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Editorial



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Dear EAHIL friends

The EAHIL 2022 Conference is behind us and this *JEAHIL* September issue is here to preserve its memories, for the readers of today and tomorrow. This journal is, in fact, not only a valuable tool to keep librarians and information specialists updated, but also a precious repository of EAHIL memories, where the most significant moments in the history of the Association are stored and safeguarded. Information on projects and studies, but also the memories of people and places as well as photographs of past events dating back from the very first steps in EAHIL activities are preserved in *JEAHIL* pages, and grow with the publication of each new issue. I invite you to browse the journal and the *Newsletter* to retrieve them all, since, as you probably remember, the Editorial Board completed the digitization of the old issues sometime ago.

I am grateful to the Chair of the Local Organising Committee of EAHIL 2022, Wichor Braemer, for accepting the invitation of the Editorial Board and writing the report "Organising EAHIL's first hybrid conference: challenges and opportunities of a pandemic". The EAHIL 2022 Conference, held in Rotterdam on 1-3 June 2022, was the first conference organised in presence in the two years of the pandemic (after two virtual events: EAHIL 2021 from Istanbul, Turkey, on 5-8 July and EAHIL 2020 from Łódź, Poland, on 16-18 November) and it was the first to be structured as a hybrid conference. I can just imagine how many difficulties the organisers encountered in its preparation and facilitation, also considering the uncertainties and disruptions still caused by the pandemic in the European air traffic network, with cancellations of thousands of flights. Three hundred delegates participated, in presence or online, and this is a proof of its success and of the incredible efforts of the organisers.

As EAHIL members recall, during the Conference, four prizes were awarded for best overall oral and poster presentations and for the best oral and poster presentations by first-timers. The projects and studies which were presented at the Conference are reported in this issue of the journal in the form of feature articles and I am sure the readers will find them interesting and inspiring.

In the "News from EAHIL" section of this issue, Lotta Haglund, in her Letter from the President, is giving members important information on the life of the association on its values and on its future; while Maurella Della Seta (past President) informs us on the EAHIL Council Elections 2022 – Call for Nominations. The voting will be from 17 to 31 October 2022. Read the report for more details and don't forget to participate!

Some changes are occurring at Editorial Board level. As you may have heard at the General Assembly in Istanbul, I announced that it was time for me to step down from my role as Editor in Chief (EiC), after covering this position for many years. A call for a new EiC has been posted [online](#). I'm sure that a dedicated and passionate librarian with some experience in the publication process will be attracted by this challenging and much rewarding task.

Along with the members of *JEAHIL* Editorial Board I would like to express our grateful thanks to Letizia Sampaolo who has edited for several years the column "Publications and new products", usually published at the end of each issue. I am sure the readers of this column appreciated not only the information and the updates

she regularly provided but also the personal touch that each time she was capable of giving to this section of the journal. Thank you Letizia, we wish you all the best for your future commitments. In the meantime, I'm very happy to announce that Annarita Barbaro, distinguished librarian at the Italian National Institute of Health, where both Letizia and myself work, has agreed to taking care of this relevant section of *JEAHIL* and to become member of the Editorial Board. Annarita is not new to the Journal since she was already a member of the Editorial Board when Sally Wood-Lamont was Editor in Chief. Therefore, welcome back Annarita!

The Table below shows the themes of the future *JEAHIL* issues and the respective deadlines. As you can see, the December issue will be devoted to the "post-COVID world". Maybe it is too soon to think that we are completely out of the woods, but it is certainly interesting to know how libraries in different countries have adjusted to this new reality, what has actually changed, what has remained and, ultimately, has it been an opportunity for positive changes?

Future *JEAHIL* issues

Issue	Theme	Deadline
2022		
4 (December)	Libraries in the "post-covid" world*	5 November 2022
2023		
1 (March)	No-theme issue	5 February 2023
2 (June)	"A look to the future" How do medical librarians view the future?*	5 May 2023

* *Provisional title*

The theme of the June issue is somehow provocative and I hope many of you will share their thoughts about the future of medical librarians. "Broaden the horizons - diversity, partnership and innovation with a human touch" was the title of the Conference in Rotterdam and "Radical positive change agents" is that of EAHIL 2023 in Trondheim. The key words, in my opinion, are all there!

See you in Trondheim! The Call for papers is opening now, check online at [https://eahil2023.org/!](https://eahil2023.org/)

Federica



Unexpected readings: looking for beauty in books at the Veneto Institute of Oncology

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Abstract

Hospices are specialized facilities for palliative care. With the purpose of improving the quality of life and making the Veneto Institute of Oncology (IOV, Padua, Italy) a more reassuring and less impersonal place, the Scientific Library has designed a project called "Letture inattese" (Unexpected readings) that brings books to guests, carers and the health workforce of the Hospice. With people in mind, rather than their illness, this project aims to generate a moment of wonderment, relief and recreation through the beauty that can be found in books. This first non-scientific patients' library at IOV intends to create opportunities for deepening the quality of human relationships between the patients, their families and the healthcare professionals.

Key words: books; reading; libraries; hospices; wonderment.

*"...Nel nostro cervello, infatti, quando leggiamo di avventure, amori, viaggi, pranzi, sesso, timori, spaventi, emozioni, eccetera, si producono delle attività che sono del tutto analoghe a quelle che si producono quando veramente amiamo, viaggiamo, pranziamo, facciamo l'amore, abbiamo timore o spavento, in un qualunque modo ci emozioniamo. Non so se leggere storie di guarigione possa far guarire; ne dubito; ma sospetto che quando una delle nostre due vite, quella pratica, è costretta a una sosta forzata, non possa che essere benefico risarcire noi stessi dedicandoci all'altra delle nostre vite, quella fantastica. Che non ci è meno essenziale." **

Giulio Mozzi, *Mio zio, quando si rompe una gamba, lesse l'Ulisse di Joyce, 2010*

Introduction The Veneto Institute of Oncology and its Scientific Library

The Veneto Institute of Oncology (IOV) is a research public hospital (Istituto di Ricovero e Cura a Carattere Scientifico, IRCCS) in northern Italy specifically dedicated to cancer research and the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of neoplasms.

Its headquarters are in Padua (where the main hospital, research laboratories and scientific and administrative offices are), and it has two branch locations for medical services: one in Schiavonia (Monselice) and one in Castelfranco Veneto (Treviso). In the latter, an Hospice was opened in January 2021: a structure that welcomes patients at any stage of oncological disease and provides adequate palliative care to ensure the best quality of life.

*Translated in English: "... In our brain, in fact, when we read about adventures, love, travel, lunch, sex, fear, fright, emotions, etc., activities occur that are totally analogous to those that are produced when we actually love, travel, eat, make love, are scared or frightened or moved in any way. I don't know whether reading stories about healing can actually heal; I doubt it; but I suspect that when one of our two lives, the practical one, is forced to come to a halt, it can only be beneficial to compensate ourselves by devoting to the other one of our lives, the fantastic one, which is no less essential to us." Giulio Mozzi, *My uncle, when he broke his leg, read Joyce's "Ulysses", 2010. Translated into English with the author's permission.*

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IOV has a Scientific Library, specialized in health information about oncology and related biomedical sciences, that works mainly with researchers providing support in different stages of their work, ranging from bibliographic searches to intellectual property consulting. The Library also manages and reports the yearly institute's scientific production to the Italian Ministry of Health. All bibliographic material is digital and related to oncological scientific research.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, working in a physically isolated mode, far from the hospital and the research laboratories, limiting visits and meeting online with collaborators, a craving for connection with the community was starting to arise in the Library. Thinking a lot about people, having them in mind rather than their illness or health situation, there was a growing interest in the concept of humanization of care (1). Recognizing the importance of social connection between patients, healthcare workforce, caregivers, visitors, and society at large, we were reflecting on how to address the need for empathy, leisure and being in the present moment at the Hospital. As librarians, we had books in our minds. As early as 2000, the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) *Guidelines for libraries serving hospital patients and the elderly and disabled in long-term care facilities* had indicated how “books, reading, and library materials can exert a positive effect on the state or recovery of those who are physically or mentally ill” (2). Moreover, scientific literature about bibliotherapy and the impact of reading on mental health was giving us evidence about the relevance and the role that literature (fiction and poetry) could play in supporting people in hospital settings (3-6).

Acknowledging that books can limit the sense of isolation that patients and the healthcare staff may feel during hospitalization, we designed a project aimed at bringing them to the hospital wards at IOV.

