

Letter from the President



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Dear EAHIL Colleagues,

With just a few weeks left in 2022, I can reflect on my first term as EAHIL President and conclude that many things I expected had to change due to the pandemic. After two digital events and many digital Board meetings in 2020 and 2021, it was finally time to meet again in person in Rotterdam. I was looking forward to this when fate (or the airlines?) stepped in and cancelled my flights to the Netherlands. It was a huge disappointment not to be able to meet all of you again, but I'm pleased that the conference was such a success. Currently, the IPC and the LOC are working hard to plan our next event in Trondheim, Norway. The workshop has the intriguing theme "Radical positive change agents"! Please visit <https://eahil2023.org/> to learn what this might imply.

I would also like to remind you to apply for a scholarship to attend the workshop. The scholarships will be announced in our usual channels.

In November, our new membership database was launched. It is a web-based application from a Swedish company called MyClub, initially created for small sports clubs/teams. The new database will make membership administration easier for the EAHIL Executive Board and enable Council members to keep track of members in their country, including the possibility to e-mail them directly from the database. Since we will have some changes in the Council after elections this autumn, Council members will be added as administrators in early 2023.

Last but not least, I'm delighted to announce that we now have a host for the 2024 event, which will be held in Riga, Latvia. Preliminary dates are 10-14 June 2024.

I still want to remind you that we still need to secure locations for the EAHIL events from 2025 onwards. Since our yearly events are the main activities of our Association, and the planning timeline for an event is approximately two years, it's time to start thinking of submitting an expression of interest. It should be sent to EAHIL-SECR@LIST.ECOMPASS.NL. Please refer to <http://eahil.eu/events/arrange-conference/> for event guidelines, and feel free to contact other Board members or me for discussion and support.

Looking forward to hearing from you with proposals and suggestions

With wishes for a happy and healthy 2023!

Evidence-Based Information Group: year report 2022

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Introduction

2022 has been a busy year for the Evidence-Based Information SIG. As well as our annual SIG meeting at the 2022 EAHIL Conference in Rotterdam, we saw progress across many of our SIG projects, we ran our first webinar, and ran our first journal club meeting.

SIG meeting, 9 June 2022 at the 2022 EAHIL Conference, Rotterdam (held online via Zoom)

Approximately 60 members attended our annual SIG meeting, held as part of the 2022 EAHIL Conference in Rotterdam. After an update from the SIG committee, each project team provided an update on their project, inviting questions from attendees. Finally, the SIG committee announced details of the journal club and webinar. Meeting minutes and copies of the project presentations are available in the SIG GoogleDrive folder (<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1arbj6nbyaVA-osWAXIgmNuWBllmzF3Qe?ths=true>). The meeting was recorded and can be watched on the EAHIL YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/DcayTKCFZzM>.

Update from SIG projects

Project 2: Reference database on articles about systematic search methods

The project group hosts and manages a review methods collection in Zotero (https://www.zotero.org/groups/2356323/review_methods_systematic_scoping_and_other_comprehensive_reviews/library). This literature review methods library is a collection of publications that supports information specialists who are involved with systematic, scoping or other comprehensive reviews. The library includes mostly publications on comprehensive literature search methods for any type of review, but also contains papers on other stages of the reviews which may be used to guide students or review teams.

NEWS FROM EAHIL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Relevant papers from the library are selected for the journal club the group plans to host twice a year. Our first journal club was held in October 2022, more details below.

We welcome feedback, suggestions for the methods library and the journal club, and encourage new collaborators - please contact us here referencelibraryebi@gmail.com.

Project 3: Peer-reviewing search strategies for journals

Although search strategies often end up in the supplementary file of evidence-based literature, like systematic and scoping reviews, it's actually its strong foundation. An insensitive search methodology can result in missing relevant studies and thus biased conclusions. That's why journals should realize the crucial role of expert searchers in peer reviewing search strategies of submitted reviews.

Since there's already an existing Librarian Peer Reviewer Database, the focus of this project will probably shift to facilitate training and discussion opportunities for fellow expert searchers regarding peer reviewing search strategies from submitted evidence-synthesis papers.

Although this project group has taken form with the start of this SIG, no steps had been taken to officially start up. The group consists of six members and will get together for the first time on the 22nd of December 2022. The aim of this first meeting is to set more clear goals, have a brainstorm and plan at least one event for next year.

There's an open vacancy for a co-lead, in the hope this will help to kickstart this project. Extra volunteers and ideas are still welcome as well.

Do contact Krizia Tuand (krizia.tuand@kuleuven.be) if you wish to contribute in any way.

Project 4: Library of search strategy resources

Our first EBI-SIG Project 4 meeting was on June 13, 2022 and we have been meeting on a monthly basis since. We currently have two co-chairs and four members that are a part of our group.

This is a brief overview and progress to date:

1. we decided to create a living open access library of search strategy resources;
2. we created an initial Google docs draft of the Library of Search Strategy Resources (<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eaSqCR3jLcSMP06gmALHz5zWj-lUcvd5/edit>);
3. we drafted an email asking health literature searchers to suggest additional resources for our draft;
4. we distributed the email to listservs based in the UK, Canada and the US;
5. we also hope to be giving a presentation on this project at the 2023 EAHIL conference in Trondheim, Norway.

Our next steps will be to decide on the means by which we will present the Library of Search Strategy Resources to the global community; and the skills set and technologies required to do so. We may send out a call for new volunteers as we determine our needs for this project.

Project 7: Tools in R for health libraries

This project is split into two streams. The first is to produce guidance on searching for R tools of interest to librarians and information professionals. We have created a potential list of sources and are currently creating and testing search strategies. We will use an adapted version of the search strategy template to prioritise sources (1). The second stream is to map existing R tools onto the systematic review steps most commonly carried out by librarians and information professionals. This will help to identify overlap and gaps in provision. We hope to run a workshop on this project at the 2023 EAHIL conference in Trondheim, Norway, and also at an R-related conference.

NEWS FROM EAHIL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Webinar, 29 September 2022

On the afternoon of Thursday 29 September, we were delighted to welcome Melissa Rethlefsen to present a webinar, via Zoom, on PRISMA-S. Melissa presented a short overview of PRISMA-S before moving on to discuss the practicalities of implementation. Over 75 librarians attended and there was a lively Q&A and discussion. The webinar was recorded and is available from the EAHIL YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/Jrt9GxmCH1M>.

Journal club, 11 October 2022

Our first journal club was held on Zoom and was facilitated by Maria Björklund, Lund University, Sweden. We discussed a paper by McKeown and Ross-White (2), by answering the following questions in breakout groups:

- How is the systematic review support organized in your library/institution, compared to the model presented in the paper?
- The paper presents some challenges, e.g. in the discussion. What do you think is your biggest challenge in the systematic review support, at library/institutional level?
- How do you deal with students who do systematic reviews e.g. for a research group?

Feedback from attendees was very positive and we plan to run another journal club in 2023.

Conclusion

2022 has been a busy year for the SIG with progress being made across a number of projects. Many thanks to all our project volunteers for your enthusiasm and hard work. It has also been really rewarding to see so many attendees at our webinar and our journal club. We look forward to welcoming colleagues to more events in 2023.

REFERENCES

- (1) Bethel AC, Rogers M, Abbott R. Use of a search summary table to improve systematic review search methods, results, and efficiency. *J Med Libr Assoc.* 2021;109(1):97-106.
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- (2) McKeown S, Ross-White A. Building capacity for librarian support and addressing collaboration challenges by formalizing library systematic review services. *J Med Libr Assoc.* 2019;107(3):411-9.
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