

CENL

REPORT TO CDNL 2005

ANNUAL REPORT

Please provide an overview of national developments since your last report including highlights and issues of relevance to CDNL members. Insert no more than 500 words below:

At its 18th Annual meeting in Rome in September 2004, the CENL Board discussed and approved the recommendations of the CENL review which was undertaken in 2004 by Monika Segbert and David Fuegi. The major decisions were: to move the CENL Secretariat to the Chair's place of work i.e. Bern, to restructure the CENL Executive Committee, enlarging it to four members plus a person to track project opportunities (taking over from the CoBRA Forum which was officially dissolved), to restructure other working groups and to prepare a CENL web site separate from that in preparation for the launch of the European Library. During 2004, the European Library moved from a project status to an operational structure with the original project members signing an agreement to develop the system. The operational European Library Service was officially launched in March 2005 at www.theeuropeanlibrary.org.

During Summer 2004, the CENL prepared a follow-up to the TEL project, entitled TEL-ME-MOR, with the goal of increasing New members state participation in European-funded projects and extending the European Library Service to the 10 new member states of the European Union. The proposal, submitted to the European Commission in September 2004, was evaluated successfully and began formally as an accompanying measure on February 1st 2005. (telmemor.net). The project will be managed by Die Deutsche Bibliothek and will last for two years

During 2005, expressions of interest in joining the European Library have been invited from the remaining CENL members. The Gabriel website will be gradually withdrawn and replaced by two sites: the CENL site at www.cenl.org and the European Library site. In addition, it has been agreed to incorporate the activities of the CENL working group on networking standards into the activities of the European Library.

In December 2004, the Chair of CENL, Jean-Frédéric Jauslin, Director of the Swiss National Library, was appointed head of the Swiss federal office of culture and therefore had to step down as Chair. In the interim, the Vice-Chair, Dr. Elisabeth Niggemann took over the task of acting Chair, and a call for nominations for all members of the Executive Committee, in accordance with the proposals adopted in September 2004, has been sent out. The choice of Chair and other members will be formally ratified in the 2005 annual meeting in Luxembourg.

In 2004, the CENL submitted a request to the Council of Europe to be recognised as an official body to be consulted in the case of topics of interest to national libraries. It is hoped that the recognition will formally take place in autumn 2005.

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