The challenge to start this new patients' library during COVID-19 pandemic, with a specially fragile population as ideal beneficiary, was to plan a book loan procedure that could be done in accordance with the national guidelines to contain the risk of Coronavirus infection. According to a 2020 document issued by the Istituto Centrale per la Patologia degli Archivi e del Libro (7), which deals with the management of sanitization and disinfection of archives and libraries, consulted materials had to be kept in isolation for at least

10 days after being manipulated (reduced to 7 days on subsequent update of the Guidelines on May 2020). Within this context, we developed the project *Unexpected readings* considering the need to limit manipulation of the books while also creating a moment of wonderment and surprise.

Coincidentally, at the time the project was being designed, a newsletter from the Veneto Region informed us of an open call for museums, archives and libraries, to apply for regional funding for the growth and enhancement of cultural services of the territory (8).

To apply, the proposal had to be non-profit, with a regional if not national cultural impact.

The project was submitted in June 2021, and received positive feedback in October the same year; it was granted funds for the purchase of the books.

Being a pilot project with limited resources and in need of a concrete and relatively small venue, the Hospice was chosen as the place to host *Unexpected readings*; book loans officially started on April 26, 2022.

Unexpected readings at the Hospice

The Hospice of the Veneto Institute of Oncology is named in memory of Dr. Leopoldo Celegon, a cardiologist who spent his life helping and relieving people in pain. Its mission is to provide palliative care focusing on patients' needs, values and expectations. It has six bedrooms and some common spaces, where guests can be accompanied by their familiars and friends, day and night. There is also a particular room called “room of silence” (*stanza del silenzio*), a neutral place of quiet, inclusive and cross-cultural, where whoever can think, pray, meditate, look into their interiority.

The spacious common lounge, at the entrance of the Hospice, is particularly cosy and full of light, thanks to the wide window overlooking the delightful Villa Parco Bolasco's garden. In this room, people can find *Unexpected readings* and a poster with instructions on how to participate in the project. The Hospice's healthcare personnel kindly integrate the library operations in their daily medical routine (*Figures 1 and 2*).

This is how *Unexpected readings* works: circa 300 books were collected and divided into 5 themes or categories. Each theme has 50 different books, of various literary genres: novels, poetry books, short stories, illustrated books, graphic novels, essays and travel books.

People who want to read something do not choose a



Fig. 1. *The Hospice's common lounge overlooking Villa Parco Bolasco's garden. Photo by Mirsad Pasalic.*



Fig. 2. *"Unexpected readings" area at the Hospice. Photo by Mirsad Pasalic.*

book but a theme: the personnel at the Hospice will give them a fabric bag with five unexpected volumes (each one related to the category that was chosen, but a complete surprise for the reader). The books are on loan, the bag is a gift. When books are returned, they are left in quarantine before they are given to somebody else.

To choose the five themes that hold together the book collection, we let our mind wonder and imagined we were perceiving the whole existence in just a glance, from the immensity of the cosmos to the most ephemeral yet important life, like the one of an insect. Each theme has a corresponding color and a title: the blue one is *The stars, the universe and everything* (a wink to the third book by Douglas Adams' *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*) and it collects books about the cosmos, the ancient geological eras and philosophy; the green theme is *Chlorophyll and oxygen* with illustrated books about eye-catching botanical images and wild animals as well as novels that explore uncharted territories, mountains, lakes and woods; the yellow theme is *Colors and black and white* all about creativity, art, photography, design and architecture; the red section holds literature about adventures, hidden treasures, words shining between vivid images and its title is *It was a pleasure to burn* (a quote from the incipit of *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray

Bradbury's science fiction novel).

Finally, the violet theme *Back and forth in the world*, suggested by the Hospice nursing personnel, is a collection of images and stories from places far away or really close, to expand the space of one's boundaries.

We thought that through these five themes, books could provide a sense of connection with the outside, while creating some space for the exploration of the inside.

We chose each book carefully and with a lot of love, looking for beauty inside of them. They not only had to fit within a certain theme, but also had to meet certain requirements: volumes had to be comfortable to handle, easy to hold and leaf through. Novels could not be too long or too depressing. The selection was driven by an impulse to look for beauty and wonderment inside of books. Banal or gloomy books were excluded as well as all material regarding oncology or health related issues. Nevertheless, during our meetings with the Hospital Psychology Department, the need to address spiritual and thanatological issues was also considered as a possible future integration of this project.

We searched for ideas in bookstores, in our houses and we asked our friends for suggestions of interesting books to include in the collection. Guests, visitors and staff of the Hospice, colleagues and local writers all

suggested some titles, and so did the booksellers of the two independent bookstores, “Limerick” and “Zabarella” of Padua, that we engaged with.

Finally, to answer a specific request from the Hospice staff, a little collection of playful illustrated books for children and teens was also acquired and placed in the small kid’s corner at the Hospice to also give patients’ children the opportunity to read and wonder.

The importance of senses

We tried to consider the role that different senses could play in the way the project could be perceived through touch, sight and hearing. To preserve the texture and sensorial quality of the book covers, none of the volumes were laminated with plastic. To provide access to literature through hearing, even for those guests with decreased levels of consciousness or motility, each room will be supplied with a tablet and a collection of audiobooks.

To make the whole project visually stimulating, we designed a logo that is printed on the fabric bags that are gifted to people. The drawing – an open book resembling a flower – was inspired by the beauty that can be found at the Padua Botanical Garden, where nature blooms all year long marvelling at the unsuspecting winter visitors. In line with this idea of wonderment, the first aim of the project is to create a moment of surprise, kindness, relief and ease through the beauty that can be found in books (Figure 3).

Conclusion and future perspectives

With *Unexpected readings*, the seed for a non-scientific patients’ library was planted at IOV. With it, the intention to address those needs that patients and healthcare workforce in an Hospital may have, that go beyond the relief that drug treatment can provide. To investigate the impact that this project may have, an evaluation form was designed in collaboration with colleagues of the Scientific Directorate support offices. The feedback that will be collected with this survey will provide a guide for future perspectives.

Moreover, the Library is now starting to engage in an exploration of the Italian territory to discover hospice patient libraries, opening up an opportunity to create a network of shared experiences.

Different departments and units at IOV Hospital are eager to provide exposure to literature for their pa-



Fig. 3. Fabric bag gifted to the users. The bag contains five unexpected books.

tients: the project is already reaching patients and visitors of the Common Ward for Medical Oncology, next door to the Hospice. This generated the need for a bigger book collection and more personnel in charge of managing and mediating the project. A program of read-aloud sessions in the hospital wards may provide a connection between the health community and the local authors that are featured in the new patients’ library.

In conclusion, *Unexpected readings* aims to create a moment of wonderment thanks to the surprise of unexpected books (since the dynamic of accessing the book collection is done through the choice of a theme and not of a book title); a gesture of kindness with the gift of each bag; and a breath of relief and ease through the beauty that can be found in novels, illustrations and poetry. *Unexpected readings* intends to build opportunities for deepening the quality of human relationships in an environment and in a time of life very sensitive, not only for the patient but for all people around. Reading can help patients and the healthcare staff to humanely connect during hospitalization.

Maybe the space of the Hospice feels different with the presence of books, a bit more comfortable and inspiring, a little more like home.

Funding

This project was funded by the Veneto Region (LR n. 50/1984, art. 44).

Acknowledgements

We thank Dr Mirsad Pasalic and the healthcare staff of the Hospice for managing the project in situ; Dr Fabio Formaglio, head of the Pain Therapy, Palliative Care Unit & Hospice; Alessandro Moretto for digitizing and editing the drawing for the logo and all our kind colleagues for supporting the project.

The authors of this paper received the award for best oral presentation overall at the EAHIL 2022 Conference “Broaden the horizons - diversity, partnership and innovation with a human touch” Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 1-3 June 2022.

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Development and validation of a database filter for study size – preliminary results

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Abstract

Researchers performing systematic reviews often express the desire to limit the search results to a certain study size. The aim of our study was to develop a filter in *embase.com* and *Ovid* to retrieve references above a specified threshold of study size. The filter that was developed consists mainly of truncated numbers in proximity with words such as patients, cases, adults, females and phrases like “n=”. Preliminary results showed that the sensitivity of the filter, as evaluated on existing systematic reviews, was at least 94%. The burden of screening for systematic reviews can be greatly reduced with the study size filter.

Key words: sample size; bibliographic databases; information storage and retrieval.

