May 2023

**Consortium of European Research Libraries CHAIR: Abilities, Qualities and Experience Required**

*Commitment to the task*

* Enthusiasm for CERL and its activities based on a special interest in cultural heritage, early books and manuscripts collections, history, humanities
* Should act in co-operation with and in the interests of CERL’s wide European and international membership and audiences
* Should be able to represent CERL at a high level in a European and international context

*Strategy abilities*

* Must have good communication and co-operation skills at an international level
* Must be able to set targets and priorities for a sustainable organisation
* Must have strategic financial planning skills
* Must have a strategic understanding of the modern information world
* Must be able to guide the strategic positioning of CERL in the European organisational framework

*Managerial skills*

* Must be able to align the CERL organisational structure with CERL’s current and future activities
* Must be a decision-maker based on efficient co-operation and inclusive and consultative processes
* Must have proven financial management expertise
* Must be a team player who is able to delegate and share tasks and responsibilities
* Must be able to handle negotiations with various partners, of different national, international and interests background
* Must be able to motivate and appreciate staff and members for the benefit of CERL

*Experience*

* Must have solid experience of international co-operation preferably within CERL, as well as excellent communication skills
* Must have a good network within the international, and especially the European, library world, preferably holding or having held positions in national or international library organisations, and have experience in chairing international meetings
* Must hold or have held a leading position in a library with a considerable cultural heritage collection
* Must have an excellent understanding of researchers’ needs and current developments in humanities, technology and librarianship

*Practical considerations*

* Must be able to devote substantial time, energy and passion to the post
* Must be in a position to meet/liaise regularly with CERL staff working in London, The Hague, and with consultants elsewhere
* A command of several languages is always an asset, but excellent spoken and written English is an absolute requirement