



KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

## EIFL 2023 General Assembly Speakers' Bios

*Listed in order of first appearance on the agenda*

### Emilija Banionytė



#### **Library Director at the Vilnius County Adomas Mickevičius Public Library, Chair of the EIFL Management Board**

Emilija Banionytė is a professional librarian. She worked at the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences Library for more than 30 years, after graduating in LIS at Vilnius University in 1984. Since 2019 Emilija has held the position of Library Director at the Vilnius County 'Adomas Mickevičius' Public Library. Emilija is interested in all aspects of library activities. Special fields of interests are: library consortium building, licencing electronic resources, copyright for librarians. She is active in professional librarianship not only in Lithuania, but also internationally, as Chair of the EIFL Management Board, and expert at the Lithuanian Research Library

Consortium.

Past positions held include EIFL Copyright Coordinator for Lithuania, President of the Lithuanian Research Library Consortium, President of the County Public Library Association, President of the Lithuanian Librarians' Association, Chair of the Library Board at the Ministry of Culture, member of the Board of Directors of SPARC Europe, member of the EBLIDA Expert Group Information Law, member of the IFLA CLM Committee.

### Ingrida Kasperaitienė



#### **President of the Lithuanian Research Library Consortium and Director of the Library at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University**

Ingrida Kasperaitienė joined the Lithuanian Research Libraries Consortium as President in March 2022. She participated in the activities of the Association of Lithuanian Scientific Libraries as a board member from 2018 to 2022. The Lithuanian Research Library Consortium unites 46 members. The main purpose of the association team is to coordinate and organize the subscription of databases for Lithuanian academic libraries, to collect needs from Lithuanian academic institutions and to negotiate with the

Lithuanian Ministry of Science, Education and Sport to ensure database needs are funded. The team also organizes public procurement procedures and negotiates with publishers.

In addition, Ingrida has worked in the field of organization and management of academic library activities for more than 26 years. She has served as Director of Vilnius Gediminas Technical University Library for the past seven years, and is a member of the Board of the Lithuanian Academic Electronic Library Consortium (eLABa) and Library Council of the Lithuanian Ministry of Culture.

Ingrida served as a Crossref Board member from November 2018 to March 2020, acquiring a modern approach to the creation and management of digital information, and contributing to Crossref's goal of developing innovative technologies such as DOI, CrossCheck, Cross Mark, Cited-Linking, Funder Registry and other innovations.

## Rima Kupryte



### **EIFL Director**

Rima Kupryte is the Director of EIFL. Rima oversees the implementation of EIFL's overall organizational strategy and operations. Rima has been managing EIFL since its inception. Under Rima's leadership, EIFL has grown into a thriving international organization working in more than 60 developing and transition economy countries.

Rima's deep knowledge of library infrastructure and international development has led to the strategic expansion of EIFL's key programmes which help people to access and use information for education, learning, research and sustainable community development. Rima joined EIFL from the Open Society Institute - Budapest (currently known as the Open Society Foundations), where she managed the Network Library Programme, supporting library development in approximately 35 countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, and Africa.

In 2008, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) awarded Rima the IFLA Medal, one of the highest professional accolades, for her contributions to international librarianship.

## Iryna Kuchma



### **EIFL Open Access Programme Manager**

Iryna Kuchma is the Open Access Programme Manager for EIFL (EIFL-OA). Her responsibilities include the development, delivery and evaluation of a range of open access related activities. Achievements of EIFL-OA since Iryna joined in 2008 include establishment of more than 1,200 open access repositories and more than 4,100 open access journals in EIFL partner countries, opening up a wealth of new knowledge and research to the world. The programme also supported development of 208 open access policies in EIFL partner and project countries.

Before joining EIFL, Iryna worked as an Information Programme Manager at the International Renaissance Foundation (part of Soros Foundations network) in Ukraine and also coordinated the Arts and Culture Programme there. In 2013, Iryna received the Electronic Publishing Trust (EPT) for Development Annual Award, in recognition of her 'efforts in the furtherance of open access to scholarly publications in the developing and emerging countries'. Iryna sits on the boards of Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR), the Global Sustainability Coalition for Open Science Services (SCOSS) and the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD).