Introduction

Researchers performing systematic reviews (SRs) often express the desire to limit the search results to their inclusion criteria, such as articles that included a certain study size: “I want to include only studies of more than 50 patients”. While we of course can discuss about the validity of such a request, limiting the search results to match the inclusion criteria can reduce the burden of screening. Usually, the sample size of a study is mentioned in the abstract or title of an article. Instead of screening for the numbers in title or abstract manually, we aimed to develop a filter in *embase.com* and *Ovid* to retrieve references using a certain threshold of study size.

Methods

We developed the filter for *embase.com* and *Ovid MEDLINE* as these platforms have the ability to use proximity operators. Together with researchers who expressed the desire to limit search results to a certain number of patients, we constructed preliminary filters. These were tested iteratively by evaluating the patient numbers of relevant references that had not been retrieved. If the patient numbers matched the inclusion criteria, the filter was adapted to retrieve the missed articles and used for a new test round, until all relevant references were retrieved. After several iterative rounds of improvement, the filter was validated against exist-

ing SRs that used study sizes as inclusion criteria but did not limit their search to a study size.

Preliminary results

The filter that was developed consists mainly of truncated numbers in proximity with words such as patients, cases, adults, females, and phrase like “n=”. The filter can and should be adapted to the research topic by combining these truncated numbers with specific terms for diseases, interventions or body parts of interest such as melanomas, surgeries, eyes or knees. The sensitivity of the filter as evaluated on existing SRs was at least 94% and the number of total references found with the filter was reduced to 40-75% (*Figure 1*).

Discussion

Preliminary results of the filter have been demonstrated so far. Our study should be expanded by validating the filter with more systematic reviews, although the first results seem promising. We already encountered some challenges and limitations:

- the filter searches for numbers in title or abstract. Large numbers that are often in abstracts, and could be in proximity of words such as “patients”, are years or dates. This means the filter can obtain a little bit of noise retrieved by years, such as the year 1998 or 2021, mentioned in text. Also, phrases such as “80% of patients” are found with the filter;

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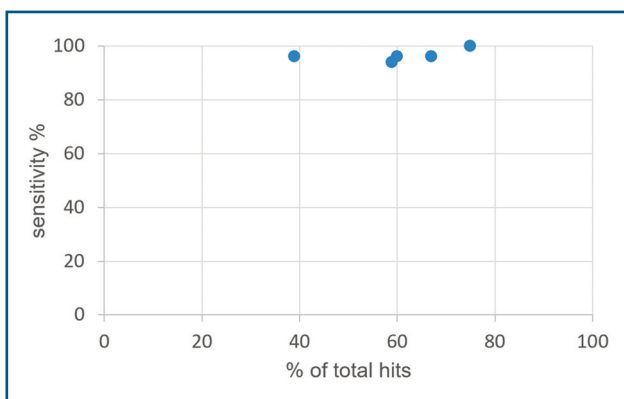


Fig. 1. The sensitivity and percentage of hits found with the filter was evaluated on existing systematic reviews (SRs). Each dot represents the results of a test with an SR. Sensitivity was 94% or higher. The total number of hits retrieved with the filter compared to without the filter ranged from 40 to 75%.

- the filter works with a threshold and will find all numbers higher/larger than specified number. Unfortunately, the maximum threshold of the filter is 100 in the current version;
- the filter works with proximity operators and therefore is only available in Ovid and embase.com, but not for PubMed. However, for PubMed it could be considered to use the Study size Search Tool of Baladrón *et al.* (1), although this tool is currently unavailable and does not have the option to adapt the filter to terms specific for the research question;
- the filter is not 100% sensitive, which is rarely the case with filters. Some references that were not retrieved were older articles that did not include the study size in their abstract. Since the late 1980's and

early 1990's, more guidelines for structured abstracts have been available that also recommend mentioning of study sample size (2). Searching for older studies could be done without the filter and screening full texts of articles manually, whereas the newer studies have a high chance to be found with the filter.

When a threshold of study size is used as an inclusion criterion for a review, the screening time can be greatly reduced by using the filter for study size. We will test the sensitivity of the filter on several more SRs and adapt the filter where necessary. We will further investigate the cut-off point where the filter generates (near) 100% sensitivity to advise researchers on which publication dates should be searched without the study size filter.

Acknowledgements

The authors of this paper received the award for best oral presentation by a first-timer at the EAHIL 2022 Conference "Broaden the horizons - diversity, partnership and innovation with a human touch" Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 1-3 June 2022.

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Library associations: making connections to enable effective change

Mary Dunne

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Abstract

Decisions by library associations impact on everyone involved in library and information services. The committee of the Library Association of Ireland, Health Sciences Libraries Group conducted an online survey about association and group membership. Our 49 responses and literature review provide a useful guide to what is wanted and needed. We learned about the value of taking a holistic, connected approach to enhancing expertise through continuing professional development, progressing the interests of our profession, and supporting collegiality and knowledge exchange by uniting us as a community. Our findings show the importance of belonging to a professional group that not only provides comprehensive tangible supports but also facilitates a network of stakeholders with whom we can engage, share and collaborate.

Key words: library associations; information services; community networks; continuing professional development.

Introduction

The Health Sciences Libraries Group (HSLG) is a specialist group of the Library Association of Ireland. Although a relatively small group of about 50 members, we have an email discussion list, e-newsletter, website, virtual journal club, annual conference, annual general meeting, regular continuing professional development (CPD) and networking events. The six committee members are responsible for governance so wanted to ensure we were effectively meeting members' needs and expectations. To do this we needed to explore different sources of evidence, including the views of members and current best practice.

In our brief study, we learned about the valuable role associations can have. The results are guiding our strategy and are relevant to others who govern library groups and associations. They are also relevant to members, and potential members, who may want to reflect on the benefits of membership and how they can communicate their needs to decision-makers. Here, we present some key results and how we are using them to guide our new CPD framework.

Methods

In November 2021 we conducted an anonymous online survey with the aim of gaining insight into the issues of relevance to membership of our group and national association. Our objectives were to: enable HSLG mem-

bers to give their views on the group; understand what aspects of a library association are important to librarians in Ireland; and learn about reasons for and against membership. Our questionnaire was developed based on a literature review including a search of ProQuest Library Science database in September 2021 using the term "library association", checking article reference lists and a search of library association websites. The review provided useful literature from previous surveys of librarians and commentaries on the role of library associations. We use an inclusive definition of "professional", which includes those who do not hold a professionally accredited qualification but who are actively engaged in development (1).

Our questionnaire included questions on demographic and work-based information, evaluative questions about the HSLG and library associations, reasons for joining, and the importance of specified factors related to membership. To create options for the latter, we identified four themes related to what members may expect to contribute and receive through association membership: 1. expertise - professional development, 2. community - connecting and engaging, 3. profession - sustaining and strengthening, 4. support - financial and organisational supports. For more information on the literature review, questionnaire development and themes, see forthcoming article (2).

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Results

We received 49 valid completed surveys. There were 21 responses from group members (46% response rate). The remaining 28 responses were from (21) other members of the national association or another library association, and (7) non-members. Although numbers were small, responses provide a useful guide to what is wanted and needed. This article focuses on results from the HSLG.

Eighty-one percent of HSLG respondents had worked as an information professional / librarian for 12 or more years. Although 86% of members indicated that their library or organisation paid (fully or partially) to attend CPD events or courses, only 29% said they paid for

their association membership. Thirty percent said they belonged to two or more library associations. Ninety-five percent agreed or strongly agreed that group membership was important for, and had improved, their practice; that the group fulfilled their expectations; and offered sufficient opportunities to contribute. All members agreed or strongly agreed that the HSLG provides community support (Figure 1).

When asked to rate the importance of specific factors related to association membership, all were rated as somewhat or very important by most members (Figure 2). Categorising by our four themes shows the role of community was regarded as of paramount importance.

