



CHAIR REPORT 2018

Contents

Introduction.....	2
What makes us unique?	2
Successes	2
Steering Committee activities	3
Steering Committee	3
Naomi Greidinger, Tracey Clarke and Theo Engelman (Chair) stepping down from the IGeLU Steering Committee	3
Migration of all internal lists to the exlibrisusers.org list platform.....	3
Other Communication channels.....	4
Liaising to Working Groups	4
Conference planning	4
Finance, legal and administration	4
IT-services and infrastructure.....	4
Working Groups activities	5
Aleph WG to merge	7
Alma WG.....	7
Analytics WG	8
ARC WG	9
Consortia WG	9
Content WG.....	9
Interoperability WG.....	10
Leganto	11
Linked Open Data WG	11
Primo WG	12
Rosetta WG.....	12
SFX/bX WG.....	13
Summon WG	13
Voyager PWG.....	13
Membership	14
Consortial membership	14
Administration.....	14
IGeLU General Assembly & Budgets	15
Budgets.....	15
Voting on open positions of the Steering Committee.....	15
Free membership for all new customers	15

Introduction

By tradition, the IGeLU Chair presents the annual report to the General Assembly at the conference. And it's a good and valuable tradition, for it helps us to realize what we achieved and where we can improve. Reporting on what we have achieved typically means looking back and it can't be absent here. Improving however suggests a larger view, both backward and forward and I want use this year's report to also pay attention to the future.

Libraries are switching from purchasing and installing on site systems to licensing cloud services. Products like Refworks, Leganto and Esploro fit onto this process where libraries focus on new roles and relations within their own institutions. The role and jobs of our active volunteers inside their home institutions is changing. This will have an impact on IGeLU. It's a challenge for us to explore new realms while relying on best practices and vast experience in representing our members in a unique relation and collaboration with a vendor. I am confident we can handle this challenge, due to the number and quality of our active volunteers. They form the nucleus of our association.

What makes us unique?

We represent five hundred members and more than thousand institutions that use and rely on Ex Libris products to offer services to patrons and fulfil their daily tasks. IGeLU, together with ELUNA, has developed an intense, productive and open collaboration with Ex Libris which is beneficiary to both customers and vendor.

Besides our official Product Development Collaboration Agreement, where Ex Libris commits to invest development resources to implement enhancement requests ranked and voted by our members, the ongoing discussions between our Working Groups and Ex Libris product managers guarantee a level of collaboration and interchange of views and vision that results in improved quality of services and the development of functionality our institutions and staff depend on daily. The IGeLU membership gives each institution the opportunity to actively take part in this and provides the framework for all members to benefit from the results of this close and vibrant relationship.

Successes

This unique relation leads to successes like modernized UI and UX for Alma, Primo and Summon, active developer community inclusion such as in the new Primo Studio and to new products like Esploro where customers are closely involved from the initial development phase to the first official version deployment.

We are also proud to present the results of the Authentication Focus Group. As part of enhancing cloud services authentication to state of the art standards Ex Libris offers customers a solution that enables all customers to benefit from higher security yet simple workflows and UX.

Ex Libris acknowledged the customer expressed need for more feedback options in Salesforce by introducing the "In case feedback" only six months after the 2017 INUG meeting!

Last but not least Leganto has been added this year to the Product Development Collaboration Agreement. For Leganto – still a very young but successful product – Ex Libris commits to invest development resources for the equivalent of 30 enhancement points in 2018 and 40 points per annum following.

This report is special to me, it's my last one because of the fact that I am stepping down as IGeLU Chair after the conference in Prague! I sincerely hope this report is special for you due to its content.

Theo Engelman, IGeLU Chair

Steering Committee activities

Besides the main achievements a lot more activities and events have been going on since last conference. It is simply too much to list each and every meeting or event, IGeLU is very productive and all volunteers work hard to make sure their efforts pay off for the community.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee's (SC) main task is to facilitate the Working Groups for their job. It means taking care of finance and the stability of the organization on the long term. IGeLU uses a broad set of facilities like our WebEx online conference system, our WordPress website, our Google collaboration document infrastructure, Twitter, our new Conference App and the exlibrisusers.org heavy used email distribution lists platform.

Besides that the SC coordinates the work done by the Working Groups and takes care of initiating new groups where and when necessary. The IGeLU SC has periodical meetings with the Ex Libris Users Group of North American (ELUNA) Steering Committee and with Ex Libris executive management to streamline work and discuss new developments. Acting as a sparring partner for Ex Libris' senior management is important to represent the customers' voice at an early stage. Last but not least the SC is heavily involved in preparing each annual conference.