She serves on the UNESCO Open Science Advisory Committee as an international expert. In addition, she serves on the advisory board of Open Access Week. Iryna co-chairs the OpenAIRE Training and Support Standing Committee, and is a member of the Coalition Publi.ca International Committee, the DSpace Community Advisory Team and the CODATA Policy and Legal Working Group. She is an Associate Editor for the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), and a member of the DOAJ Council. In 2020 Iryna served as a Rapporteur for the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) Skills and Training Working Group, and is now serving on the EOSC Association Data stewardship curricula and career paths Task Force.

## Teresa Hackett



### **EIFL Copyright and Libraries Programme Manager**

Teresa Hackett is the EIFL Copyright and Libraries Programme (EIFL-IP) Manager. Since the launch of EIFL-IP in 2005, Teresa has successfully overseen the development and delivery of a unique, specialist service for libraries in developing and transition countries.

Prior to joining EIFL, Teresa held a number of policy, advocacy and technical positions. From 2000-2003, she was Director of the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA); before that she provided support to the European Commission library research programme, and was part of the team that established electronic information centres at the British Council in Germany. Teresa was a member of the Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) from 2011-2015 and the World Blind Union (WBU) Marrakesh Strategic Advisory Group.

In 2015, Teresa was awarded a Flash Grant as an agent of social change by the Shuttleworth Foundation for her work on copyright. In 2018, the IFLA awarded Teresa the IFLA Medal in recognition of her distinguished contribution to IFLA and international librarianship, particularly in the field of copyright and for her commitment to enabling equal access to information. In 2020, EIFL was selected as a finalist for the ABC International Excellence Award for Accessible Publishing in recognition of the work of the EIFL Copyright and Libraries Programme.

## Ramune Petuchovaite



### **EIFL Public Library Innovation Programme Manager**

Ramune Petuchovaite is the EIFL Public Library Innovation Programme (EIFL-PLIP) Manager for EIFL. Her responsibilities include the development, delivery and evaluation of a range of activities that support piloting of innovative public library services that contribute to community development. In addition, Ramune has contributed to development of a framework for capacity building for public librarians, and manages a EIFL's capacity building initiatives for public librarians in Africa.

Before she joined EIFL in 2012, Ramune served as Chief Specialist at the Division of Information Society Development of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, where she was responsible for coordinating implementation of the state-funded library renovation and modernization programme. During her term at the Ministry, Ramune worked on a US\$36 million national 'Libraries for Innovation' project, co-funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which improved public access to computer and internet services in over 1,300 public libraries. Ramune has also lectured library and information students on library management, project management and other subjects at the Faculty of Communication, Vilnius University.

## Dr Elizabeth Gadd



### **Chair at the INORMS Research Evaluation Group**

Dr Elizabeth (Lizzie) Gadd chairs the INORMS Research Evaluation Group and is Vice Chair of the Coalition on Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA). In 2022, she co-authored 'Harnessing the Metric Tide: Indicators, Infrastructures & Priorities for UK Research Assessment'. Lizzie is the research quality and culture lead at Loughborough University, UK, and champions the ARMA Research Evaluation SIG. She previously founded the LIS-Bibliometrics Forum and The Bibliomagician Blog, and was the recipient of the 2020 INORMS Award for Excellence in Research Management and Leadership.

## Professor Edita Sužiedėlienė



### **Vice-Rector and pro-Rector for research of Vilnius University**

Professor Edita Sužiedėlienė graduated from Vilnius University with a degree in Biochemistry in 1986. She received her Ph.D. in 1995 in Biochemistry and has been a full professor of Molecular biology at Vilnius University since 2005. Prof. Sužiedėlienė has been teaching at all study levels at Vilnius University since 1995. She had internships at the University of Washington (St. Louis, USA), P. and M. Curie University (Paris, France) and Karolinska Institute (Stockholm, Sweden). Prof. Sužiedėlienė was a Head of Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of Vilnius University between 2012 and 2020, a member of the Committee of Natural and Technical Sciences and Chairwoman of the Academic Ethics Commission of the Research Council of Lithuania between 2013 and 2020.

Prof. Sužiedėlienė was appointed as Vice-Rector and pro-Rector for research of Vilnius University on April 2020. She is in charge for the development of institutional research, innovation, and doctoral studies. She was awarded by the Vilnius University Rector's Prizes for research and teaching achievements (2010, 2017), and by the Knight's Cross of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas (2021). Prof Sužiedėlienė's scientific interests include molecular pathogenesis, antibiotic resistance, molecular mechanisms of adaptive responses, the development of molecular detection and inactivation methods of pathogenic bacteria.

