

# Library Collaboration: International and National

Michael Breaks  
University Librarian  
Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh UK  
Past-president IATUL

# International Association of Technological University Libraries (IATUL)

16th Panhellenic Academic  
Libraries Conference

# IATUL

- Established 1955
- 150 members from 43 countries
- Institutions with doctoral programmes in science/engineering
- Member is the Library Director
- Annual Conference (Chania 1999)
- General Assembly and Elected Board
- *[www.iatul.org](http://www.iatul.org)*

# IATUL CONFERENCES

- 2006 Porto, Portugal
  - *Embedding libraries into learning and research*
- 2007 Stockholm, Sweden
- *Global Access to Science*
  - scientific communication
  - open access
  - institutional repositories
  - role of libraries in this new environment
- 2008 Auckland, New Zealand
  - *Digital Discovery*
- Travel Grants

# IATUL Activities

- Networking/Sharing Experiences
- Mailing list
- Cross-Country Collaboration
  - Staff Exchanges
  - User Education
  - Service Monitoring
  - Evaluation of services and benchmarking
  - Preservation of library materials
- Conference presentation
- Quality Management Group

# UK Higher Education

- 55m population
- 125 Universities
  - Varied missions
- 50% participation (18/21)
- National Libraries
  - British Library
  - National Library of Scotland
  - National Library of Wales

# SCONUL (Society of College, National and University Libraries)

*promotes excellence in library services in higher education  
and national libraries across the UK and Ireland*

- ‘Hot Topics’
  - Communications and Marketing
  - E-learning
  - E-research
  - Information Literacy
  - Performance Improvement/Quality Management
  - Scholarly Communications
  - Space Management (Library Design Awards)
- Annual Conference
- Mutual Access and ‘Walk-in’ Access

# SCONUL 'TOP CONCERNS'

- Funding and Financial Management
- Policy and Strategy
- Buildings and Space
- E-environment
- Access to Services
- Institutional Issues
- Human Resources
- IT
- Management Issues
- Quality Issues



# Electronic Libraries Programme (eLib)

- 1994 – 2000
- 15 Strands and 59 Projects (20 survive)
- Effected Major Cultural Change
- Embedded new skills in libraries:
  - Project orientation, including evaluation and assessment;
  - Risk management
  - Collaboration: internal, external, and international
- New Buildings
- Gave Credit to Funders

“With eLib, almost every higher education  
Library was able to touch excellence.”

# Electronic Libraries Programme (eLib)

- 1994 – 2000
- 15 Strands and 59 Projects (20 survive)
- Effected Major Cultural Change
- Embedded new skills in libraries:
  - Project orientation, including evaluation and assessment;
  - Risk management
  - Collaboration: internal, external, and international
- New Buildings
- Gave Credit to Funders

# Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)

*to provide world-class leadership in the innovative use of  
ICT to support education and research*

- JANET Network
- E-Learning
- E-Research
- E-Resources (National deals)
- E-Administration
- Access Management
- Information Environment
- Knowledge Transfer

# UKOLN

*Centre of expertise in digital information management,  
providing advice and services to the library, information,  
education and cultural heritage communities*

- Dublin Core
- Web Focus
- Interoperability
- Public libraries/Museums Digitisation
- Institutional Repositories
- Web 2.0
- Ariadne Web Magazine ([www.ariadne.ac.uk](http://www.ariadne.ac.uk))

# Research Information Network

*To lead and co-ordinate new developments in the collaborative provision of research information for the benefit of researchers in the UK*

- Researchers' Use and Perception of Libraries
- Discovery Services
- Collaborative Collection Management
- Economics of Scholarly Communication
- Research Data Publication
- Subject Case Studies based on log analysis

# UK Research Reserve

*Collaborative and sustainable approach to securing the long term retention, storage and access to low-use **printed** research journals*

- National Strategy for Retention
- Make more accessible
- 17km of low-use journals identified
- Minimum of 3 copies to be retained
- Space re-use
- British Library lending copy
- SCONUL Coordination
- Extended to books?

# Digital Curation Centre

*National focus for research and development into curation of all research outputs in digital format*

- Context is e-Research
- Working with Disciplines
- Identifying issues
  - Annotations
  - Citations
  - Data Integration and Publication
  - Permanent Preservation/Access
- Awareness Raising



# INTUTE

*Free online service providing access to the very best Web resources*

- 120,000 evaluated resources
  - Arts and Humanities
  - Social Sciences
  - Science, Engineering and Technology
  - Health and Life Sciences
- Assessed by librarians
- Amalgamation of e-Lib subject gateways
- Virtual Training Suite

# SCURL (Scotland)

- All Scottish Universities and National Library
- Sub-groups
  - Access
  - Health Group
  - ‘Special Needs’
  - Preservation
  - E-Licensing
- Collaborative Store
- Institutional Repository
- Shared Preservation
- Submissions and Responses
- Scottish Digital Library Consortium

# What makes collaboration work?

- Have a need
- Shared vision of the outcome
- Positive attitudes, compromise and trust
- Communication
- Resources

“Coming together is a  
beginning;  
keeping together is  
progress;  
working together is success.”

Henry Ford

# Thank You

*Michael Breaks*

*m.l.breaks@hw.ac.uk*

16th Panhellenic Academic  
Libraries Conference