Naomi Greidinger, Tracey Clarke and Theo Engelman (Chair) stepping down from the IGeLU Steering Committee

After three consecutive terms in the Steering Committee since 2012 the IGeLU Statute forces Naomi Greidinger to step down. Naomi has been contributing a lot to IGeLU. For the 2015, 2016 and 2017 conferences she has lead the Conference Committee and produced conferences rated very high by attendees supplying us feedback.

We are thankful for all of her work and wish her much success in her job as library director in Haifa.

Tracey Clarke, being re-elected for her second term last year needs to step down since she is no longer employed by an IGeLU member institution. She has lead this year's Conference Committee and volunteers to continue for the 2019 Singapore conference as an Ex Officio SC member which we greatly appreciate. You will be asked for approval during the General Assembly on Tuesday.

Theo Engelman has served from 2012 to 2015 as a regular Steering Committee member before taking over the Chair position in 2015 from Jirka Kende – the honorary Chair for life. Due to internal institutional policies he cannot stand for another three year term. This causes the election of a new Chair during the conference in Prague and IGeLU is lucky to have already on superb candidate in Dave Allen, who has been serving as a regular Steering Committee member since 2014.

Migration of all internal lists to the exlibrisusers.org list platform

This year Mark Dehmlow, together with Jirka Kende successfully migrated our internal Discussion lists which were formerly hosted at Jirka's FU Berlin.

The www.exlibrisusers.org platform - installed, configured and managed closely with ELUNA –offers all discussion list to customers of Ex Libris worldwide a perfect platform to share their information, skills and experience and to communicate about issues that suddenly arise and need attention. It's one of the basics that IGeLU and ELUNA offer to not only our members, but to the entire customer community!

Other Communication channels

Our website and our periodical News in Brief combined with Twitter (@IGeLU) are the main IGeLU communication channels. **Shameem Nilofar Maideen** manages all of these and behind the scenes she is playing an indispensable role as note taker. **Shameem** is constantly modernizing our communication tools and we owe her much gratitude for all the work that is seldom recognized by our members. For 2019 the re-design of our website is planned and it will look stunning! Besides that **Shameem** has worked closely with Sue Harmer to expand the Leganto WG this year.

Liaising to Working Groups

Dave Allen has been doing a major part of liaising to the Working Groups which means he attends almost all online WebEx meetings. Because these meetings involve people from the APAC region to the US West Coast the time slots are usually very uncomfortable for **Dave**, but his motto “sleep is so overrated” gets him going. His investment for IGeLU counts for 200% and if it weren’t for **Dave** we would have to expand the SC! But since **Dave** will hopefully be elected as the new IGeLU Chair, the Steering Committee foresees a big change here. Other Steering Committee members will take over.

Christian Hänger and **Ken Herold** have been doing the other big chunk of Working Group liaising. **Christian** for the Primo and Content WG and **Ken** for the Summon WG. Besides that **Christian** has invested a lot into coordination of Developer Day and he works closely with John Greer of ELUNA to compile and revise joint Working Group guidelines that will help facilitate Working Groups to organize themselves.

Ken has been our liaison to ELUNA which wasn’t always easy, especially during the split of the formerly joint Summon WG which was effectuated in Spring this year.

Conference planning

Our conference is at the heart of the organization and without a decent planning committee we would never be able to have so successful and highly rated conferences. **Tracey Clarke** has during the year a consistently growing job that culminates in being almost full time active to arrange all the big and small things that come with organizing our annual conference. **Tracey** is happy to continue in this role for the 2019 Singapore conference and **Shameem Nilofar Maideen** will be her backup.

Finance, legal and administration

The IGeLU treasurer **Guido Badalamenti** takes care of IGeLU’s finances, the members administration and all legal affairs. This almost invisible work is very important for the continuity of IGeLU and we owe **Guido** – Ex Officio SC member since 2006! – a lot.

IT-services and infrastructure

Mark Dehmlow takes care of all internal IGeLU IT-services and infrastructure.

As a part of our strategy to move all our internal IT-facilities from customer institution infrastructure to the cloud, **Mark** has successfully migrated our website www.igelu.org from Jirka Kende’s FU Berlin to a cloud provider, together with **John Greer**, **Al Cornish** and **Aaron Bales**. In combination with that **Mark** has moved the installation to a multi website instance and from now on we are able to host websites for National and Regional User Groups worldwide. ANZREG, the Australian and New Zealand User Group will be the first one to move their website to this platform, GUAL, the Latin American User Group, will follow shortly after.

