

Governance and leadership

The Board

The British Library Act 1972 places the British Library under the control and management of the British Library Board, the duty of which is to manage the Library as a national centre for reference, study and bibliographical and other information services, in relation both to scientific and technological matters and to the humanities. The Act also requires the Board to make the Library's services available to the public – in particular to institutions of education and learning, other libraries and industry.

The Chairman and members of the Board are all appointed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, with the exception of one member who is appointed by HM The Queen. All Ministerial appointments to the British Library Board are subject to the Code of Practice of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. Members conform to a Code of Practice for Members of the British Library Board derived from the Cabinet Office model Code. The Board Secretary ensures that new Board members receive appropriate induction training upon appointment.

A register of interests of members of the Board is maintained. The register will be made available for inspection on application to the Secretary of the Board, who can also provide copies on request.

The Board meets regularly, six times during the year. All Library Directors are normally present during Board meetings. Board members are provided with appropriate and timely information. Board papers are distributed one week in advance of the relevant meeting to allow members fully to prepare for meetings. The main committees of the Board are: the Board Audit Committee; the Nominations Committee; and the Remuneration Committee.

The Rt Hon Lord Eatwell of Stratton St Margaret MA PhD
CHAIRMAN

Members

Lynne Brindley MA FLA FCILIP FRSA
(Chief Executive, the British Library)

Sir Henry Boyd-Carpenter KCVO MA
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
(formerly Senior Partner, Farrer and Co.) was appointed to the Board by HM The Queen. He chairs the Board Audit Committee.

Robin S Broadhurst CBE FRICS
(formerly European Chairman of Jones Lang LaSalle) brings to the Board his high level of expertise in the area of property development and estates management.

Professor Robert G Burgess PhD AcSS (Vice Chancellor, University of Leicester) was appointed to the British Library Board for his knowledge and experience of higher education and university affairs and his academic background in the social sciences.

Sheila Forbes CBE (Non-Executive Director, Tribal Group plc and OCS Group Ltd) contributes to the work of the Board on the basis of her experience in the area of human resources and the management of culture change. She chairs the Remuneration Committee.

Duncan Lewis MA (Senior Policy Advisor, The Carlyle Group) was appointed to the Board for his experience in the information and communications technology field.

Sir Colin Lucas DPhil FRHistS (Warden of Rhodes House, and formerly Vice-Chancellor, University of Oxford) is a senior humanities academic whose contribution to the Board is his experience of leadership and management in a university environment.

Eileen Mackay CB FRSE (Non-Executive Director, The Royal Bank of Scotland Group) brings to the Board her financial and public administration experience and she was appointed after consultation with Scottish ministers.

Simon Olswang BA Econ, Solicitor, Attorney at Law (California) (formerly Chairman, Olswang) brings to the Board his legal/commercial expertise in the field of intellectual property rights (IPR).

Dr Gareth W Roberts BSc PhD MBA FRSA (CEO NovaThera Ltd, Director, IsoHelix Ltd and Partner, Opine Consultancy) was appointed for his background and experience in the UK biotechnology industry, one of the key R&D-based sectors served by the Library.

Andrew Stephens BSc
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD
(Head, Corporate Secretariat)

The British Library Advisory Council

The Advisory Council was established under the terms of the British Library Act to 'advise the British Library Board on any aspect of the development of its services at home and its relations with libraries overseas'. In order to play a significant role at the centre of the UK's knowledge network, it is essential that the Library obtains good advice on the broad scope of its operations and policies for future developments. The Council helps to ensure that the British Library's plans are formulated and implemented effectively.

Executive Team

Lord Eatwell
CHAIRMAN

Lynne Brindley
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



1 Dr Clive Field
DIRECTOR, SCHOLARSHIP
AND COLLECTIONS

Our priorities this year include developing our web archiving programme, and defining the best solution for getting our manuscript and archives catalogues online. Doing so will help us make accessible marvellous new additions, which include the archives of the writers Beryl Bainbridge, Anthony Powell and Andrew Salkey, and the significant manuscripts presented to us by Tom Stoppard. The excellent work my teams have done to implement the Integrated Library System in acquisitions and cataloguing now enables them to refine their processes, and they're identifying significant efficiency savings that they'll be ready to implement by the end of the year.

2 Richard Boulderstone
DIRECTOR, E-STRATEGY
AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS
Development of the National Digital Library is a priority for my team in the coming year. We're also responsible for developing and managing the infrastructure that's behind our new integrated web service, British Library Direct, and we'll be implementing the added functionality that users need, coming ever-closer to our goal of seamless services.

We're responsible for the effective development, integration and delivery of all IT functions across the Library. We will continue to work closely with other major research libraries, research and expert communities, as well as commercial organisations, to ensure we create the level of interoperability that is needed.

3 Jill Finney
DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC
MARKETING AND
COMMUNICATIONS
Everything we do is driven by the needs of our users and enriching their experience is our top strategic priority. During 2005/06 we'll be working with colleagues across the Directorates to develop the Business and Intellectual Property Centre. We'll create an information resource that suits the needs of 21st century business and creative enterprise. Our public programmes are raising the profile of the Library as an exciting destination at the heart of King's Cross. Beyond our local community, our work on the web and in our regional programmes to develop learning and research skills among young people and lifelong learners is bringing the opportunities the Library offers to a very wide audience indeed.

4 Natalie Ceeney
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS
AND SERVICES

The launch of British Library Direct has been a milestone in making our collection material easily accessible to the end-user. Now my teams are set to extend the range of services available through the BL Direct portal. In parallel, we're increasing the flexibility of Reading Room services to reflect changing methods of research and we're joining up services so that users can begin to enjoy the same degree of access to resources onsite and online. Our goal is to give people access to information wherever they are, whenever they need it. That's a tough requirement, but an important goal to focus on.

5 Mary Canavan
DIRECTOR, HUMAN RESOURCES
Change is now a given in modern organisations and it's not always easy for staff to accept. One of the key priorities for HR is working with managers, staff and trade unions to enable and facilitate the agenda for change.

Through our various development programmes we're building effective management and skills at all levels to help staff embrace change. We've worked in collaboration with

Directorates in the review of their services and the development and implementation of customer-focused structures. We've put in place the first stages of a modernised pay strategy and our work on facilitating the Colleague Opinion Action plan process is enabling us to engage more fully with our staff.

6 Robert Kirton
INTERIM DIRECTOR, FINANCE
AND CORPORATE RESOURCES

The introduction of Europe's biggest WiFi zone and the introduction of new catering facilities were both popular successes for the St Pancras Estates team this past year. Over 2005/06 teams are focusing on preparing for the building of the Centre for Conservation at St Pancras and major new automated low-oxygen storage facilities at Boston Spa, which will be the world's largest book repository. My Strategy Development unit was responsible for drawing up our strategic priorities and the Finance team will be monitoring closely the key priority of guaranteeing financial sustainability. We're working across the Directorates on an agreed and rigorous programme of efficiencies which will be delivering £7 million savings over the coming year.