

10th UNICA Scholarly Communication Online Seminar

“Academic Libraries. Supporting the university community in the Open Science era”

Promoted by the University of Cyprus

Biographies and abstracts of the speakers

DAY 1 | 14 October 2021

Welcome Addresses

Irene - Anna Diakidoy, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, University of Cyprus



Irene-Anna Diakidoy is a Professor of Educational Psychology specializing on Learning and Cognition. She obtained her PhD from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (USA) and held a position of Assistant Professor at the University of South Dakota (USA) before joining the faculty at the University of Cyprus. She is currently the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs at the University of Cyprus.

Her research interests include reading comprehension and learning from text, knowledge acquisition and conceptual change, and informal reasoning and creativity.

Her earlier work on creativity has approached the construct from a cognitive perspective and has contributed to a knowledge-based and problem-solving view of creativity as opposed to the traditional examination of creativity as a domain-independent personal/personality trait. Her work on the effects of refutational text structures on learning and conceptual change has contributed to the emerging theoretical shift regarding the underlying cognitive mechanisms of ‘conceptual change’ learning from restructuring to co-existence and inhibition. This work has been published in high-ranking journals and was the subject of an invited keynote address at the Conference of the European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction in 2013. This work has also provided the basis for a new line of research that examines the connection between comprehension and informal reasoning and argument evaluation. The main aim of this research is to the extent to which level of text comprehension facilitates the identification of fallacious arguments embedded in text and how both comprehension and argument evaluation may shape learning, belief formation and decision-making. Her more recent research diverges on computational aspects of knowledge representation and automated comprehension.

LUCIANO SASO | President, UNICA Network



Prof. Luciano Saso (Faculty of Pharmacy and Medicine, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) received his PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Sapienza University in 1992. He is author of more than 220 scientific articles published in peer reviewed international journals with impact factor (SASO-L in www.pubmed.com, total impact factor > 500, H-index Google Scholar 45, Scopus 37). He coordinated several research projects in the field of pharmacology and has been referee for many national and international funding agencies and international scientific journals in the last 30 years. Prof. Saso has extensive experience in international relations and he is currently Vice-Rector for European University Networks at Sapienza University of Rome. In the last 15 years, he participated in several projects including IMS2020, EGRACONS, IMOTION, BUCUM, UZDOC, TRAIN and has been speaker and chair at many international conferences organised by UNICA and other university networks. He coordinates the Sapienza team in the European University CIVIS (www.civis.eu). Prof. Saso has been Member of the Steering Committee of UNICA for two mandates (2011-2015) and in November 2019 he has been re-elected President of UNICA for the second mandate (2019-2023).

ELENA DIOMIDI-PARPOUNA | Acting Library Director, University of Cyprus



Elena Diomidi-Parpouna has been working at the University of Cyprus Library since its establishment in 1992. She holds Library and Information Science degrees (BSc and MSc) and a Master in Business Administration (MBA). In her long working experience, she has been involved in all the operations and the management of the academic library (acquisitions, cataloguing, interlibrary loan, user services, etc). She is currently leading the library, managing its resources, human and other, ensuring a smooth operation and the further development of the library. She has been the immediate link between the library and the architects of the new and monumental library building, the “Stelios Ioannou” Learning Resource Center, which opened its doors in December 2018, after the successful planning and management of the relocation of the collection and services from the old building. She focuses her work in the enhancement of the role of the library within the academic community as well as its impact on the local society. In parallel, to ensure the concurrent development of other Cyprus libraries, she has actively promoted the establishment of the Cyprus Library Consortia (CALC). She has also lead the engagement of the University of Cyprus Library in European and local projects on the issue of Open Access.