Last but not least **Mark** is the developer and administrator of **NERS**. Without **Mark** IGeLU would not have a unique, dedicated and flexible voting system that allows us to offer one of our major benefits to the community; the privilege to vote in enhancement cycles as part of the official Product Development Collaboration Agreement with Ex Libris.

Working Groups activities

For regular readers of my annual reports this will sound familiar but It cannot be repeated too much: **Working Groups are the backbone of IGeLU.**

2018 started with the welcoming of the Rosetta User Group into IGeLU. The Rosetta User Group, which had been active as an independent group decided to become a joint IGeLU-ELUNA WG to better benefit of relations and facilities that we offer them.

2018 was the first time all IGeLU and ELUNA coordinators physically met at the ELUNA conference in May. It was very rewarding and beneficial for the collaboration and communication to have all coordinators in one place.

Some Working Groups are joint with ELUNA, others IGeLU only. Their activities comprise:

- **closely monitoring the use and development of the product**
- **managing the enhancement processes**
- **discussing relevant and urgent issues with Ex Libris' product management**
- **organizing Show & Tell sessions for members on topics**
- **conference programme planning, inviting presenters and manage the Q&A sessions**
- **attending to working meetings through the year to discuss and plan their activities**

I want to give a big thank you all to the IGeLU WG coordinators:

- **Augusto Ribeiro**, Aleph WG
- **Betsy Friesen**, Alma WG
- **Margaret Briand Wolfe** and **Joan Kolarik**, Analytics WG
- **Marcus Zerbst**, ARC WG
- **Sveinbjörg Sveinsdóttir**, Consortia WG
- **François Renaville** and **Kathy Varjabedian**, Content WG
- **Mehmet Celik**, Interoperability WG
- **Sue Harmer**, Leganto WG
- **Laura Akerman**, LOD WG
- **Andy Mackinnon** and **Knut Anton Bøckman**, Primo WG
- **Kirsty Smith**, Rosetta WG
- **Rich Wenger** and **Jiri Pavlik**, SFX/bX WG
- **Lesli Moore** and **Ken Herold**, Summon WG
- **Cindy Greenspun**, Voyager WG

and to all other members of these Working Groups for the work they have been doing for our community over the past year. I know it's disputable to not mention all of them here, but due to our very large number of volunteers we are so lucky to have, the list would simply get too long for this report. The links below to the Working Groups on our website also show the working bodies of each group.

I also want to give a big thank you to **Mark Dehmlow**, **Dave Allen**, **Betsy Friesen** and **Mehmet Celik** for their important work in the Authentication Focus Group on behalf of IGeLU in close collaboration with ELUNA.

2018 Chair report



For more detailed results reported by the Working Groups our website pages <http://igelu.org/products> and <http://igelu.org/special-interests> and our News in Brief <http://igelu.org/about/communication/newsletters> archive are the best sources of information.

Aleph WG to merge

Starting the 2018 Prague conference the ELUNA and IGeLU Working Groups will merge into one joint WG. **Augusto Ribeiro** will be the coordinator and **Camelia Anghel** will be the deputy.

Merging both PWGs is the result of the product slowly getting old and seeing many existing customers actually migrate or plan to migrate to a next generation ILS. But the product is still used by many institutions all over the world and Ex Libris is committed to maintain and develop it.

There are active enhancement voting cycles for new releases and Ex Libris has agreed to include the upgrade of Oracle database in the next minor release to be aligned with Oracle database support. The WG needs to say goodbye to deputy and **ARC** coordinator **Marcus Zerbst**. **Marcus** has been active since 2007! and was the Aleph liaison on IGeLU conference planning. He will be heavily missed.

Alma WG

The Alma Working held its first elections since the creation of the group in 2012. Long-time members **Helen Loosli, Paolo Buoso, Scott W. Carlisle, Tracey V Clarke, Lisa O'Hara, Bart Peeters** and **Angela Walker** took their leave of the WG after 5 years of service. Thanks to you all!

In February 2018, **Bettina Kann, Leon Krauthausen, Karen Stone, Amelia Rowe, Joe Ferguson,** and **Laurence Richelle** were elected to the group. They serve with continuing members **Geir Nordanger, Ann Fath, Ann Miller, Marina Kalach,** and coordinator since 2012 **Betsy Friesen**.

Enhancement cycles

Ten 2017 enhancements were delivered by the August release, including one that Ex Libris allowed us to add on to our voting glitch last year. Some analytics features are missing from that one and we are working with Ex Libris to remedy this.

The 2018 Alma Enhancement Cycle resulted in four high complexity enhancements being sent to through to Ex Libris to be developed. These enhancements will be rolled out over the following 11 months.

