



Flexibility in library spaces

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Dear EAHIL friends,

It's been only three months since my last Editorial and yet so much has changed. We all managed to adapt to the rhythms of the lockdown, to overcome the difficulties of working from home, to re-arrange our habits by practicing social distancing, wearing face masks, and to fight the misinformation that spread on the web as an infodemic (as the WHO called it). I'm pretty sure we all strongly felt and understood the magnitude of this moment.

Nonetheless, *JEAHIL's* intensive activity has continued as usual, leading to the production of this June issue that I'm so pleased to present you here. "User-oriented and creative libraries: the opportunities of spaces", this is the topic of the Monographic section which collects six feature articles and which is edited by Michelle F. Schaffer (University Library of Bern, Switzerland). As Michelle highlights in her preface, libraries in the 21st century have become dynamic centres and "(...) the uncertainty over future technological changes and the rapid change in the needs of library users must not be neglected and requires a greater *flexibility* of spaces, with mobile fittings and furnishings that can be re-arranged along with their integrated technical installation". I particularly liked the use of the word *flexibility* as I personally found it to be incredibly appropriate and meaningful not only in regards to library spaces but also to the present pandemic, and our capacity to deal with it.

I wish to thank Michelle and the many authors who contributed with their excellent papers.

In her Letter from the President, Maurella Della Seta reminds us about the important elections taking place in these days, for the roles of EAHIL President and EAHIL Board members, while Carol Lefebvre (MLA Representative to EAHIL) informs us on the latest news from MLA and on the MLA 2020 virtual conference. Francesca Gualtieri (chair of the SIG Pharma) tells us about Pharma information during COVID-19 and Letizia Sampaolo informs us on New publications and products in the areas of interest of EAHIL.

Now some news on *JEAHIL* activities. We recently received some requests from new sponsors willing to advertise in the e-journal or/and in *JEAHIL* website. Some sponsors have been contacted by Tiina Heino, member of EAHIL Executive Board, whom I'd like to thank deeply. With the aim to provide them with statistics of access to the journal pages, Rebecca Wojturska, the new Open Access Publishing Officer at the University of Edinburgh, has conducted a very interesting analysis. As you will read in Rebecca's report, published in the "News from EAHIL" section of this issue, over 17,000 articles were downloaded and almost 37,000 abstract pages were viewed in 2019; and 2020 statistics are even more impressive. This means that the journal is doing very well, and that the work and efforts of *JEAHIL* Editorial Board members and of all those who are collaborating (authors, column editors, and many others) are producing successful results.

One last thing, *JEAHIL* Editorial Board has been discussing the topics of future theme-issues. Because the Łódź Conference has been postponed (see central pages for more info), the September issue, which is usually dedicated to the last EAHIL event, will host a new monographic section. I'm sure you will appreciate the topics chosen by the Board (see Table below). If you would like to collaborate by submitting a paper, please contact either one of the members of the Editorial Board, the guest editor, or myself.

Future JEAHIL issues

Issue	Theme	Deadline
2020		
3 (September)	The role of libraries during the COVID-19 pandemic edited by Petra Wallgren-Bjork and Gerhard Bissels	31 July
4 (December)	Climate change and libraries edited by Maria-Inti Metzendorf, Irma Klerings, Helge Knüttel and Gerhard Bissels	5 November
2021		
1 (March)	17th EAHIL Conference, Łódź, Poland, online	5 February
2 (June)	Artificial intelligence edited by James Thomas	5 May
Titles in this table are provisional		

Have a nice summer holiday
Federica