ANDREAS DEGKWITZ | Library Director, Humboldt University of Berlin and Co-coordinator of UNICA Scholarly Communication



Prof. Dr. Andreas Degkwitz (born 1956) is the Director of the Library of the Humboldt University of Berlin and Honorary Professor for information science of Potsdam University for Applied Sciences. 2004 – 2011 he was the Chief-Information-Officer of the Brandenburg Technical University of Cottbus. 1998 – 2003 he was the deputy-director of the library of Potsdam University. 1991- 1998 he worked as a consultant for library affairs at the German Research Society. Since 2018 he is Open Access officer of the Humboldt University. From March 2019 – April 2022 he was a chair of the German Library Association.

Keynote Speech : The European Open Science Landscape

SILVIA BOTTARO | Legal Officer, European Commission, DG Research and Innovation, Open Science Unit



Silvia Bottaro is Legal Officer at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation. Silvia works in the Open Science unit, where she contributes to the further development and implementation of the European Open Science agenda. Before joining the European Commission, she coordinated the Open Science Working Group of The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities. She has also worked as a policy officer for European federations representing academies of medicine and hospitals, working on various research policies and projects. Silvia is a graduate in European policies and public affairs from the universities of Padua and Strasbourg.

The European Open Science landscape

From a new communication on the European Research Area to the start of Horizon Europe, with the launch of the Commission's open access publishing platform and the deadline for the transposition of new EU copyright rules into national laws... the last twelve months have continued to shape research and innovation. What does that mean for the European Open Science landscape? What to expect and most importantly: what to do?

Session 1 : Supporting Researchers in the Open Science Landscape

Chair: ELENA DIOMIDI-PARPOUNA, Acting Library Director, University of Cyprus

See bio above.

GIANNIS TSAKONAS | LIBER Innovative Scholarly Communication, Steering Committee Chair, Director Library & Information Center, University of Patras



Giannis Tsakonas holds a BA in Librarianship from the Department of Archives and Library Sciences, Ionian University, Greece and a PhD in Information Science from the same Department. Currently, he works as Acting Director in the Library & Information Center, University of Patras, Greece. Since July 2016, he is member of the Executive Board of LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche - Association of European Research Libraries), chairing also its Innovative Scholarly Communication Steering Committee, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Consortium of Hellenic Academic Libraries.

Metrics, values and the role of libraries assisting Universities with measurements

In a world where numerous measurements are used for the competition in the academic world, libraries are required to stand up for the values that should govern all the important elements that have to be valued. The technological advances and the changes in the scholarly communication have rapidly changed the academic and research landscape in an appearing progressive manner. Open Science is forwarding openness in the scholarly communication activity and by extension is calling for revisiting values, such as equity and transparency. Libraries,

as advocates of the Open Science principles, can play a role in strengthening these values and help their institutions to re-contextualize in this new landscape.

RAUL AGUILERA ORTEGA | Head of Library at UC3M - Co-coordinator of UNICA Scholarly Communication



Raul Aguilera is the Head of Library at UC3M. He has been Director of the Law and Social Sciences Library and Co-coordinator of UC3M Digital, formerly known as Educational Technology and Teaching Innovation Service (UTEID), which is a cross-institutional unit aimed to support learning innovation projects, such as MOOCs and SPOCs, among others. Previously he was Co-coordinator of Information Literacy and Library 2.0 initiatives. Throughout his career he has been involved in a variety of European projects related to open access in research, teaching support and digital education from a cross-institutional collaboration.

Expanding OA and digital services at UC3M: data management and digital humanities support

Open access and digital technologies impacted first on scholarly communication and scientific workflows in the field of sciences. There are still ongoing challenges, such as opening up the research data to make research deeper and more efficient. Other fields such as humanities and social sciences can also find opportunities in technologies and open access to shake up their research methodologies, to power their research communities and showcase their scientific outputs. Slowly, but steadily, a new open knowledge landscape is being built that will be rethinking library services. This presentation will show how the Library Service at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid is involved in contributing to support researchers in data management and, more specifically, to help a new community of humanities and social science researchers to digitally transform their work.