UX redesign

For most of 2017, the Alma Working Group worked closely with Ex Libris and user community representatives, through the UX Focus Group on redesign of the look and feel of the Alma interface. Nine institutions were involved in monthly (or more) meetings to discuss use cases and discuss improvements with Ex Libris. Many thanks to these institutions that gave so much of their staff member's time to help with this effort!

Institutions began moving to the new interface in August 2017; all institutions were using the new interface by February 2018. Phase 2 redesign, focusing largely on the MetaData Editor began in late spring with the same institutions acting as the core focus group. Initial development ideas were presented at ELUNA and via BaseCamp. More will be shared around the IGeLU 2018 conference.

Open Testing Framework pilot

Ten institutions entered into an Open Testing Framework pilot with Ex Libris in the early fall. The project involved using a shared system to support transparency in Alma release testing. This framework was created in response to Alma Community concerns about quality of testing. Pilot participants and Ex Libris met in January and determined the tool that was piloted did not meet the needs of the community. The project was suspended.

Smart Recommendations

Ex Libris started work to leverage the power of the cloud to add more value for Alma customers. Using big data and machine learning techniques, new development work for Alma will allow smart recommendations to be made to improve efficiency, reduce cost and overhead, and get more out of Alma. To this end, an IGeLU/ELUNA Smart Recommendations Focus Group was formed to work closely with Ex Libris and the Alma Working Group on this project. The focus group will brainstorm and validate use cases across all aspects of Alma, review designs, and provide feedback via early access to smart recommendation features. A cross-section of institution types, e.g., large/small, consortia/single institution, different regions, that have an interest in data analysis and have been live on Alma for a year or more will participate in this project for the next 18-24 months. Of course, the rest of the Alma community will be invited to participate on a regular basis as well. A kickoff was held in late March 2018. A fourth WebEx session will be held on August 30.

Community Zone Management Group

The Community Zone Management Group (CZMG) met nearly every month with Ex Libris staff, for the past year, on issues around bibliographic content, authorities, and Ex Libris processes in the Community Zone.

The CZMG has spent a considerable amount of time discussing how to improve the metadata in the CZ. There are still plans to analyze batch-loaded records to determine merge rules, establish editing guidelines for community catalog records, establish a better communication channel with Alma users and between users and Ex Libris, particularly in the event of the addition of incorrect data to the CZ and advise Ex Libris on matters concerning authority records and functionality in the CZ and beyond.

Additional Areas of Discussion/Work

- The WG worked with Ex Libris and the Primo WGs on initial discussions on Primo VE since configuration will be done via the Alma platform
- The WG concluded work with Ex Libris on moving passwords stored in Alma to other methods of authentication. These paths include social authentication and an Ex Libris authentication service. The new authentication service is in pilot stage. The pilot stage will last into October. No passwords will be stored in Alma by the end of 2019.
- Began working with Ex Libris around a customer knowledge corner, hosted by Ex Libris.
- Discussed the possibility for timing of Alma premium sandbox refreshing

Analytics WG

Led by **Margaret Briand Wolfe**, the group spent the bulk of their time since 2017 writing evidence documents for Alma, Primo and Leganto based on evidence culled from the product lists, the ELUNA and IGeLU conference archives, and users who contacted the working group directly.

In February and March the documents were distributed to Ex Libris as well as to the Alma, Primo, Leganto, Consortia and Analytics Lists. A google form was also released to the Lists as a means to provide feedback to the Analytics Working Group. Reviewers were able to request a priority change or submit additional use case evidence via the forms.

Summon Analytics was not included in this initial release but the group is currently in the process of gathering and vetting Summon evidence.

The Analytics working group met with Asaf Kline and Yoel Kortick from Ex Libris in May at the ELUNA conference to discuss the evidence documents. Ex Libris is committed to working with the group to address the issues raised in the documents and has scheduled monthly meetings with an Analytics Working Group sub-group. These meetings will begin in October. In addition, Ex Libris has created a Basecamp to keep track of our written communications regarding the evidence documents.

Although the current evidence documents are closed for additions, issues continue to arise. The group will continue to gather analytics evidence and document issue raised via the various Lists and discussions at ELUNA and IGeLU conferences.

ARC WG

ARC is more or less the predecessor of the Oracle Business Information Analytics services that Ex Libris nowadays automatically adds to their state of the art products Alma, Primo and Summon. The ARC WG has not been very active last year. The product is stable and mature and there are no fixed agreements on enhancements with Ex Libris. The ARC coordinator **Marcus Zerbst**, also involved in the Analytics WG steps down and we are currently looking for replacement.

