

# Journal of EAHIL

Theme issue

## International cooperation and networking

EAHIL Workshop  
Stockholm 12-14 June 2013  
“Trends for the future – creating  
strategies to meet challenges”

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# Journal of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries

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## Editorial

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**Sally Wood-Lamont**  
Editor-in-Chief

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Hello Everyone,

We have four interesting articles in this theme issue: *International cooperation in information literacy dissemination :training of the trainers* by H. Laitinen, T. Ovaska, J. Saarti; *Experiences of developing an educational course for librarians in international cooperation. MedLibTrain: a joint Polish-Norwegian project* by Irene Hunskaar et al; *Keeping up to date with information retrieval research: Summarized Research in Information Retrieval (SuRe Info)* by S. S. Ormstad and finally *The Human Resource Development Project – a collaboration between the Finnish and Namibian University Libraries* by T. Heino. Interestingly all are from Northern Europe; two are from Finland and two are from Norway, one being a joint project between Poland and Norway. I would like to thank all authors for making the effort to tell us about their international cooperating and networking projects.

Quite a few EAHIL members attended the 2013 Annual Meeting and Exhibition of the Medical Library Association (MLA '13), the 11th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML), the 7th International Conference of Animal Health Information Specialists (ICAHIS), and the 6th International Clinical Librarian Conference (ICLC) in Boston from the 2-8 May, "Entitled One Health: Information in an Interdependent World". Thanks to Carol Lefebvre and Oliver Obst for excellent reports. Makes us all wish we had been there too!

Already the month of June is upon us and the EAHIL Workshop in Stockholm will be commencing on the 12 June 2013. Its subject "Trends for the future – creating strategies to meet challenges" has attracted a good number of participants and our September issue will be dedicated to news and photos from Stockholm. **Federica Napolitana, Michelle Wake, Petra Wallgren Björk and Oliver Obst** from the *JEAHIL* Editorial Board will be there and will be gathering in articles, reports from SIG meetings, impressions from scholarship winners and first timers to feature in the September issue of the *JEAHIL*.

The first news about the 14th EAHIL Conference in Rome which will take place in 2014 is also in our colour pages and thanks to Maurella della Seta and Franco Toni for designing this attractive advert.

The themes and deadline dates for the Journal of EAHIL are listed below. Please read our *Instructions to Authors* at [http://www.eahil.net/journal/jeahil\\_instructions\\_authors.html](http://www.eahil.net/journal/jeahil_instructions_authors.html) before submitting an article.

2013 ISSUE	THEME	DEADLINE
September	Memories from Stockholm Workshop	15 <sup>th</sup> July
December	Outreach: go to customer!	5 <sup>th</sup> November

I wish everyone a successful workshop in Stockholm and look forward to receiving news and features by the 15 July. The reason I require everything by 15 July is that the printers will go on holiday from the 1 August until the 5th September so I must have everything prepared by that date.

## International cooperation in information literacy dissemination: training of the trainers

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Kuopio, Finland

### Abstract

*The University of Eastern Finland (UEF) Library has been cooperating with the University's Institute of Public Health and Clinical Nutrition in a project aiming to promote public health higher education in three African Universities. The paper describes the project and its results. The library and information resources of the participating universities were evaluated and plans for their improvement were implemented. In addition, the universities had two workshops. The first one was about information literacy (IL) course creation and the other for the evaluation of the results of the project. Modern information technology provided tools for communication and co-operation and the project also enabled co-operation between different actors, i.e. academic and library staff from different cultures and countries.*

*Key words:* education, distance; international cooperation; international educational exchange; libraries; public health.

### Introduction

In order to further emphasize the Finnish development work being done in the Higher Education Institutions (HEI), the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (FORMIN) initiated a new program in 2010 (1):

“The intention of this programme – Higher Education Institutions Institutional Cooperation Instrument (HEI ICI) – is to create a mechanism through which HEIs in Finland and developing countries can cooperate to produce institutional reforms. The projects are aimed to promote the strengthening of the developing country HEIs’ administrative, methodological and pedagogical capacity, as well as to support their own development plans. Cooperation between Finnish and developing country HEIs shall be based on needs defined by the developing country HEIs, and built on the principles of mutual learning and equal partnership.”