VASILIKI (SYLVIA) KOUKOUNIDOU | Coordinator of the Digitisation and Archives office, University of Cyprus Library



Sylvia Koukounidou is a University officer and holds the position of coordinator of the Digitization and Archives office of the University of Cyprus Library. She has a BSc in Archival and Library Science and an MBA with concentration in MIS Management Information Systems. Since 2004, Sylvia is participating in many projects of the University of Cyprus Library and from September 2009 she is participating in the Pan-European project OpenAIRE as Cyprus NOAD representative. She is also participating in the project National Initiatives for Open Science in Europe – NI4OS Europe. One of her main tasks to the project is to provide support to EOSC service uptake and FAIR uptake in communities.

Library's role to support Open Science: the case of the University of Cyprus Library

The multidimensional role of academic libraries is unavoidable enriched with new challenges. Among others, as a “living organisation” a library needs to follow the technological changes, new developments and innovations regarding research processes and outcomes in order to be able to support all the relevant stakeholders. The University of Cyprus Library serving the local academic and broader local community since 1992 is actively involved

since 2009 in European projects related to Open Science, and was able to transfer knowledge and provide support to its users and not only. Playing a key role to the creation of the national policy adopted in 2016, the University of Cyprus Library is continuously and consistently working on awareness and dissemination activities regarding all Open Science aspects for the benefit of the local research and broader local community.

Session 2 : Speakers' Corner: Lessons Learnt From The Pandemic – Sharing Experiences

Chair: ANDREAS DEGKWITZ, Library Director, Humboldt University of Berlin and Co-coordinator of UNICA Scholarly Communication

See bio above.

ELENA DIOMIDI PARPOUNA, Acting Library Director, University of Cyprus

See bio above.

The role of the academic library in the enhancement of the overall quality of the University's distant teaching and learning by Elena Diomidi-Parpouna, Acting Library Director, University of Cyprus

The University of Cyprus Library has been addressing the global challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, in line with the institutional, governmental and World Health Organization guidelines. Considering the needs of the academic community and the provided infrastructure, the Library has acted swiftly and proactively in order to support the university distant teaching and research activities. The presentation will cover the services provided (distant or physical) in the COVID realities, the impact of the pandemic to everyday Library operations, the new more digital expectations of the library patrons, but also the new working environment which required new skills from staff as well as are required and new ways of communication and new perspectives for the future in general.

RADKA ŘÍMANOVÁ | Director, Central Library, Charles University and LUCIE PANCHÁRTEK SUCHÁ | Head of e-resources department, Central Library, Charles University



Radka Římanová is Director of Central Library of Charles University, but she has almost 30 years of experience in specialized libraries. She focused on organizing and managing library processes and document services, especially digital libraries. Concurrently working in Central Library, she teaches at the Institute of Information Science and Librarianship to bring up the new librarian generation.



Lucie Panchártek Suchá is head of the e-resources department of Central Library of Charles University, where she figures as liaison officer between Charles University and the National Centre for Electronic Information Resources. She is responsible for e-resources support for faculty libraries, and her work is focused on bridging the gap between academics and librarians. The experience from chemical research helps her with this task.

The effects of extraordinary pandemic access to digitized collections

The study literature was not available due to the pandemic situation since March 2020. In cooperation with universities, the National Library reacted promptly and began negotiation to open up the remote access to the Digital Library (DL, several million digitized pages of monographs and periodicals from the collections). Until then, it was only possible to access from libraries (due to copyright). During the pandemic, some publishers, despite government financial compensation, changed their minds and decided not to support remote access to the DL. For this reason, the DL will close on 30.06. and so far, there is no indication that it should ever be re-enabled in remote access. Charles University would like to share its experiences with evaluating the situation, including the review of several focus groups with publishers. We had the opportunity to speak with both publisher camps - those who agree with the opening of the DL and perceive that e-books (incl. e-books in OA mode) increase the sales of printed ones, and those who strictly disagree because e-books threaten sales of printed ones. Furthermore, the opinions of Charles University teachers who used the DL will be discussed, and several cases of violation of the DL license terms and evaluation of that situation.