Consortia WG

During Consortia Business meeting at IGeLU in St. Petersburg the purpose of the Consortia SIWG was briefly discussed and **Sveinbjörg Sveinsdóttir** was formally instated as the WG coordinator. A status update from Ex Libris on recent and planned development of consortia functionality in Alma followed. Finally, the Consortium of Icelandic libraries, the Luxembourg bibnet.lu library network and the LIBIS network in Belgium reported on a project they carried through focusing on the needs of small libraries in a consortia.

During the meeting it was decided to create a new mailing list for the group. After the meeting the e-mail list **consortia-ig**, at <https://exlibrisusers.org/listinfo/consortia-ig> came about and those, who had participated in the IGeLU business meeting were signed up for the list. Since then the e-mail list has been used to exchange information regarding consortia matters.

Sveinbjörg attended the ELUNA Consortia SIG meeting in Spokane, USA earlier this year. First impressions were that there were many shared interests between IGeLU and ELUNA consortia interest group but also some differences. The attendees at the meeting have been signed up to the consortia-ig mailing list. Thus there is now one mailing list in place for both Igelu and Eluna consortia interest groups.

At the conference the traditional Consortia Business meeting will focus on the new mission of the SIWG and attendees will be invited to participate to build an active group that will represent the interests of modern consortia who serve a broad spectrum of patrons.

Content WG

Lead by **François Renaville** and **Kathy Varjabedian** the group has been monitoring the Summon, 360, SFX, Alma and Primo lists and reported major Content issues (linking, metadata, delivery) to the Ex Libris Content team. When possible, the WG provided direct feedback to the customers. The group has also been acting as a go-between between Ex Libris and some vendors when existing collections took too long to be updated.

But the Content WG has also been acting as a go-between linking Ex Libris and customers, for example about the PCI Institutional Repository program that has slowed down for the last 3 years and that some customers wanted to join. Ex Libris was invited to clarify their position and the future of the program that has then been put under review, as they are considering new harvest methods, policy, and metadata requirements.

We have provided Ex Libris with different quality review procedures used among the members and suggested to set up some beta testing of new discovery collections with Content WG members and other volunteers. Ex Libris showed great interest in this proposal, in the wake of development cooperation between the society and the user community.

Because the Content WG works in a cross-product perspective, the role of liaison officers between the Content WG and the Product WGs is essential in order to ensure an effective communication between all group members!

Finally, the group has been very busy with a first NERS cycle for Content during the last months. The voting ballot was for requests to have new content collections/targets/databases added into all Ex Libris ProQuest KnowledgeBases (Alma CZ, SFX KB, 360 KB) and indices (Primo Central, Summon). For this voting ballot, the following 4 regional groups were highlighted: Danish language, English Language (ANZREG), German language, and Spanish language. Highlighted regional groups guarantee that at least one regional collection for each of the 4 groups will be pushed up and be part of the top 10. Four other regional groups will be highlighted for the next Content voting cycle in H2 2018.

Interoperability WG

The interoperability WG lead by **Mehmet Celik** created a position paper with the focus on an open platform and standards. The WG wants to create and enhanced awareness within the community but especially within Ex Libris to consume and document their own APIs in the hope to create open API's. Eventually open platforms that the community and third parties can use and by committing to open standards they will open up the products more.

The WG wrote a strategy memo which describes the interoperability group as a smaller central coordinating working body and instead off looking for interoperability issues our ourselves he will give tools to the working groups to log and discuss interoperability issues. Working groups have all the specialists anyway and there is no real need for another group to tell them what and how to do their business. They can create temporary task forces with members from the working groups or community. The Interoperability WG can help talk to Ex Libris. This will give the WG some more time to focus on developers within the community. In the strategy memo be describe three different types of interoperability:

- Internal interoperability: Ex Libris, WG's
- External interoperability: Ex Libris, all other system providers
- Institutional interoperability: Ex Libris, library developers

The Interoperability WG wants to focus more on institutional interoperability and help developers to develop. Not by doing all that work for you but by facilitating discussions, collaborations, etc.

The WG had to say goodbye to **Lukas Koster** who has been serving as deputy coordinator for years.

Leganto

Leganto is now included in the **Product Development Collaboration Agreement** with Ex Libris. Ex Libris guarantees a minimum of 40 development points per annum, starting with 30 development points in 2018 and 40 development points every calendar year thereafter.