The UEF has an international reputation in the fields of health, environment and well-being, with particular strengths in community-based teaching and research, internationally recognized research programs on chronic diseases, as well as conducting research in biotechnology, biosciences and molecular medicine. The UEF is one of the most prolific postgraduate research training centres in Finland. The Institute of Public Health and Clinical Nutrition in the UEF is the most internationally oriented unit within the Faculty of Health Sciences at the UEF. It trains professionals in

health sciences and medicine and provides a wide range of international courses and programs in English. There are many student and staff exchange programs with several universities, including partners in the North-South-South Programme (NSS) and in the HEI ICI (see <http://www.uef.fi/uef/english>). Positive collaboration between the UEF and three partner institutions in Africa, i.e. the Ain Shams University (ASU), Egypt, the Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS), Tanzania, and the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton (UEAB), Kenya, has been established over several years through an extensive exchange of expertise in the fields of higher education and research.

This established collaboration provided a firm foundation for a partnership project *Improving the Quality of Higher Education in Public Health Sciences 2011-2012* which was funded by the FORMIN. The Institute of Public Health and Clinical Nutrition decided to ask that the university library be a part of the project already at the planning phase.

The aims of the project were to build capacities and develop human resources in the African partner institutions in order that they would be able to address major public health challenges at the national, regional and district levels. The library was included in order to facilitate the evaluation of the present situation of the library and information services in the African partner universities. In addition, a course for the training of the trainees (TOT) was implemented at the UEF Kuopio Campus.

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The basic idea of the project was from the very beginning to start to create a knowledge sharing co-operation between the partners, thus a lot of the emphasis was put on the utilization of modern information technologies (2). Also the co-operation between the academic teachers and library experts was utilized throughout the project.

### Field trips to partner institutions

The evaluation part of the project started with site visits to the African partner universities. Before that, the partners had made a self-evaluation that was sent to the Finnish partners before the trip. One teacher and one library expert (Saarti) from the UEF visited all the universities involved in the autumn of 2011. The aim of this visit was to meet the trainees who would then later visit the UEF Kuopio Campus in Finland. At the same time, the teaching and library facilities were evaluated in order to give feedback on what should be developed locally.

The ASU clearly had the most modern teaching facilities; its library on the other hand was an outdated printed collection library. This was even more emphasized by the fact that at the national level Egypt had excellent programs for library automation and digital document delivery. Also the need for the implementation of up-to-date IL tuition for the students and staff was recognized.

The CUHAS and UEAB had sound basic equipment and quite modern and working library facilities though the need for extra resources was reported and visible. Some efforts had already been made in these institutions in order to give basic knowledge to the students about information searching. The greatest lack was the decent bandwidth in order to be able to utilize the electronic resources available.

All the libraries started to implement renovations based on the evaluation. In addition, the visit affirmed the need for a better IL tuition in all the institutions. Thus it was decided that one aim of the TOT would be planning and implementing a course for information skills and to this we were able to integrate the expertise of the teaching specialist. Arabasz et al. (3) state that adopting e-learning needs infrastructure support and skills building for the users; this was noted also in our case. So the syllabus for the TOT was planned taking along the ideas and observations made during the site visits.

### Training of the trainers in Finland

The African project participants visited the UEF Library for two weeks in March 2012. The main objective of the

visit was to learn information skills course development in a Moodle virtual learning environment. In addition, the trainees visited the UEF Library facilities (Figure 1) at the main campuses. Moodle was used in all three participating institutions, but experience in course creation was rather limited and therefore we had to start with basics (4,5).



Fig. 1. Joining the RFID testing at the Kuopio Campus Library. Photo: Jarmo Saarti

At first, we explained our own Moodle use in the UEF Library. As all our information skills courses are on Moodle nowadays, we have gained considerable experience in its use and usefulness. Hands-on sessions in Moodle administration and technical issues were also arranged. Our final aim was to create the basis of a functional, pedagogically sound, introductory public health information skills course in Moodle. This course could then be utilized in the participating institutions in Egypt, Kenya and Tanzania.