## Professor Julija Kiršienė



### **Vice-Rector for research of Vytautas Magnus University**

Professor Julija Kiršienė is Vice-Rector for Research at Vytautas Magnus University. She is also a professor in the Department of Private Law, a member of several public bodies, including the Judicial Court of Honour at National Courts Administration of Lithuania, member of Lithuanian Energy Institute Council, author and co-author of more than 40 books and scientific articles. Research interests include: contract law, tort law, legal ethics and professionalism, and human rights.

## Eglė Juodė



### **Information Manager at Vilnius University Library**

Eglė Juodė started working as an Information Manager at Vilnius University Library in 2020. She is responsible for communication, advice and training regarding Open Access, Open Licensing, and introduction to Open Science, working with the Library, University staff, and the student community.

In 2021 Eglė Juodė participated in the drafting of the Vilnius University Open Science Policy, and subsequently, the Vilnius University Open Science Policy Implementation Plan, that was completed in 2023.

She also joined work groups in the Arqus Alliance and EODOPEN projects: she participated in the drafting of the Arqus Alliance Openness Position Paper, and is still working as a Copyright Clearance Specialist in EODOPEN, providing online access to the books that are out of commerce to students, researchers, scientists, and the public.

## Nalina Hamsaiyni Venkatesh



### **Research data manager, Research Information Services, Kaunas University of Technology**

Nalina Hamsaiyni was an active early career researcher during her education. With interest in handling research data, she joined the Kaunas University of Technology Library in the Research Information Services as a Research Data Manager in 2022. The Research Information Services Unit is accountable for providing services to researchers on different university platforms. We address research data management, open science, intellectual property rights and scholarly communication through training, intensive / extensive courses (guided and self-paced). We are responsible for dissemination and accessibility of information through available university channels.

## Lina Bloveščūnienė



### **Vytautas Magnus University Library Director**

Lina Bloveščūnienė has been Vytautas Magnus University Library Director since 2006. She graduated from Vilnius University in 1988, specializing in library science and bibliography. Until 2006, Lina served at Kaunas University of Technology Library as Head of the Cataloging Department and Chair of the Library Council. From 1999 she worked as Main System Librarian and was responsible for implementation and maintenance of the Library Information System ALEPH (Exlibris), Publications, Electronic Theses and Dissertations databases in the libraries of the Lithuanian Academic Libraries Network (LABT), as well as organizing training seminars for network employees. From 2015–2019 she was Chair of the Board of the Lithuanian Academic Electronic Library Consortium (eLABa). From 2011–2022 she was responsible for the creation, maintenance and development of the open access database Lituanistika for the Research Council of Lithuania. From 2018 onwards she has been implementer of the Current Research Management system in Vytautas Magnus University. In 2015 she was named the best head of the library by the Lithuanian Ministry of

Culture. Research Excellence Awards Lithuania 2022, organized by the international publisher Elsevier and the Lithuanian Research Library Association, nominated her in the Research Library Impact category for the development of the Research Management System (VMU CRIS).

## Aaron Tay



### **Lead of Data Services at Singapore Management University Libraries**

Aaron Tay has been an academic librarian for over 10 years in Singapore and has worked in a variety of areas including library discovery, research support & bibliometrics. He is the current Lead of Data Services at Singapore Management University Libraries and has been honoured for his contributions to the profession with awards, including Library Association of Singapore (LAS) Professional Service Award, Congress of Southeast Asian Libraries (CONSAL) Award (Silver), and Pacific Rim Research Library Alliance (PRRLA), Karl Lo Award.

A past contributor to NMC horizon report (library edition), as well as a founding member of the Initiative for Open Abstracts, he has blended his interest in discovery and the evolving scholarly ecosystem and has given talks on how AI/ML might change scholarly communication. More recently, he has contributed to panels and given keynotes on the impact of AI and in particular large language models on academic libraries and institutions at conferences like CILIP, IATUL, IFLA and more. He has been blogging at [MusingsAboutLibrarianship.blogpost.com](https://MusingsAboutLibrarianship.blogpost.com) since 2009.

## Adám Dér



### **Head of the license management team of the Max Planck Digital Library**

Ádám Dér heads the license management team of the Max Planck Digital Library (MPDL), where his main responsibilities lie in publisher negotiations to advance the open access transition in scholarly publishing. In this role he is involved in a broad range of strategic activities, including data analyses and financial modelling for Germany's nationwide DEAL negotiations. He is an expert advisor in the ESAC Initiative on data analytics, OA workflows and transformative agreements and contributes to a variety of international industry boards and initiatives. Prior to his role at MPDL, he served as Head of Development of the Hungarian National Consortium (EISZ).