NERS 2018 Leganto ballot. Our first ballot was conducted between February – May, 2018 with results announced at ELUNA 2018 conference. Results tallied 32 development points, so 2 points will be deducted from 2019 allocation

- 41 requests from 12 institutions:
- 36 institutions participated in voting:

The 2018 ballot only included one round of voting, due to time constraints associated with the learning curve of the WG. We will begin planning for 2019 ballot in Nov-Dec 2018, so we can accommodate two rounds of voting, where the top 20 requests from round 1 will be sent to Ex Libris for pointing. Pointed requests will form the ballot for a second round of voting.

Paolo Buoso, Chris Jones, Angela Laurins and Caroline Gibson joined, following our call for expressions of interest in October 2017, the IGeLU Leganto Working Group lead by **Sue Harmer**.

Leganto has a small but active presence in the **ELUNA and IGeLU annual conference programmes** as well as national user groups, e.g. EPUG-UKI and ANZREG, with panel discussions and presentations from the user community.

The ELUNA Leganto Working Group was established in May 2018. Both ELUNA and IGeLU groups are working together to provide the user community with Ex Libris product involvement.

The Leganto mailing list is a valuable resource for users of the product through its ability to help share ideas, issues and workarounds that have been identified. There are currently 332 subscribers

Linked Open Data WG

This year, the Working Body coordinated by **Laura Akerman** developed and maintained a [Dashboard](#) of linked data features in Ex Libris products (right now, Alma and Primo). This helps customers keep up to date with what is planned, what is released, where documentation can be found (which varies between product documents and the Developers site), and any issues being resolved.

The Working Body also uses its [mailing list](#) of over 380 members to share announcements about events of interest such as Show and Tell presentations, and sends out newsletters every 2 months or more often if warranted, with news of Working Body activity, Dashboard updates, and news of other events and documents of general interest to the library linked data community that we are aware of.

The LOD SIWG is very active in organizing well attended [Show & Tell sessions](#) for all customers together with the other SIWGs. Presentations of linked data use cases as well as relevant ideas or projects has been a core element of this group's activity. Recent Linked Data Show and Tells ([playlist](#)).

At ELUNA 2018, in addition to the Linked Open Data Working Group Business meeting and Ex Libris roadmap presentation, Laura Akerman and Josh Weisman presented at Developers Day an overview of how Alma publishing and APIs could be used to develop linked data applications, both external to and within Primo.

Members of the Working Body with roles in external groups or projects help to keep us in touch with the larger community; these include **Ebe Kartus** (RDA Steering Committee), **Adrian Pohl** (SIWB conference), **Xiaoli Li** (LD4L, PCC), **David Bucknum** (Library of Congress), **Alexandra De Pretto** (Europeana) and **Lihong Zhu** who has served as our liaison to the PCC Task Group on URIs in MARC.

Primo WG

Andy MacKinnon had to step down in May this year and **Knut Anton Bøckman** is currently acting coordinator in lieu of **Andy, Bettina Kaldenberg** is now acting deputy coordinator. The future internal organization of the group will be settled in October.

The Primo WG works in close collaboration with the ELUNA Primo WG. The contacts and relation with Ex Libris product management are good as ever. The WG is particularly alert to the roll-out strategy of Primo VE, the pros and cons of this flavor of Primo compared to the classic Back Office-based Primo, and what this could mean for the future of the product. A team selected of members from both PWGs will participate in a workshop with Ex Libris on these topics in October.

This summer, Ex Libris will officially launch the Primo Studio, which makes it easier for customers to change icons and colors, and add images and logos, to their New User Interface. Most importantly, it involves an easy way to implement community-provided add-ons to the interface. The annual enhancement voting cycle will end on August 15, right before the conference.

Rosetta WG

The Rosetta User Group officially joined IGeLU and ELUNA as a joint working group from January 2018. The move into IGeLU and ELUNA has been very smooth, and being part of a wider organization has enabled the Working Group to focus on ensuring that Rosetta development continues to meet the needs of its customer base.

2018 has also seen the implementation of a new Working Group structure, with the following 4 subgroups set up: format library, digital preservation, system operations, and delivery and integrations. The purpose of the sub groups is to manage the enhancement and development of specific aspects of operational policy particular to their functional area. Initial feedback on the new structure has been positive, enhancement processes are seen as being more transparent and timely. In addition we are seeing wider participation in the groups and greater collaboration.

For the 2018 development cycle, the working group submitted c. 16 enhancement requests to Ex Libris, 10 have been confirmed and scheduled for the next release, version 6. After working through our first requirements / development cycle some adjustments will be made to the process for the 2019 development cycle.

During 2018 Ex Libris have signed up a number of new Rosetta customers, the Working Group will be working with the Ex Libris Product Manager to develop a process for introducing new members to the Rosetta Working Group.