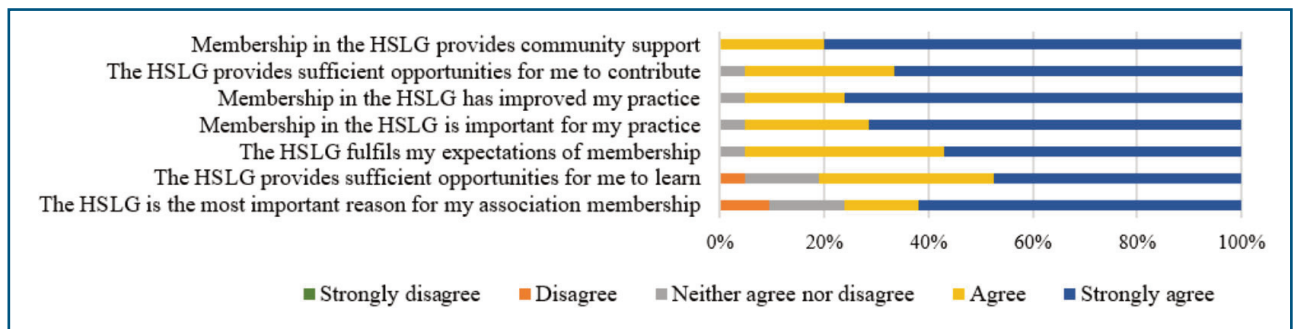


Fig. 1. Value, impact and effectiveness of the HSLG for members (n=21).

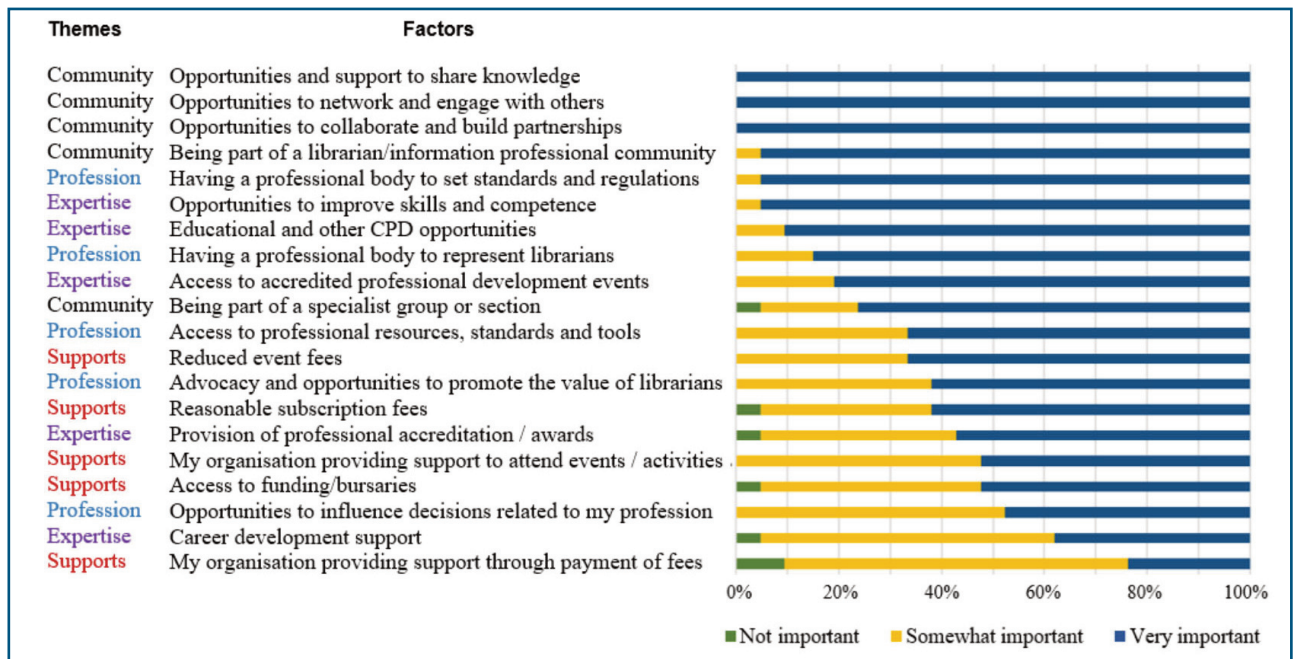


Fig. 2. The importance of factors related to library association membership for HSLG members.

Discussion

Library associations should aim to provide the services and resources that those involved in the library and information sector need to function comfortably and effectively. Results for HSLG members show that, overall, membership is providing sufficient support and opportunities, fulfilling expectations, and having an impact on practice. The importance of all four identified themes for most respondents indicates that those making decisions on behalf of members need to consider them as connected and interdependent.

These themes can underpin many processes, such as our role in contributing to sustainable development

goals or tackling the climate crisis. And results have already changed the way that our committee makes decisions. For example, traditionally in terms of CPD we have focused on content (what topics members want to learn about) and provided a related course, workshop or conference. Now, as we develop a new CPD framework, we have expanded our considerations to include the whole interconnected process of training and development provision, such as: the supports to enable members (and non-members) to attend; the processes to communicate about the importance of these activities to stakeholders; and the mechanisms for attendees to share their learning with others (Box 1).

Box 1. HSLG committee: developing a CPD framework by connecting four identified themes.

Supports. One of the first tasks in developing a CPD framework is to understand the context in which it will take place and be applied. CPD should be of value to members but also our organisations or funding bodies, therefore choice of competencies and topics must match what employers view as valuable. There is no point in offering opportunities if people can't take part, so CPD provision involves communicating with managers to ensure that it is seen as integral to the work profile of staff, and they are given time and funding to devote to development. Where funding is lacking, mechanisms (such as bursaries) need to be in place to support members. Choice of format (online or in-person) needs to be considered in terms of appropriateness, inclusion, affordability and preference.

Support action. Connect with those who enable our work (organisational managers and other funders) and specifically with those who enable members to engage in CPD (library, HR and other managers). Do a needs assessment and draw attention to the value of professional development and IFLA standards in relation to employers' responsibilities (3). Consider facilitators for attendance at activities, such as timings, formats, funding and managerial support.

Expertise. We can all access MOOCs (massive open online courses), YouTube and other instructional videos online, yet *opportunities to improve skills and competence, educational and other CPD opportunities, and access to accredited professional development events* were all rated in the top ten most important factors for membership in a library association (Figure 2). Associations should understand how we can effectively meet members' needs. Gaps we may address include a lack of quality assessment and reputable source-provider lists, courses adapted to local contexts, consistent evidence-based approaches, and accreditation for attendance.

Expertise action. Connect members with relevant learning content to enhance practice in formats that maximise attendance and engagement. Consider how to maintain consistent training standards, accreditation and provision across the sector.

Profession. Provision of practice and education standards is a core function of most library associations. Formal guidance needs to be supplemented with shared knowledge derived from personal study, reflection and practice. Consistent standards and knowledge exchange may contribute to the sense of belonging that membership in an association can bring (4). For our new CPD framework we must consider how our planned activities, and consequent enhanced skills and specialist knowledge, will strengthen our profession.

We need to communicate with key stakeholders about these professional developments, thereby enhancing our reputation and respect. The work of other library groups and associations also provides useful evidence. *Profession action.* Connect again with members and other stakeholders to reinforce and communicate the specialist skills, knowledge and values that define us as a profession. Consider how we can disseminate our knowledge and abilities to others to strengthen our individual and collective identity as professionals.

Community. Our top membership factors of importance related to community: *opportunities and support to share knowledge; to network and engage with others; and, to collaborate and build partnerships (Figure 2).* The term community-based professional development (C-PD) describes professional development using social engagement through communities and groups. Based on a social theory of learning, C-PD emphasises that learning takes place through social interaction, such as, in communities of practice, peer learning communities, and learning and teaching networks (5). Associations like EAHIL have recognised the importance of collective learning through the provision of interactive workshops (though understanding that traditional conference design still suits other learning styles). The HSLG must incorporate elements of knowledge exchange and collaboration into our deliberations on CPD provision. Our virtual journal club is an example of informal information sharing where we explicitly acknowledge that the act of coming together periodically to discuss our experiences and views is as important as the content which guides those discussions (6). The provision of communication fora, such as open access newsletters and blogs, for attendees to share learning summaries is also useful.

Community action. Connect with members to ascertain needs and expectations. Provide opportunities for them to make connections with each other and effectively share learning from formal CPD and experience. Develop mechanisms for members to consult and collaborate with others.

Conclusion

Our results suggest that developing a professional community should be a priority of library associations. This community needs access to relevant, quality development opportunities to enhance expertise, must be supported to participate in these activities and to share learning within and outside the profession by having access to internal and external professional networks. In a virtuous, holistic circle, this work should lead to a better understanding of our value as a profession, thus increasing support and giving us a better sense of connection.

It is valuable for members to feedback their needs to governing bodies, and for the views of non-members (potential members) to be included. These views can be considered and acted upon using the four interdependent themes: community, expertise, profession and support.

