be eligible for immediate re-election to one additional term.

Candidates are expected to take an active part in the endeavors of the IATUL Board of Directors, especially by attending Board meetings and taking on responsibilities related to assigned tasks and roles on the Board. The Board meets four times a year. Board members are expected to attend in person at the Annual Conference and General Assembly.

Please submit your nomination by completing the [online nomination form](#). Nominations may be submitted by the end of January 2022 and name the candidate, who must be the Library Director/University Librarian of an IATUL member library.

Call for hosting IATUL Events

Fall seminars:

The IATUL Board invites member institutions to submit expressions of interest to host the IATUL Fall Seminars in 2022 and 2023. The seminar should be devoted to a theme of importance to the members and host by an IATUL member institution. Recent themes have included: connecting in a disconnected world (Gdańsk, 2021); sustainable crisis management in libraries (Innsbruck, 2020); open science and data management (Gdańsk, 2019); and workplace information literacy (Munich, 2018). The seminar can be conducted as an online or in-person event. Requirements are the same as those for hosting an annual conference. Please note that financial support from IATUL for the seminar is possible this year. Board members are available to consult on any potential proposal. Please consider submitting a proposal – these may be addressed to: iatul@cpo-hanser.de

Annual Conferences:

In the Spring or early Summer, the International Association of University Libraries (IATUL) members meet to discuss strategic and applied topics that advance both the individual and collective practices of university libraries. Hosting an IATUL conference is a great opportunity to meet colleagues from around the world, showcase your city and your institution, and network with library directors and senior managers from over 70 countries to exchange ideas, expand professional networks, form new collaborations, and work together on multinational projects exploring the big challenges we face. We are looking for partners who would like to host the IATUL Annual conference and General assembly in 2024 and beyond. Please use the [application form](#) for conference hosting and send applications, requests, and questions to: iatul@cpo-hanser.de

IATUL Office changes

As reported at the Annual General Meeting in July, IATUL is transitioning its office services from the Technical University of Munich Library. For the past fifteen years, TUM Library Director Reiner Kallenborn and his staff have provided excellent administrative, financial, communications, marketing, and legal support services to the Association. We are very grateful to Reiner, Christine Meister, Janet Schulz and so many others at the TUM Library whose efforts have contributed to IATUL's growth and success.

An IATUL Board subcommittee recommended that IATUL explore the possibility of establishing a relationship with an association management firm to handle office functions. The IATUL Board selected the Hamburg -based [CPO HANSER SERVICE, Hanser & Co. GmbH](#) following a tender process overseen by the Board's Executive Committee. IATUL has now begun transitioning office support functions to CPO HANSER SERVICE. Rita Pape at CPO HANSER SERVICE is overseeing the process in direct collaboration with the TUM Library team and IATUL Board. Throughout the process, members should not experience any inconvenience related to the transition. Please let the Board know if you have any questions.

IATUL Special Interest Groups - SIG News

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) provide the framework for ongoing international collaboration among IATUL members, in addition to the traditional annual conference. Each SIG focuses on a particular subject area and defines its terms of reference, together with long and short-term goals. The SIG not only monitors its subject of focus but also discusses and advances it. All kinds of collaboration are imaginable, ranging from online discussions to joint research projects. The SIG decides its preferred way of collaboration and IATUL as an organization supports its activities. All employees from IATUL member libraries are welcome to join a SIG. Find out more about IATUL SIGs from:

<https://www.iatul.org/services/special-interest-groups>

Metrics and Research Impact SIGMaRI updates

Usage and feedback of the Research Impact Thing tools <https://iatulimpactthings.info/> show globally increased usage and sessions since its launch in October 2020. Development of this openly available, development tool continued to be a major focus for the group in 2021 and it's anticipated that in 2022.

The following table provides a breakdown of the countries that users have accessed the site from and while a large proportion is located in Australasia, it's pleasing to see the audience is geographically diverse.

1.  Australia	1,115 (30.14%)	16.  Portugal	29 (0.78%)
2.  United States	381 (10.30%)	17.  Sweden	29 (0.78%)
3.  New Zealand	318 (8.59%)	18.  Austria	28 (0.76%)
4.  United Kingdom	288 (7.78%)	19.  Switzerland	27 (0.73%)
5.  Romania	173 (4.68%)	20.  Spain	27 (0.73%)
6.  Canada	161 (4.35%)	21.  France	26 (0.70%)
7.  India	106 (2.86%)	22.  Singapore	26 (0.70%)
8.  Lithuania	100 (2.70%)	23.  Turkey	25 (0.68%)
9.  South Africa	94 (2.54%)	24.  Trinidad & Tobago	25 (0.68%)
10.  China	83 (2.24%)	25.  Ireland	24 (0.65%)
11.  United Arab Emirates	57 (1.54%)	26.  Ghana	20 (0.54%)
12.  Finland	55 (1.49%)	27.  Norway	20 (0.54%)
13.  Netherlands	50 (1.35%)	28.  Denmark	19 (0.51%)
14.  Germany	48 (1.30%)	29.  Poland	18 (0.49%)
15.  Russia	38 (1.03%)	30.  Saudi Arabia	15 (0.41%)

Find out more about SIG MaRI from <https://www.iatul.org/services/special-interest-groups/sig-mari>

Information Literacy SIGIL updates



"Water reflections in Roppongi"
Kevin Dooley, CC BY 2.0

Diversifying information literacy

The IATUL SIG IL is currently establishing a working group to create a globally shared resource to increase diversity in information literacy practice. This will include approaches to decolonize reading lists and enhance diversity in information discovery. If you have an interest or expertise in this area and would like to be involved then we would love to hear from you. Expressions of interest should be emailed to the Chair of the IATUL SIG IL, Vicky Grant, v.grant@sheffield.ac.uk by 6th January 2022. Please use the subject header, *Diversifying information literacy*, in your email.

Find out more about the SIG IL

<https://www.iatul.org/services/special-interest-groups/sig-il>

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