TATIJANA PETRIĆ | Head, Central Office for the Coordination of University Libraries, University of Zagreb



Tatijana Petrić was born in 1964 in Zadar. She holds a degree in Philosophy and Sociology, and a PhD in Information and Communication Sciences.

She worked at the Faculty of Philosophy in Zadar in the Central Library, then in the Scientific Library of Zadar. From 2015 to 2020, she was the director general of the National and University Library in Zagreb. She now works at the University of Zagreb as the Head of the Central Office for Library Coordination.

Tatijana Petrić has published a total of twenty scientific and professional papers and participated as an exhibitor at seven international and thirteen domestic scientific and professional conferences. Tatijana Petrić's interest starts from pointing out the importance of the application of information technologies in the field of librarianship as well as their upgrading, business with serial publications, but also consideration of the theoretical level of bibliographic organization of material. In her works she includes and discusses the importance of content processing of unlimited material, which she presents on two levels, theoretical work and research, and practical and professional work pointing out the importance of information retrieval and user needs in the digital society. It is significant that the professional ethics of librarians is interwoven through certain works, which T. Petrić considers through the analysis of documents, but also the works of scientists. T. Petrić entered the field of the history of information and communication sciences by analyzing private collections. Tatijana Petrić has a constant in monitoring changes in information sciences, from automation to the needs of 21st century libraries. Experience of working on digital libraries when establishing DIKAZ - Digital Library of the Scientific Library in Zadar. During the term of office of the Director General, NSK is launching two significant projects, the Croatian Glagolitic alphabet - glagoljica.hr and the Green Library for a Green Croatia. An insight into these projects shows that T. Petrić understands the needs of gathering, cooperation, open science and open access, digital humanities, which is the role of libraries in the 21st century, which are a place to live, work and promote true values, digital transformation and sustainable development.

Open science in specific conditions in the libraries of the University of Zagreb

The University of Zagreb's higher education libraries operate in double specific conditions, one being the COVID-19 pandemic and the other two devastating earthquakes that struck the city of Zagreb in March and December 2020. Libraries around the world worked at a distance from users due to the pandemic, while ours were forced to keep a

physical distance from their own spaces and materials. The promotion of the principle of open science in such conditions is specific, so the business experiences of libraries affected by both the pandemic and the earthquake will be presented, highlighting what has been done the most, as well as what we learned in that period. Through the examples of faculty "open libraries" of different scientific fields, which are components of the University, the importance of scientific infrastructure in special working conditions will be pointed out, such as repository, digital libraries and platforms for publishing scientific content, open user education and application of specialized scientometric methods to evaluate scientific productivity. We believe that our experience will be useful to other libraries for working and promoting open science in unplanned conditions.

SUSANNE BLUMESBERGER | Head of Department Repository management PHAIDRA Services, Vienna University Library



Specialist in German Studies, scientist of Communication Studies and academic librarian and information expert. Education at University of Vienna and University Library of Vienna, since 2007 active there.

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Stronger through the crisis? How the pandemic has opened up new perspectives

The paper will focus on the possible lasting positive impact of the pandemic on management in libraries. Especially in the very dynamic and forward-looking area such as research data management, it has become apparent that the suddenly forced switch to digital communication media has also contributed to thinking about the topic more broadly and also more internationally. Suddenly, webinars that used to be open only to the staff of one's own universities wait openly for everyone, meetings in smaller circles could quickly be opened up to colleagues abroad and even internships were suddenly possible purely digitally. Now the question is what we want to keep and optimise for the future. Perhaps this forced digitalisation will result in a broader range of forms of counselling, training and communication that we no longer want to do without.

Virtual tour of the UCY Library

ANDREAS K. ANDREOU | Officer-Librarian, University of Cyprus



Andreas K. Andreou is a University of Cyprus Officer A. He holds a BSc in Information and Library Studies, a BSc in Librarianship and an MSc in Education Sciences (Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning). He coordinates the "Library Systems and Technology Information" Sector and he recently became a member of the board of the University of Cyprus.