Associations should provide tangible resources and services but also facilitate a network of colleagues with whom we can engage, learn, share and collaborate. Even outside times of isolation, we should all have access to a strong, effective professional community.

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Turning student assignments into publications: benefits for librarians and students

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Abstract

This article describes librarian involvement in a graduate student assignment to conduct rapid scoping reviews. Students had the option to submit a manuscript for publication. The librarian role through assignment conception to publication is detailed. The benefits for both students and the librarian are discussed.

Key words: *education, graduate; review literature as topic.*

Introduction

Introducing graduate students to evidence synthesis is a significant part of information literacy training in the Health: Science, Technology and Policy program at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. Evidence synthesis contextualizes and integrates evidence, usually in the form of research findings, into the larger body of knowledge for a specific topic in a transparent and reproducible fashion (1). Evidence syntheses include systematic reviews, scoping review, meta-analyses, rapid reviews among others (1, 2). As part of research training, graduate students are sometimes asked to develop a systematic review protocol or conduct a systematic review (3-6). Scoping reviews are a form of evidence synthesis used to map the evidence and key concepts in a given research area (7) as opposed to a systematic review which usually asks a clear and answerable question. A rapid review uses fewer search tools, may use a limited timeframe and/or geography, and requires less time to complete compared to a full review. Conducting rapid scoping reviews can also be a useful means of developing research skills for graduate students.

Research skills that are gained from conducting a systematic review include framing a question, identifying relevant work, assessing the quality of included studies, summarizing the evidence and interpreting the findings (8). Many of these skills are the same for conducting scoping reviews, with the notable exception of critical

appraisal. Writing for publication also provides the opportunity to develop writing and communication skills (9). Plus, the added benefit of writing up a study for publication can help students become familiar with the details of the publication process (10, 11).

During the winter 2021 semester I collaborated with faculty member Dr. Renate Ysseldyk on a student assignment that involved conducting an evidence synthesis for the class Biological and Social Fundamentals of Health. Dr. Ysseldyk approached me with the suggestion to have small groups conduct rapid scoping reviews with the option to publish the review after the assignment was completed. Her rationale was a TED talk entitled Don't Waste Student Work (12) – making student assignments valuable beyond the classroom. Dr. Ysseldyk offered authorship on any publications because of my involvement in the process. This article describes the involvement of a librarian in the process of turning student rapid scoping review assignments into publications.

Methods

Before the beginning of the semester I vetted topics to make sure the amount of literature was manageable and no reviews already existed on the topic. More than 1000 results was deemed too much literature, 500 results from a maximum of four databases was considered feasible. Many of the topics dealt with COVID-19 which allowed for a limited body of litera-

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ture. I made recommendations to Dr. Ysseldyk on how to narrow/broaden certain topics to make them feasible in a 4-month timeframe. Dr. Ysseldyk made a final decision about which topics to include in the syllabus and students ranked their preferred topics.

At the beginning of the semester each group of 4-5 students met with me to receive an overview of the scoping review process and get an initial search started. I discussed the feasibility of topics with each group. I checked the group searches during the semester and met with some of the groups about the data extraction phase as well.

At the end of the semester, those groups who wanted to publish were asked to identify a few journals for publication. The faculty member, the teaching assistant and I also made journal recommendations. In the summer, I spent time reviewing and editing manuscripts along with the faculty member and teaching assistant.

Results

The toolkit I have developed for researchers conducting scoping reviews can be viewed online. This includes presentations on scoping reviews, search techniques and an example project folder which includes forms and spreadsheets to help facilitate and organized the process of conducting a scoping review.

A list of vetted topics can be viewed online. Also, the discussion of how to narrow/broaden the topics is outlined, with the back and forth between the professor and myself.

Two out of the four groups opted to publish after the winter semester of 2021. The professor, teaching assistant and I met with both groups during the summer to discuss publication options. The students wrote draft publications and the three of us proofread and edited the publications. My focus was predominantly on the methods section. One of the groups from the 2022 winter semester is working toward a publication.

2021 topic published: Social Inequities Contributing to Gestational Diabetes in Indigenous Populations in Canada: A Scoping Review (13).

2021 topic being updated: Religion and Coping during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

2022 topic being pursued: Self-perceived Mental Health among New Mothers during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Discussion

Balancing the need to make the projects feasible in a four-month time frame, so they could be presented and marked by the end of the semester, and ensuring that the review would be properly conducted, so they could be submitted for publication, was a challenge. Having a limited body of literature was key. This meant that the focus of the topics had to be suitably narrow yet have sufficient literature to conduct a review. Some student groups wanted to expand or narrow their topics. Explaining the review process and the PRIMSA-ScR reporting guidelines (14) helped students appreciate the need to have a focused topic with a bounded body of literature.

The groups who wanted to publish identified potential journals for publication. This helped students understand the nature, and cost, of publishing. Once a journal was selected, students had to condense the assignment content to meet the manuscript guidelines for the journal. This was both an opportunity and a challenge for the students, requiring them to select the most important elements to communicate in the manuscript.

Critical to the success was a solid relationship with the faculty member, established over the course of several years of teaching. Also essential was adequate time to review topics before the semester and conduct searches to ensure their feasibility for the assignment. Meeting students during the semester is a standard part of my role, but summer meetings and time to proofread and edit was required for this project as well.

This was a unique way, as a librarian, to participate in the classroom, but also to publish. For students this was an opportunity to put into practice their newly acquired evidence synthesis skills and to turn an assignment into a publication.

Acknowledgements

The author of this paper received the award for best poster presentation by a first timer at the EAHIL 2022 Conference "Broaden the horizons - diversity, partnership and innovation with a human touch" Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 1-3 June 2022.

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Updating reviews: we discussed best practice at the EAHIL 2022 Conference

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Abstract

We conducted a workshop at the EAHIL 2022 Conference which aimed to identify best practice when updating literature searches for systematic reviews. We prepared a presentation and questions which were discussed in small groups. The potential solutions were evaluated using the “rose, thorn, bud” method, and the results of the workshop are summarised here. The importance of transparently reporting the search strategies, platforms, and changes compared to previous searches were emphasised. Workshop participants preferred to change (and improve) previous strategies rather than repeating faulty searches. They also preferred to re-run searches over the whole time period instead of searching from a time point on, suggesting deduplication methods to manage the records. We hope this discussion will continue at future conferences.

Key words: *systematic literature review; update; best practice; role of librarians.*

Introduction

Overview of current practice

We start by considering the question: when are systematic reviews updated? The seminal paper by Garner *et al.* (1) provides the definition of “an update of a systematic review as a new edition of a published systematic review with changes that can include new data, new methods, or new analyses to the previous edition”. Cumpston and Chandler (2) state in Chapter IV of the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions (updated 2022), based on Garner *et al.*, that systematic reviews should be updated when new research, new studies, are available which will affect the conclusions and therefore the decisions made on the basis of the review by policy-makers or clinicians.

Update review vs update search

There are many papers about why reviews should be updated (1-5). But why do we, as librarians or information specialists, get involved? We need to update (re-run) the search methods for updated reviews, reviews with a different or amended focus (changed in line with new evidence) (2), or before submitting an article for

publication (5, 6). We may also collaborate with researchers on living systematic reviews, a type of systematic review which involves an ongoing process and considerable resource (7).

The problem is that we find, as librarians or information specialists, that there is little guidance as to how to update them. We need the technical details about how to update and how to report those updates to systematic reviews. Yes, a 2008 paper by Moher *et al.* provided a helpful start towards this (4), a challenge taken up in the paper by Garner *et al.* eight years later (1), and then answered in Chapters IV and 22 of the latest version of the Cochrane Handbook (2, 7) as reported below from Thomas *et al.* (2022) (7):

“Information about the availability of new (or newly identified) evidence may come from a variety of sources and use a diverse range of approaches (Garner *et al.* 2016), including:

- re-running the full search strategies in the original review;
- using an abbreviated search strategy;
- using literature notification services;
- developing machine-learning algorithms based on study reports identified for the original review;

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- tracking studies in clinical trials (and other) registries;
- checking studies included in related systematic reviews; and
- other formal surveillance methods".

And as for reporting the search methods, the new PRISMA flow diagram includes results from previous reviews (8).

Unfortunately, this guidance still does not answer our specific, technical questions about how to update reviews. We therefore took the opportunity to attend the in-person EAHIL 2022 Conference in Rotterdam to ask colleagues to answer our questions and make recommendations for best practice for us to then communicate back to the community in this article, thus contributing to and building on the literature.

