Europeana Foundation Governing Board Meeting

28 September 2017
09h30 – 16h30 CEST
Vrije Universiteit
De Boelelaan 1105, 1081
HV Amsterdam

Joint Aspiration, Europeana Foundation combined Governing Board & Staff Approach Proposal in conjunction with Europeana Network Association Approach, and next steps

Action proposed: Final approval of the Aspiration; to discuss combined Board&Staff approach and its short public-facing version, approve or propose amendments; and to agree on next steps

Joint Aspiration (provisionally approved in February)

> *"We transform the world with culture. We build on Europe's rich cultural heritage and make it easier for people to use for work, learning or pleasure. Our work contributes to an open, knowledgeable and creative society."*

Europeana Foundation Governing Board and Staff approach - internal version

At the 15 June Board meeting the Board agreed to proceed with the amalgamated Foundation Board & Staff approach; and suggested some amendments: to explicitly mention that the Staff support the Governing Board and Network Association; and to ensure the Foundation and Network approaches don't contradict but complement each other. The revised draft amalgamated Governing Board & Staff approach was presented to the Members Council at their 6-7 July meeting. Their comments were incorporated. This version is now to be reviewed and approved by the Board at the 28 September meeting:

> *The Europeana Foundation is made up of a Governing Board and a team of expert staff. Together with the Europeana Network Association - whose members are from diverse organisations across Europe - we strive to realize the vision of a common digital platform for the cultural and scientific heritage sector.*
>
> *The members of the Governing Board are legally and financially responsible for the activities of the Europeana Foundation. The Board decides on strategy and prioritizes - through the Business Plan - the yearly activities of the Europeana Foundation staff.*
>
> *Together, we create a landscape in which cultural heritage institutions from all domains can work with us and each other to provide high-quality digital content*

and reduce barriers to its reuse. We lead changes within the cultural heritage sector that positively impact its institutions, the economy and society. We work with our partners and allies to develop frameworks, standards, strategy and policy, and to raise funds.

In line with the Governing Board's agreed priorities, Europeana Foundation staff provide the technical expertise and the platform for sharing Europe's digital cultural heritage. Our work covers the whole data journey from preparation to publication. Our belief in innovation, openness and interoperability is central to all that we do, and is embedded in our strong R&D work.

There are extensive possibilities in using digital cultural heritage for specialists in creative industries, research and education and for the wider public. We reach these markets through partnerships with professional networks and digital libraries worldwide, integration in existing apps and services, and through local, national and international engagement campaigns. Our results feed into future strategy and improve our services for partner institutions.

Europeana Foundation Governing Board and Staff approach - public-facing short version

We work to realize the vision of a common digital platform for the cultural and scientific heritage sector. We do that with a Governing Board and a team of expert staff, together with the Europeana Network Association - whose members are from diverse organizations across Europe.

The members of the Governing Board decide on strategy and, through yearly business plans, prioritize the activities of the Europeana Foundation - for which they are legally and financially responsible. These activities focus on:

- Working with partners and allies to develop frameworks, standards, strategy and policy relevant to digital cultural heritage, and to raise funds.
- Providing technical expertise and platforms for sharing digitized cultural heritage.
- Raising awareness and use of digital cultural heritage for education, research, the creative industries and the wider public through partnerships and international engagement campaigns.

Europeana Network Association approach (approved by Members Council)

We are the community that shapes Europeana. We believe in creative collaboration and teamwork. We are committed to making, sharing, promoting and repurposing Europe's digital cultural heritage. To achieve this we:

- *use our individual expertise to encourage innovation and foster cross-border and cross-domain collaboration between people from cultural heritage, creative, technology, education and research areas;*
- *help develop, validate and implement the standards and frameworks that improve access and discovery;*

- *participate in Europeana governance and strategy, and promote the Europeana Foundation's activities within professional networks.*

Next steps

1) Final review, possible amendments and approval of the joint aspiration and the approaches by the Board;
2) Stipulate the joint aspiration and Foundation Governing Board & Staff approach in the statutes of Europeana Foundation; (although this can be deferred)
3) Stipulate the joint aspiration and Network Association approach in the statutes of Europeana Network Association;
4) Publish Europeana aspiration and the Foundation / Network Association public-facing approaches on Pro and disseminate towards the stakeholders and the Network.

Circulation:
Europeana Foundation Governing Board Members & Observers

Classification:
Public