Public précis of minutes of 19 May Supervisory Board meeting

Action proposed: For Europeana Pro

Attendees
Elisabeth Niggemann (EN) - Chair
Joke van der Leeuw-Roord (JLR) - Vice-chair
Marco de Niet (MdN)
Taja Vovk van Gaal (TVG)
Brid Dooley (BD)
Kerstin Herlt (KH)
Anne Torreggiani (AT)
Harry Verwayen (HV)
Albert Verhaar (AV)
Shadi Ardalan (SA)

Some discussions are omitted from the précis of the minutes as they are deemed confidential to the Supervisory Board at this point in time. The public meeting papers and documents referred to in these minutes can be seen on Europeana Pro.

Opening

The meeting was held virtually on May 19, 2021, chaired by Elisabeth Niggemann (EN). 7 members attended the meeting forming a quorum. The proposed agenda was adopted by the Supervisory Board.

I. Minutes, actions and decisions from 23 February meeting
The Board adopted the minutes of 23 February 2020 meeting and the public précis of the minutes Paper 1B which will be published on Europeana Pro. Actions and decisions from the last meeting are all complete.

II. Europeana Foundation governance

The Board discussed the Europeana Foundation governance.

Working with the Advisory Board

Elsbeth Kwant and Michael Peter Edson make a great team to lead the Advisory Board. On 27 May a drop-in is organised with the aim to stay connected, share thoughts and generate ideas together. The Advisory Board will meet quarterly. The next Advisory Board meeting is in June/July to keep the board engaged.

III. Update and discussion on matters relevant to Europeana and the Foundation

The report on the user engagement programme is exciting and the Board is keen to hear more about it. The Board finds the report about the audience survey interesting and is curious to see the results. Many things happening around Europeana: events, conferences, meetings generating so much energy. There is a lot going on in the audio-visual sector that are interesting and provide opportunities for more collaboration. It’d be useful to have a summary report of where we are in delivering our commitments to the EC as a recurring agenda point. Performance areas seem like a very useful framework for future monitoring and discussion.

IV. Europeana Foundation Business Plan - next steps

Besides our commitments to the Commission under the Europeana DSI-4 project Yr 3, we have the 5 emerging themes in the business plan and embedded in our work. The theme leads have been appointed, and the next steps have been introduced to the staff. The leads are now writing the briefs to scope the direction and set primary objectives. The themes are at different stages of maturity. Participation and collaboration are more complex multifaceted topics. Green and
Diversity & Inclusion are the essential building blocks on Europe’s agenda. The European Green Deal is under the Horizon programme and there is the new initiative New European Bauhaus.

V. Europeana Foundation management and operational update

Staff
The worst implications of the pandemic are now behind us. By the end of June we expect to complete our hybrid work proposal. We’ll conduct an employee satisfaction survey in a couple of weeks. We’re implementing the support actions for remote working and personal development plans. We have added two directors to our senior management team: Valentine Charles as data services director supported by Hugo Manguinhas as head of engineering. And as announced previously Hannah Baker Hitzhusen is our new user engagement director.

Meeting the expectations of the Commission
This summer towards the end of the 3rd year of the Europeana DSI-4 contract we have important deliverables and key milestones to meet. We also need to develop the implementation plan for the fourth and final year that requires detailed planning.

Business development
Business development opportunities to strengthen the network are being explored and the Recovery and Resilience Facility is a major opportunity.

Community Pact
We are developing a ‘Community Pact’ as a sandbox covenant and a code of conduct - primarily in response to the 2020 Conference controversy. We’ve engaged with Lauren Vargas who helps us in the process with 6 training sessions. The pact outlines how Europeana will operationalise its values and sets expectations how it and the community will engage with each other. The aim is to create trust and safe spaces for civil digital dialogue.

Management Report
We have made great achievements on data quality but we need to review the user engagement. We’ve hired our new director Hannah to resource that area. Capacity building is led by Albert. We are doing high-level webinars, and building a framework on capacity building. The focus of the tender/project defines the partners. Starting year 3 we said goodbye to a few partners and we’ve continued with the majority of the partners in year 4. We have a reliable platform by
choosing the right provider. Our hosting environment is protective and we are also building open source. The Board finds the summary report really useful.

VI. Finance & financial sustainability

The Board reviewed and discussed the funding update, the cashflow and Q1 report and approved annual accounts and report 2020.

VII. Any other business and closing

The Board has no objection for the management report to be shared with the Advisory Board, and the management boards of ENA and EAF. The next Supervisory Board meeting is on 7 July 2021 at 13:00 CEST.

The precis of the minutes of the 19 May meeting is a public document on Europeana Pro.