Methods

We formulated six questions (and one open question) and handed one question out per group of 4-6 participants (Figure 1). The questions and possible solutions were then discussed for 30 min and the solutions evaluated according to the method of “rose” (rose colour, what you like about it) (Figure 2), “thorn” (orange colour, what may not work or be effective), and “bud” (green colour, how it can be improved) (9). The results were presented and discussed by the group and were summarised by the authors.

Results and discussion

How do you proceed when updating your own search vs someone else’s?

Whether a search is being updated using the same search string or changes are introduced depends on the quality of the original search and if the topic is still ex-



Fig. 1. Group discussions during the workshop.

actly the same, rather than who did the original search. It is more likely, however, that the search will be overhauled when it is done by someone else.

Rose: collecting accession numbers (PMID, doi) makes deduplication easier when running an update. Further deduplication options are to use Bramer’s method (10) or the new tool Deduklick (11).

Thorn: previous searches may be poorly reported. Indexing terms in databases as well as published search filters change over time. Indexing of older references may lead to finding older papers (that were not found previously) with the new search. These things are difficult to explain to the researchers. It is not clear how to report this in the PRISMA flow chart.

Bud: artificial intelligence may make living updates easier in the future.

What would you do differently if you decided to introduce changes compared to your previous search strategy (than if you re-ran an unchanged strategy)?

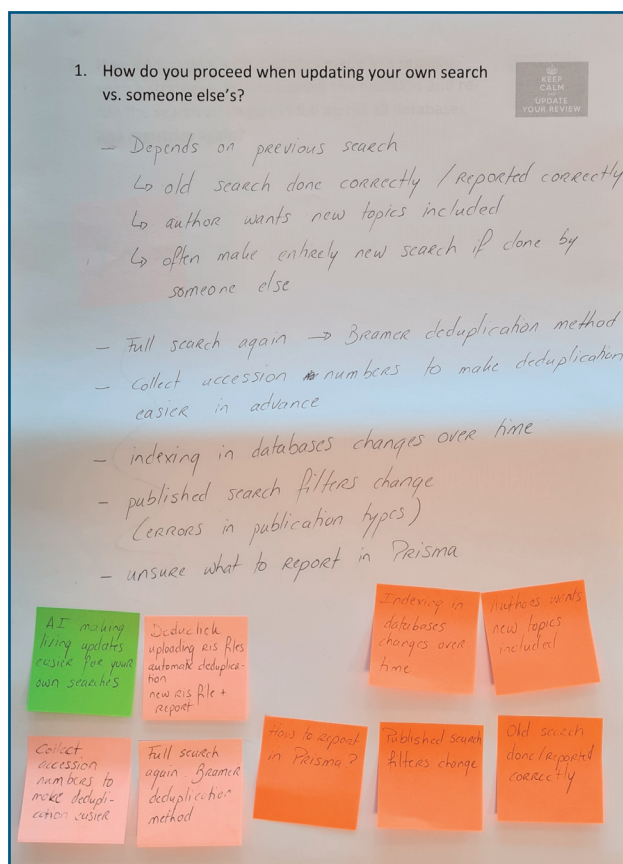


Fig. 2. Example of question 1, answers evaluated according to the “rose, thorn, bud” method.

It is important to make changes to the search strategy when it is poor and/or there are mistakes. This is an opportunity to teach the researchers and to show our value. If the researchers reject our proposals, we may not perform the search for them or we will not want to be a co-author or acknowledged.

Rose: report changes in the methods section, add a protocol amendment.

Thorn: researchers may want to update reviews with poor searches unchanged.

How do you deal with mistakes made in a previous search strategy – do you correct the mistakes and re-run the search strategies in full across all databases and registries again?

The workshop participants recommended that the mistake(s) must be corrected and the whole search must be re-run. It was suggested we must check if the corrections had any impact on the search results.

How do you deal with changes in platforms? What should you do if the previous search e.g. was in Embase.com and you have access to Ovid Embase instead?

The search must be translated to the new platform. Alternatively, someone else with access to the previous platform could be asked to run the search (although it has been pointed out in mailing lists that this may not be legal). When reporting, do not only describe the platform, but also from which institution you had access, since they might have different date ranges (copy the information that Medline or the Web of Science Core Collections show).

Thorn: it may be difficult to know exactly what the differences are, and it costs (too much) time to find out.
Bud: be transparent about the changes and explain why they were necessary.

Would you follow the same procedure if you updated a search after a few months (before submission of the manuscript) compared to after a few years? How do you report the 2nd search in the first case? How do you deal with inconsistencies?

It was suggested that we should follow the same procedure regardless of how long ago the search took place:

- check subject headings and terminology to see if anything has changed (add new ones if necessary);
- check for retracted articles;
- use accession numbers (PMID, doi) to deduplicate: enter them with OR, then use NOT to exclude from updated results.

Do you prefer to search from a certain date on or to re-run the search over the full time period? If from a date on, do you use date published / entered in database / last edited, and how do you deal with overlap?

Rose: the search should be run over the full time period and deduplicated against the original search.

Thorn: deduplication is difficult with no access to End-Note. Entry dates in databases may not be available. Publication dates should not be used. There are often discrepancies when searching from a date on.

Bud: explore other options for deduplication if you have no access to EndNote (e.g. Deduklick, R tools).

CONCLUSION

There were no major disagreements among the participants of this workshop about how to proceed when updating searches. The main takeaway lessons were to re-run searches over the full time period, correct search strategies when necessary, be transparent about the procedure, and to report what was done. Knowing that this was only one workshop and not a Delphi study, we hope that our findings can still provide a good starting point for future clarifications and refinements about updating searches for systematic reviews.

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Organising EAHIL's first hybrid conference: challenges and opportunities of a pandemic

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Early plans

Dutch information specialists have always been frequent participants in EAHIL events, however the last EAHIL event in the Netherlands was Utrecht in 1998. In 2016 when a new manager first read our request to visit EAHIL 2016 in Seville with 3 colleagues, he quickly suggested we should host a future EAHIL event in Rotterdam (probably not realizing that the time involved in organizing such an event dwarfs the cost of attending it). It must have been the last day of the 2019 EAHIL Workshop in Basel when Tiina Heino asked me if the Netherlands could prepare a bid for a future EAHIL event. I embraced the idea and asked other Dutch EAHIL participants if they wanted to join me in forming a Local Organising Committee (LOC). Members involved since those first hours were Hans Ket, Kirsten Ziesemer and Chantal den Haan (whom we quickly appointed head of sponsoring). We first met 22 August 2019 in Amsterdam. Despite a vast majority of Amsterdam LOC members, we quickly decided that, due to the costs, Rotterdam would be the host city. In June we contacted a professional conference organiser to help us with the organisation, we visited de Doelen conference center on 17 September 2019, booked a preliminary date, summed the costs, and estimated the revenue. On 6 March 2020 we presented a successful bid for EAHIL 2022 to the EAHIL Board.

COVID changes everything

Then in March 2020 everything we had been taking for granted became unsure because of COVID-19. How long would this whole pandemic take? Surely by the end of the year it would be over, right? Łodz would have to organize an online only conference, but we all expected to be able to meet in person in Istanbul in 2021. Early 2021 it became clear Istanbul would be an online only event too. What should we do, when can we decide? We investigated all options: do we organize an in person event only, a full hybrid conference with live online participants, or an in person conference with a smaller online component? We presented our plans at the closing ceremony of the Istanbul workshop and asked the participants what their plans were. Eighty-two percent indicated they were planning to attend in person. Therefore we proceeded to organize an event with a major in person component, but still kept an open mind for an online component. In our preliminary program we had planned 70 oral presentations, 30 posters, 8 CECs, 12 workshops and 4 plenary speakers, in case we were able to present a full in person program. We decided to implement a few go-no go decisions where we could switch to organizing a smaller online only conference and arranged corresponding cancel and refund contracts with the venues. That way, up until early April we could still cancel the in person event without high costs, if necessary.

Will we go live or online?

