

OCLC EMEA Regional Council

Action Plan for 2013 - 2014: "Library Community in Action"

The Action Plan for 2013-2014 is anchored on the theme for my term of office viz.: "Library Community in Action". This theme is inspired by the African proverb: "if you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together". This plan will in effect continue the work done in the previous years of seeking to build awareness within the Region of the community of Members which together form the Europe, Middle East and Africa Regional Council within the OCLC global cooperative. The focus of this plan will be on raising the awareness of opportunities for members to participate in the governance of OCLC. Special attention will be given to the promotion and implementation of the newly approved membership protocols. It is estimated that the new membership protocols have enabled approximately 4000 additional institutions to qualify for membership of OCLC within the EMEA region. As a result an implementation plan is being prepared to identify and reach out to the new members within this region.

Theme 1: Focus on the Cooperative

Continue with the effort of engaging Existing Members and facilitate their participation in the governance of OCLC; and to support all efforts of reaching out to the approximately 4000 new members.

Engage OCLC Members, both current and new, in membership activities by increasing the exposure of Members to information about the Regional Council and the cooperative and their opportunities to contribute.

- 1.1 Raise the awareness of the newly adopted membership protocols and contribute significantly to the issues and decisions impacting on Members both current and new.
- 1.2 Promote and administer the nomination and election of EMEARC Delegates to Global Council to ensure continuity of excellent (both quantitative and qualitative) representation of the membership in the EMEA region.
- 1.3 Work through the EMEARC Communications Group to design and oversee communication initiatives that will increase contact with Members both current and new. The Chair of the Communications Group will lead EMEARC involvement in Global Council communications activities.
- 1.4 Try to reach out to Members, both current and new, as much as possible by e-mail, phone calls and/or personal contact during conferences, meetings, etc., in order to encourage member participation in the governance of OCLC.
- 1.5 Continue to publish the EMEARC Member2Member Newsletter as a communication channel among delegates and members on current issues in RC and GC.

Theme 2: Regional Focus

Set a strategic direction with regional focus that promotes membership participation and engagement across EMEA sub-regions.

- 2.1 The Executive Committee embraces diversity and regards it as a key value that it strives to uphold. Furthermore the Committee recognizes that communities and their cultures within the 60 countries of this region are diverse.
- 2.2 The Executive Committee will strive to build a strong identity for the EMEA Regional Council (EMEARC) within Global Council.

- Delegates will represent EMEARC at Global Council meetings and on Global Council Committees and Task Forces.
- EMEARC activities will be reported regularly to Global Council and OCLC.
- Continue to work on an understanding of the diverse situation within the EMEA subregions within the Executive Committee, with the goal of identifying common issues to bring to Global Council and the entire OCLC organization.

2.3 The Executive Committee should always exploit and seize opportunities to hold regional meetings during which the benefits of OCLC membership are promoted.

Theme 3: Focus on Research and Knowledge

Seek to build a regional focus to promote the research roles of OCLC being one of the world's leading centers devoted exclusively to the challenges facing libraries and archives in a rapidly changing information technology environment.

- Announce and present all upcoming research activities that are being conducted in OCLC to EMEA members in all events.
- Promote the Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship program among EMEA members.
- Encourage members to be engaged in OCLC research activities.
- Add value to the knowledge society by stimulating debate and exchange of ideas.

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(In conjunction with the EMEARC Executive Committee)
18 October 2013