The Rosetta Working Group held our annual meeting in June, the 3 day meeting was hosted by the Getty in LA and provided a valuable opportunity for Rosetta customers to meet, knowledge share and discuss enhancement ideas with Ex Libris representatives. This year a remote attendance option was provided, and proved successful, particularly in enabling wider participation in each of the subgroup sessions.

SFX/bX WG

The SFX/bX WG had to say goodbye to **Rich Wenger** from MIT, who had lead the merged group since 2015. Rich has managed to combine deep technical knowledge and experience with a warm personality which added to maintain a close and positive relation to Ex Libris product management. **Jiri Pavlik** from Charles University in Prague is going to take care of the product's enhancement cycle. He is now the only Working Groups member and although SFX and bX are very mature and stable products some assistance is very welcome.. The customer base is still large and many customers heavily depend on SFX

The SFX-KB responsibility has been moved to the Content WG.

Summon WG

This year the joint Summon Working Group has been split into separate IGeLU and ELUNA groups. The initiative for this split came from the ELUNA Steering Committee and the IGeLU Steering Committee had to accept it reluctantly. It means IGeLU will have to restart a new Summon Working Group and **Ken Herold** from the Steering Committee is currently organizing the group. We expect the new group to start after the conference and it will work closely with their ELUNA colleagues. Meanwhile the annual enhancement cycle has been coordinated by ELUNA. We thank **Lesli Moore** for her outstanding performance as coordinator in 2017-2018.

Voyager PWG

This past year the Voyager WG coordinated by **Cindy Greenspun** has focused on voting rounds for Voyager 11 (which has been renamed to 10.3 & 10.4, to keep customers on release 9 under support). The WG was informed by Product Manager Mike Dicus that the work for the results of the voting round will be phased, half to be done in 2022 and the rest in 2023. As a result we are not expecting to have a round of NERS voting this upcoming year, or possibly the next year.

The last step in the NERS voting process is to finalize the draft of enhancement requirements.

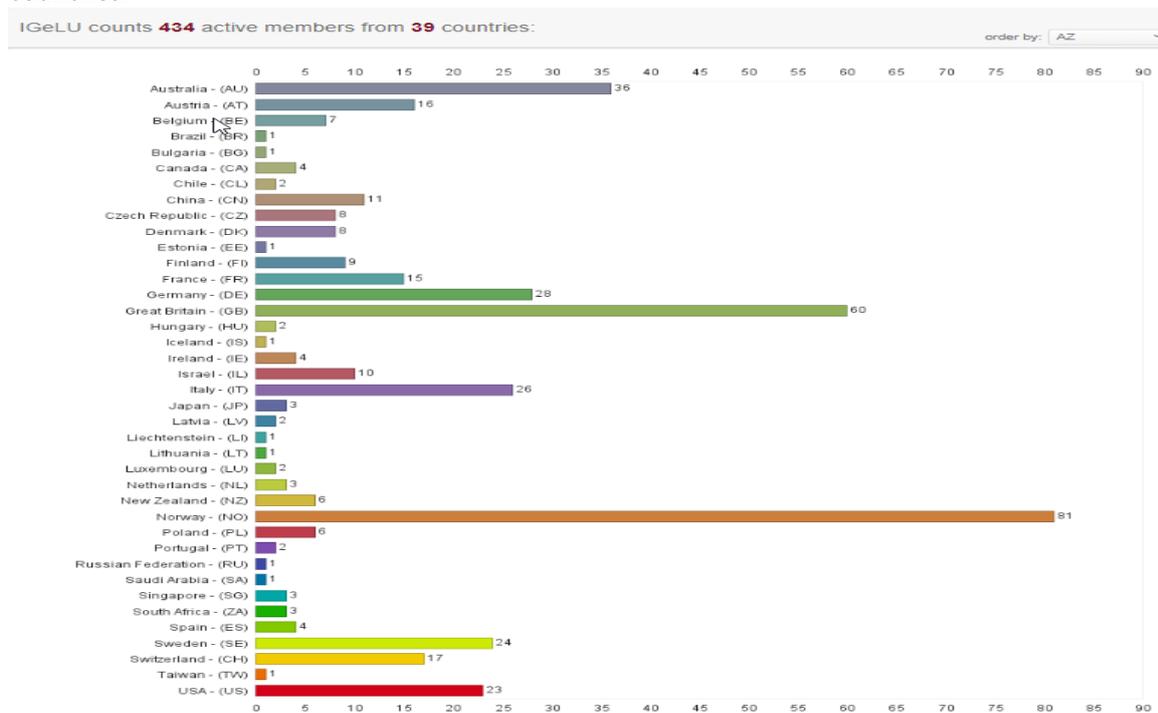
Since members on the group agreed to serve in a one-year role, there was some focus on recruitment. Two members will be stepping down since their institution is migrating to Alma. Since no one answered last year's listserv call for participation, the Voyager WG has decided to focus on recruitment during the ELUNA 2018 conference. As a result, we were able to secure two new members to the Voyager WG.

