Contact: Kathleen Combs Executive Director kcombs@alise.org

ALISE supports the EBLIDA Campaign "The Right to e-Read"



CHICAGO—The Association of Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) supports the EBLIDA (European Bureau of Library Information and Documentation Associations) Campaign "The Right to e-Read." Today, 23 April 2014, marks the United Nations' World Book and Copyright Day, and EBLIDA is holding two press conferences to draw attention to its European-wide campaign to raise awareness among the general public, library and information specialists and policy makers regarding the difficulties libraries currently face in providing access to e-books and digital content. The campaign also raises awareness about the need for change in the copyright framework.

Among other associations tackling the eLending challenges facing libraries are the <u>American Library</u>
<u>Association (ALA)</u> and the <u>International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)</u> which have also issued a press release to inform its membership, the public, stakeholders and policy makers of the EBLIDA campaign, drawing attention to the role of libraries and information centers advocating:

- to allow all citizens not just those who can afford it to benefit from free access to e-books in libraries;
- to provide library users with the latest e-books as they do with printed books;
- · to buy e-books at fair prices and on reasonable terms; and
- for authors to receive fair remuneration for the lending of e-books to the public.

As the global leader, shaping the future of library and information science education and scholarship, ALISE believes in the need to resolve these issues. ALISE members teach and conduct research on eLending, copyright, and other information access and policy issues. Such work informs and supports the work of library and information associations and institutions to enhance equity to information access.

To support EBLIDA's Right to e-Read campaign on World Book Day and World Copyright day, see their petition and promotional materials at http://www.eblida.org/e-read/get-involved/. Join and follow the conversation on Twitter at hashtag #eread.