In October 2021 we opened the call for abstracts, still with the plans of doing in person presentations only. Together with the International Program Committee (IPC) and our head of department we decided on a few

Memories from EAHIL 2022 Conference Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 1-3 June 2022

go/ no go decisions. We would report to the head of department the outcome of the parameter and the resulting financial implications for the conference. The first milestone was whether enough abstracts would be submitted. The initial abstract submission deadline approached and the number of submissions seemed to be fewer than expected. We surveyed presenters of previous EAHIL events what the reason was not to submit an abstract to EAHIL 2022. We learned that one of the main reasons was uncertainty about being able to travel due to the COVID situation. We then decided to open the abstracts for online only presentations and posters as well. Due to the high cost of simultaneous live streaming we quickly decided not to host a full hybrid event. Also because this might mean many people would choose to attend the event online only. At that moment we decided to add a second week of EAHIL 2022 as an online event. We extended the cancellation agreements with the venues to be able to change to a fully online conference for low costs for a longer period. The decision for each presenter whether to present in person or online could therefore be postponed until early April 2022. This announcement boosted the abstract submission, and in January 2022, with 72 orals, 30 posters, 6 CECs and 14 workshops we made a rather close call of receiving enough abstracts, and decided to proceed to an in person event. Still we would have to accept almost all submissions, and all presenters had to present in person to have a full in person program. Around that time we had been in contact with the National Library of Medicine (NLM) about an extra plenary session in the form of an NLM update, which is often well received at Medical Library Association (MLA) conferences in the USA. When the IPC voted for plenary sessions Guus van den Brekel and Jasmin Schmitz scored equally well, therefore they were both chosen as plenary speakers. We decided to change the preliminary program to include more plenary sessions and time for 55 oral presentations and 10 workshops.

Go/ no go decisions

Then came the second go/no go moment in the evaluation of abstracts. We wanted to have enough high quality oral presentations. The IPC accepted 43 oral presentations as they were, 15 were accepted with comments and we gave 8 submitting authors the chance to revise their submission. We asked submitting authors about their expectation whether to present in person or online and 65% indicated they expected to present in person, therefore we expected to have at least 38 in person oral presentations of enough quality. Though this was not yet sufficient, since we now planned 55 oral presentations, it was not low enough for us to cancel the in person event, though it meant we could not make selections to increase originality and variety of topics.

Early April we had our final go/no go decision when we checked whether presenters had actually registered as in person participants. This turned out to be the case. If there were open time slots for certain sessions we invited presenters of high scoring posters to present their research as an oral presentation, and upgraded Lightning Talks to Oral Presentations. To prevent gaps in the program, presentations that had been planned as in person oral presentations, where the presenter could not travel to Rotterdam due to COVID infection or Visa problems, were planned as live presentations over video connection. That way we were able to offer our in person visitors a full in person program of 52 oral presentations (of which 5 via video connection), 13 posters, 10 workshops, 6 plenary sessions and 4 CECs. The online program had 18 unique oral presentations, 11 posters and one online workshop.

Your experience at EAHIL 2022

Ultimately 230 participants chose to attend in person, and 70 attended online only. Of the people attending in person 98% were satisfied with their choice of participation. Of the participants attending online only 52% were satisfied with their choice to attend online only, even though they were satisfied with the conference overall. When we were planning the conference we were afraid that offering online participation would mean fewer people would attend in person. Of those registered as online participants 70% have participated in the

Memories from EAHIL 2022 Conference Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 1-3 June 2022

online discussions, as well as 30% of in person visitors. Of those attending online 26% indicated that, had we only offered in person registration, they would have likely visited EAHIL 2022 in person. When asked about plans for future EAHIL events 57% of the online visitors indicated that they would prefer to attend future events in person.

Room for improvement

Had we made the decision to go hybrid in an earlier stage this would have improved the conference. Presenters and participants would have been aware of the online component and planned this ahead. In our enthusiasm, and given the high quality abstracts presented live in Rotterdam we added (too) many interesting in person oral presentations to the online discussion sessions. Therefore some of the sessions were rather rushed. This was further increased by some online presenters presenting their research rather than giving a very brief summary. The online conference tool that we used (ConfTool) was in hindsight not the best tool as it turned out to be very difficult to find certain presentations outside of the schedule. It also lacked an overview of participants to browse.

Recommendations for the future

We hope that we set a precedent and that our conference is the first of many hybrid EAHIL events. We realize that for the biannual workshop events this will be much more challenging. Presenting a hybrid workshop or CEC is very challenging for presenters as it is virtually impossible to entertain both an in person and an online audience. We advise organizers of future EAHIL conferences to plan an in person and virtual event from the start, allowing participants to decide later in the process whether they present in person or not.



Fig. 2. *Members of the Local Organising Committee of EAHIL 2022 Rotterdam.*

Memories from EAHIL 2022 Rotterdam: Gala Dinner

The Gala Dinner evening started with a Dutch musical treat: songs played by one of the iconic streetorgans of the Netherlands “De Lekkerkerker”. We enjoyed the music, nice chatting, and good drinks at Waterfront Terrace, by the beautiful Wereldmuseum. This year the dinner was organized in a new way – instead of sitting by the dinner tables, as usually in EAHIL gala dinners, delicious vegetarian courses were served at the buffet stations. The idea was to mingle and meet new people while visiting the different buffet stations and tasting new flavors. This organizing was well in line with the excellent opening plenary speech, by comedian and philosopher Paul Smit. He gave a lively presentation with many eye-opening examples, on how our brain works and, on our ability to change and try new things! So now we had the chance for real life practice, and it was fun! As the evening progressed, we had some delicacies for our ears and feet as well: the Amsterdam UMC Bigband took the stage, presenting great evergreens with such a good swing that the dance floor was fully packed the whole evening!

Links:

Wereldmuseum: <https://www.wereldmuseum.nl/en>

Paul Smit: <https://www.paulsmit.nu/english/>

Amsterdam UMC Bigband <https://www.amsterdamumcbigband.nl/>

Photos by Erica Wilthagen <https://flic.kr/y/3KqkBGT>

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Letter from the President



Lotta Haglund

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Dear EAHIL Colleagues,

In my two previous Letters, I have expressed my thoughts on the relevance of EAHIL today and in the future, on the background that the number of EAHIL members is in decline and varying and low member activity. Against this background, a workshop was held at the Council meeting in Rotterdam to learn more about the reason for becoming and staying a member of EAHIL. We also wanted to find good examples of how Council members could work in their countries to advocate the association among health librarians.

As was expected, there were many reasons for becoming and staying a member of EAHIL. The most common ones were learning new things and to network with colleagues. Some quotes:

- “EAHIL is the perfect place to discover new tools and new ways of working. It gives another perspective and possible solutions in case of difficulties”;
- “To connect with people in the same profession, to exchange knowledge with peers who may be facing similar challenges in other countries”;
- “To feel a sense of belonging particularly important for solo librarians”.

Council members listed several ways they had or could spread information about EAHIL in their countries, including encouraging new colleagues in the field to join EAHIL, giving short reports about EAHIL at national meetings for health librarians or writing short pieces for national library journals. They stressed that strong local or national networks were important and suggested contacting universities' local/national library programmes to encourage students to become members. Working nationally could also be a way to overcome the language barrier for those not so fluent in English.

In June, a workshop on a similar theme was held in Stockholm at the national conference for health librarians, discussing the future of networking with an emphasis on formal or informal networks and the commitment needed to keep a network or association going. The participants agreed that we will still want and need to network in the future, but considering the fact that “someone” will need to invest their time – personal or professional – to keep the network/association going, be it a formal association with elections or a more information network with a steering group.

A conclusion could be that even though it might seem easier to get information or network today, we still very much need and want to network and learn from each other. It suggests that there is a future for EAHIL and EAHIL events. We need to work a little harder to involve our colleagues who are not yet members or not very active. Together we can do it!

NEWS FROM EAHIL

The above brings me to remind you that we need to secure locations for the EAHIL events from 2024 onwards. Since our yearly events are the main activities of our Association, and the planning timeline for an event is approximately two years, time is running short. I invite you to send expressions of interest or proposals 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.

EAHIL Council Elections 2022 – Call for Nominations

Dear EAHIL colleagues,

I am writing with a call for nominations to the EAHIL Council, for the new 4-year term beginning January 2023.

We will have vacancies in:

Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

For more details on current Council members and vacancies from 2023, please see

<http://eahil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Paper-F1-Current-Councillors-allowances-and-vacancies-as-of-16-May-2022.pdf>

The Council is an advisory group for the Board and acts as a link between the members in their country and the Association. Council members also have an important role in publicising EAHIL and recruiting new members. The Council usually meets formally once a year at the time of the annual EAHIL conference or workshop.