## Milica Ševkušić



### **Project Coordinator for the EIFL Open Access Programme**

Milica Ševkušić is a Project Coordinator for the EIFL Open Access Programme and a librarian at the Institute of Technical Sciences of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. In her capacity as the EIFL Open Access Coordinator she has been supporting Open Access journals in Serbia since 2014.

Her professional interests focus on Open Science, library services aimed at supporting research activities, training in academic services and tools, support to Open Access journals, information literacy and research ethics. ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2888-6611>

## Maria Gould



### **Product manager and research data specialist at the California Digital Library**

Maria Gould is a product manager and research data specialist at the California Digital Library (CDL), where she is responsible for the University of California Curation Center's portfolio of persistent identifier services and directs the Research Organization Registry (ROR) initiative.

## Helena Cousijn



### **Director of Community Engagement at DataCite**

Helena Cousijn is Director of Community Engagement at DataCite, where she leads the DataCite Engagement team and is responsible for all membership and community activities. She's committed to DataCite's mission and passionate about making DataCite services available globally. Before joining DataCite, Helena worked as Senior Product Manager for Research Data Management Solutions at Elsevier. She holds a DPhil in Neuroscience from the University of Oxford.

## Kora Korzec



### **Crossref Head Community Engagement and Communications**

Kora joined Crossref in 2022, to engage its vast community and encourage increased participation in the Research Nexus: a rich and reusable open network of relationships connecting research organizations, people, things, and actions. She previously worked at eLife, mobilizing researchers to advocate for greater adoption of open science; there she launched the Ben Barres Spotlight Awards in support of minorized researchers, facilitated work of the Early-Career Advisory Group, and built the global eLife Ambassadors Program. Prior to that, Kora headed engagement at Engineering Without Borders UK, and before that she designed social marketing campaigns for waste minimization with local authorities in Cambridgeshire, UK. She has recently co-chaired the FORCE11 2023 Conference, and she volunteers as a Trustee for Conservation Without Borders. She has a Master's degree in Psychology from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.



**Deputy director in in charge of the scientific commissions at Université Virtuelle de Côte d'Ivoire**

Cécile Ouattara-Coulibaly coordinates the technical activities of the digital library for the Higher Education and Scientific Research in Côte d'Ivoire, launched in 2016 under the supervision of the Université Virtuelle de Côte d'Ivoire (UVCI). She has been deputy director in charge of the scientific commissions at UVCI since 2017. As EIFL Country Coordinator she has engaged in open science activities through the 'Open Access Week Côte d'Ivoire' initiative instituted in 2018. She is the focal point of LIBSENSE for open science implementation in Africa by WACREN. She coordinated the activities of the National Symposium for Open Science in Côte d'Ivoire, toward the 7th WACREN's Annual Conference, in Abidjan, 25-29 April 2022. Cécile is the secretary for the working group on establishing a national open science policy. She is also leading the project on creating and implementing an ORCID Consortium in Côte d'Ivoire (2023). She is finalizing a programme (2023-2025) of open science based on renewable energies and climate change in partnership with GIZ. This project will include DOI attribution to the documents in the digital Library. Cecile is member of the OER francophone working group and also member of the African Open Science Platform (AOSP).



**Associate University Librarian, East Africa, at Aga Khan University**

Dr Arnold Mwanzu is the Associate University Librarian, East Africa, at Aga Khan University (AKU). Dr Mwanzu manages all all AKU libraries in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. He holds a PhD in Information Science from Moi University; a Master's degree in Information Science from Kenyatta University; a Master's degree in Science in Organizational Development from USIU-A; certification in the Lib@web Programme of University of Antwerp, Belgium, and a Certificate in University Leadership from the DAAD Programme at the University of Oldenburg, Germany. He is the current Chairman of the Kenya Library & Information Science Consortium (KLISC); He is a member of the IFLA Environment Sustainability in Libraries Section; Country Coordinator and Licensing Coordinator for EIFL and an IFLA/OCLC Fellow of the Jay Jordan fellowship in Columbus, Ohio. His research interests are in Library automation, Knowledge management, Bibliometric analysis, Evidence-based practice and Green libraries. He has authored several articles in peer reviewed journals and two book chapters.