Goals for this upcoming year are still shaping up, but one high priority goal will be to finish the migration of viable contents formerly in El Commons into the [Ex Libris Developers Network](#).

Membership

Since the last conference 40 institutions have joined IGeLU while 12 members did not renew their membership in 2018 or merged with another member. This means the total number of registered IGeLU members is now 434.

In comparison to the 1st IGeLU meeting in Stockholm 2006 with 210 members from 29 countries we have seen a stable, significant and healthy growth. Our member institutions now represent 39 countries:



Expanding IGeLU is needed to organize a better representation of the growing Ex Libris customer base so IGeLU will have to invest in reaching out to all of these new customers in all regions of the world (APAC, EMEA and America).

Consortial membership

To better serve the needs of the community the Steering Committee has reacted to requests by consortia to develop a special consortial membership that will allow large consortia to organize their representation inside IGeLU much easier. At the 2016 Trondheim conference the General Assembly approved to the implementation of a special Consortial membership. In 2017 the Norwegian Consortium BIBSYS has registered as consortial member having 77 consortial institutions inside IGeLU. In 2018 the Hong Kong JULAC consortium has registered having 8 consortial institutions inside IGeLU. The BIBSYS and JULAC consortia both use the option to vote as a collective. More information:

<http://igelu.org/about/membership/consortial-membership>

Administration

This year The IGeLU administration team in Siena led by Guido Badalamenti has implemented the new administration to facilitate the Consortial membership and to enhance the self service options for members now and in the near future. <https://igelu.org/about/membership/members-details>
I want to express my sincere thanks to **Guido Badalamenti**, **Fabrizio Di Fuccia**, **Duccio Di Blasi**, **Katia Pizzo** and **Katia Medaglini** for all their indispensable work and devotion to the community.

IGeLU General Assembly & Budgets

The voting for the new IGeLU Chair will start immediately after the Conference Welcome session on Day 1 of the conference, Monday August 20th 90:00-10:00. This voting cycle ends on Tuesday, August 21st 10:00.

At the IGeLU General Assembly on Day 2 of the conference, Tuesday, August 21st, 11.30-12.30, you will be asked to give your formal approval the Steering Committee needs to get for the budgets and the Chair report.

For the open positions of the Steering Committee, candidates will present themselves at the meeting after which the voting immediately starts.

Please register for the voting at the conference reception desk and pick up your voting slips. If you are representing a National or Regional User Group, don't forget to ask if any not attending member institution has mandated you to vote on their behalf by proxy.

Budgets

All budget information is transparent for members and non-members published on our website: <http://igelu.org/about/organisation/budget>.

As usual, the largest items of expenditure in the 2017 budget were the contributions to the Annual Conference meeting in St. Petersburg and to Steering Committee and Working Groups meetings.

We need to persist on expanding our membership base to allow for the bigger expenditures due to higher prices for both travel costs and large conference venues that come with the growing customer base. Also the closer collaboration with ELUNA in joint Working groups increases the costs for travelling, just as the expansion to the Asia and Pacific region does.

In 2017 we managed again to level our expenditures to our income and so our expenditures are well in balance with our regular income. According to the Steering Committee proposal, the draft of the final budget for 2018 and the draft budget 2019 reflect the high conference costs and the expected larger expenses for the activities of the growing number of working groups.

We are proud and satisfied to be able to present balanced budgets for 2017, 2018 and 2019, and **keep the annual membership fee stable at 250 euro for the 13th year!**

During the General Assembly at the conference you will be asked to approve to the budget.

Voting on open positions of the Steering Committee

This year there will be voting on three positions on the Steering Committee; a call for candidates has been published in the pre-conference News in Brief on our website and was distributed via the mailing lists. The elections will take place during the conference. Three Steering Committee positions are open because the terms of Naomi Greidinger and Dave Allen have expired and Tracey is stepping down. Dave is running to fill the open IGeLU Chair position since Theo Engelman is stepping down after his first three year term.

Please collect your voting slips at the registration desk to vote for the candidates of your choice. More information on all candidates on our website: <https://igelu.org/archives/10754>

Free membership for all new customers

The decision in 2017 to grant new members a first year free membership has paid off. IGeLU has welcomed 40 new member institutions last year.

Theo Engelman, IGeLU Chair