

## Editorial

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### **Federica Napolitani**

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Dear EAHIL members,

It is with the utmost pleasure that I present this June's *JEAHIL* theme-issue "Evidence surveillance during the pandemic using automation and crowdsourcing", edited by James Thomas, Director of the EPPI-Centre's Reviews Facility for the Department of Health, England, UCL Institute of Education, University College London. We are so grateful for having him on board and accepting *JEAHIL's* invite to gather articles on the complex, current, and ever evolving topic of Artificial Intelligence and its impact on EAHIL's areas of interest.

Do you recall the supercomputer HAL9000's artificial eye in Stanley Kubrik's 1968 masterpiece "2001 : Space Odyssey"? The mere concept that HAL (the computer) could comprehend and process the human language, even through lip reading, and interact and dialogue with astronauts by using a human voice was something that, at the time, was pure science fiction. And yet, natural language processing, robotics, space exploration, machine-learning techniques, web crawling technologies, and automation are becoming the realities of our time. I am also very aware that I do not possess the knowledge necessary to fully comprehend the mechanics of such technologies, and therefore I am grateful to the authors of this June's edition for introducing me to the many AI applications within our society and within the workplace.

Following these papers, you will be able to read the Letter from our President Lotta Haglund, the news from US MLA by Carol Lefebvre and the column on Publications and new products by Letizia Sampaolo. I also invite you to read the updates on *JEAHIL* online usage by Rebecca Wojturska who shares with us some wonderful usage statistics referring to 2020 and announces the new indexing of the Journal in different databases, such as AGORA, CAB Abstracts and Global Health databases, the European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences (ERIH PLUS), Hinari, JournalTOCs, Norwegian Register for Scientific Journals, and Researcher. A big thank you goes to Rebecca and to all the members of the Editorial Board: Petra Wallgren Björk, Gerhard Bissels, Fiona Brown, Katri Larmo, Letizia Sampaolo and Michelle Wake!

The Table in the following page shows the themes of *JEAHIL* future issues.

If you would like to contribute, please contact the editors or myself. Also, please inform us if you wish to see some specific topics covered in these pages.

### *Future JEAHIL issues*

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
<b>2021</b>		
3 (September)	EAHIL Virtual Workshop 2021, Istanbul, Turkey	5 August
4 (December)	Infodemics and libraries* edited by Katri Larmo and Michelle Wake	5 November
<b>2022</b>		
1 (March)	No-theme issue	5 February

\* *Provisional title*

*Wish you the best for the summer holidays*

*Federica*