Councillors are elected for a term of four years by the voting EAHIL members resident in their country. Councillors may be re-elected once, after which they are not eligible for re-election until they have been absent from the Council for two years.

Each member state of the Council of Europe is eligible to elect councillors, provided that there are at least five voting members based in the country:

- fewer than 5 voting members = 0 councillors
- 5-29 voting members = 1 councillor
- 30-54 voting members = 2 councillors
- 55 and over = 3 councillors

The list available at the link above details the Council vacancies by country for the term starting in 2023. The available places were calculated based on a count of all EAHIL members on 31 May 2022.

If the number of members increases by 1 October 2022, there may be an entitlement of an additional Councillor in some countries.

NEWS FROM EAHIL

Procedure for nominating Council members

The nomination form is available on the EAHIL web site:

http://eahil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/EAHIL_Council_nomination_form_2022.doc

Any two members can nominate a Council member from their own country. For this election, we are not requiring physical signatures from the two nominators and the nominee, but nominators must discuss and receive confirmation from the nominee that they are willing to stand, and all three people must be copied into the email submitting the nomination form. Please email the fully completed form not later than 08 October 2020 to the EAHIL Nomination Committee via eahil-secr@list.ecompass.nl.

Voting will be conducted electronically from 17 October to 31 October 2022 23:59 Central European Time.

To be able to vote, please make sure that you have an up-to-date email address in the membership database

<https://fd8.formdesk.com/eahil/EAHIL-membership>

Please encourage members to stand for the Council election!

On behalf of the Nomination Committee,

Maurella Della Seta

EAHIL Past President



Publications and new products

Annarita Barbaro

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As Letizia Sanpaolo has already stated in her last column, since this issue I'll be in charge of the JEAHIL's "Publications and new products" column. First off all, I would like to thank Federica Napolitani, Editor in Chief of the journal, for this opportunity and to introduce myself to the journal's readers: I work at the library of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Italian National Institute of Health, ISS) since 1997. I've always been in charge of the management of my Institution's electronic journals catalogue and, as I was there since almost the "beginning" of this form of publication, I witnessed all the changes that brought to the present electronic journals landscape. I was always, and currently am, interested in all that is related with e-journals and the field of scientific publishing from open access to open data, from research evaluation to impact. In the last few years my professional interest moved also toward editing and scientific communication and I started a collaboration with Federica Napolitani and the Editorial Board of the scientific journal "Annali dell'Istituto Superiore di Sanità". Continuing along this "communication" path I've also started to collaborate with ISSalute, the portal of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità conveying health information to the general public. I am really excited of being part of the JEAHIL community and I hope to be a worthy replacement to Letizia.

JOURNAL ISSUES

Health Information and Libraries Journal: Contents of September 2022 (39:3)

Editorial

- **Transforming Health Science Libraries around the globe: the impact of technology.**
Jeannette Murphy

Review Article

- **Infodemiology for oral health and disease: A scoping review.**
Radhika Gupta, Vikrant Mohanty, Aswini Balappanavar, Puneet Chahar, Kavita Rijhwani and Sonal Bhatia

Original Articles

- **A method for translating search strategies efficiently into HMIC and SPP.**
Amy Finnegan and Paul Levay
- **Graduate students in public health predict their actual usage of different library services and resources quite accurately.**
John Bourgeois
- **A qualitative study of the health Information seeking behaviour of adolescent girls in Iran indicates that public libraries could help supply information required about puberty.**
Abolfazl Taheri, Omid Yousefianzadeh and Marziye Saeedi Zadeh

PUBLICATIONS AND NEW PRODUCTS

- **An analysis of ALA-accredited MLS curricula indicates deficiencies in the initial training provided for public librarians.**
Gabriella Pandolfelli, Jessica Koos and Lisa Benz Scott
- **Interest in dentistry in early months of the COVID-19 global pandemic: A Google Trends approach.**
Nuray Bağcı and İlkay Peker

Regular Features

- ***Dissertations into Practice***
Wanted! Health Information Students & Early Career Health Information Workers New to Writing for Publication.
Frances Johnson
- ***International Perspectives and Initiatives***
Transforming and extending library services by embracing technology and collaborations: A case study.
Terrie R. Wheeler, Diana Delgado, Paul J. Albert, Sarah Ben Maamar and Peter R. Oxley
- ***Teaching and Learning in Action***
Development and spread of health literacy eLearning: a partnership across Scotland and England.
Ruth Carlyle, Annette Thain and Sally James

FROM THE WEB

- **MIT Press opens full list of 2022 monographs**
Thanks to the support of a number of libraries participating in Direct to Open (D2O, a MIT press open access business model), the MIT Press will publish its full list of 2022 scholarly monographs and edited collections open access on the MIT Press Direct platform.
<https://mitpress.mit.edu/blog/mit-press-opens-full-list-2022-monographs-direct-open>
- **Conclusions on research assessment and implementation of open science Approval**
The Council of the European Union just published the final draft on Conclusions on research assessment and implementation of open science Approval in order to support the implementation of the European Research Area (ERA)
<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-9515-2022-INIT/en/pdf>

- **OpenPlato**

OpenPlato is a new, free to use, training platform (LMS) by OpenAIRE for open science. OpenPlato, online since the 1st of June, aims to aggregate openly available pre-existing content, such as the FOSTER Open Science courses and OpenAIRE guides, repackage it and create new content based on tailored requirements. There is a commitment by OpenAIRE to make OpenPlato as inclusive as possible so the aim of the platform is to have courses in a variety of languages including, but not exclusively, English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

<https://openplato.eu/>

- **10 Things for Curating Reproducible and FAIR Research**

The “10 Things for Curating Reproducible and FAIR Research”, developed by the RDA CURE-FAIR Working Group, offers a framework for implementing effective curation workflows for achieving long-term usability of research data and code. The “10 CURE-FAIR Things” provides guidance for better practices for those entrusted with stewardship of open data, the scholarly community, policy-setting institutions, as well as others involved in the production, dissemination, and preservation of research.

<https://www.rd-alliance.org/group/cure-fair-wg/outcomes/10-things-curating-reproducible-and-fair-research>

- **OpenAlex**

OpenAlex is a free index that catalogues hundreds of millions of scientific documents and charts connections between them. This index, called OpenAlex after the ancient Library of Alexandria in Egypt, also aims to create a comprehensive, interlinked database of the global research system.

<https://docs.openalex.org/website>

- An interesting article (made freely available by the authors) on the state of the art of APCs: Zhang, L., Wei, Y., Huang, Y. et al. **Should open access lead to closed research? The trends towards paying to perform research.** *Scientometrics* (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-022-04407-5>

There is also a summary of the major findings of the article written by the authors and published as a blog post on LSE blog: **Article Processing Charges (APCs) and the new enclosure of research** <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2022/08/11/article-processing-charges-apcs-and-the-new-enclosure-of-research/>

- Smits, R-J, Pells, R. **Plan S for Shock: Science. Shock. Solution. Speed.** London: Ubiquity Press: 2022. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/bcq>

Open access book edited by Ubiquity Press that can be freely downloaded or bought in print format. The book is a record of the history of the Open Access movement since its beginning and, more specifically, of Plan S.

PUBLICATIONS AND NEW PRODUCTS

SOME FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Peer review week

September 19-23, worldwide

The Peer Review Week is a global event celebrating the essential role that peer review plays in maintaining research quality. This year's event will be dedicated to the theme "Research Integrity: Creating and supporting trust in research". For more detailed info: <https://peerreviewweek.wordpress.com/>

Science Europe Open Science Conference 2022

October 18-19, 2022, partially hybrid event live from Brussels

The conference, organized by Science Europe, will provide a comprehensive overview of the current policy initiatives, research assessment reforms, and financial measures that support the transition to Open Science, and look forward at new trends. Participation to the conference is free and open to everyone. Science Europe aims to be globally inclusive by making participation to the sessions available online. This is the link to the program: <https://www.scienceeurope.org/media/hsqbpqg2/2022-science-europe-open-science-conference-programme-v2-08.pdf>

Registration is available via: scieur.org/2022-os-register

EOSC Symposium 2022

November 14-19, hybrid event in Prague and online

The next EOSC (European Open Science Cloud) Symposium will bring updates from across the EOSC ecosystem. Full programme with speakers and topics will be announced in the following months.

Pre-registration is open: <https://events.eoscfuture.eu/Symposium2022>

Please feel free to contact me (annarita.barbaro@iss.it) if you have any further suggestion about initiatives or events you would like to promote.

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