We firstly defined the course learning outcomes as follows:

- the student understands how scientific information is published;
- the student knows how to access and systematically search scientific information sources, such as databases and electronic journals;
- the student familiarizes oneself with the principles of copyright and ethical use of information, such as avoiding plagiarism.

The actual course development took place in microcomputer class sessions in the UEF Kuopio campus (Figure 2).



**Fig. 2.** *Creating a Moodle based IL course together in Kuopio. Photo: Raija Törrönen*

Three UEF Library information specialists (all authors) moderated course development sessions. The information specialists also gave some of their own material to be included in the course. We had previously created an UEF Library tutorial for International students on Moodle and used this as a starting point. Project participants created additional materials and put the course together.

The course *Information skills and sources in health sciences* consists of the following chapters:

1. Introduction and the course content
2. What scientific information is
3. Scientific publishing process
4. Avoiding plagiarism; citing and reference management
5. Scientific information sources
6. Internet: academic search engines and open access sources
7. Search query formulation and search examples

During the training, we succeeded in making a basic framework for a course with some Open Access reference materials to be utilized in each institute's own IL training.

### *Workshop in Cairo*

One of the authors (Ovaska) attended, as a representative of the library, together with an e-learning expert and a professor of occupational health from the UEF, and a nursing science expert from the Karelia University of Applied Sciences (KUAS), the international workshop held in ASU, Cairo, at the University Hospital Learning Center (*Figure 3*).



**Fig. 3.** *Workshop in Cairo. Photo: Ari Haaranen*

The five-day workshop concluded the first phase of the project "Improving the quality of higher education in public health sciences". Library and information skills education and learning were among of the topics of the TOT part of the workshop. TOT promotes competence particularly in e-learning and e-library development. As the workshop was a gateway to the first part of the project, it gathered the achievements of the project in different areas, and outlined new plans, such as including also occupational health in the curricula and extending the aspect of nursing science and nursing studies in the project. In addition to the four Finnish delegates, the workshop was attended by four representatives from both CUHAS and UEAB, as well as several participants from ASU (*Figure 4*).

The library skills and IL session of the workshop was facilitated by one of the authors (Ovaska) who gave a presentation that aimed to deepen the participants' knowledge and understanding of (academic) IL and its criteria. The TOT group discussed and studied the topic



**Fig. 4.** *Certificates of attendance were issued by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, ASU. Photo: Kimmo Räsänen*



based on the presentation, their own implementing experiences, and four research articles related to it. They also discussed the use of distance IL instruction, implementing IL training into the university curriculum, the supply of learning materials, and the importance and the role of librarians and library services. The session was very interactive and all participants were eager to continue to promote the teaching of IL skills in their own universities. There were also preliminary discussions about comparing IL training outcomes in the partner universities.



**Fig. 5.** *When different cultures meet – Africa's best ice-fisher? Photo: Jarmo Saarti*

The workshop showed that each of the African universities had progressed during the project in their own way, and each had tailored the resources created during the TOT to their own special needs as well as utilizing the knowledge gained during the training period. Some examples of the achievements are the distance learning team of ASU with a good representation of different faculties, the rapid progress of the intranet and other web-based services of CUHAS, and the wide range of discipline specific IL training courses in UEAB.

## Conclusions

Our experience is that library and information professionals should be involved in this type of international projects of the academia. The academic IL skills are essentially our field of expertise but often the librarians' proficiency is also linked to learning skills and collaborative methods necessary in international cooperation. In addition, the cultural extra edge here opened eyes in all the institutions involved (Figure 5). It was also noted that the Internet has provided tools for co-operation between continents – distances can no longer be used as an excuse.

This kind of cooperation proved to be fruitful. The project participants succeeded in creating the information skills course. However, the concepts of advanced information retrieval and information skills teaching were somewhat vague among the participants and it was necessary to spend considerable time in explaining these concepts at first.

A virtual learning environment is useful in information skills teaching. Students can utilize course materials when it suits them best, regardless of time and place. It is easy to include many different types of learning materials in a virtual learning environment. Interaction with the teacher can be implemented into the course, using tools available in the learning environment.

Our previous experiences and course feedback in the UEF Library demonstrated that many students would like to have classroom lessons in addition to studying online learning material. They would like to see a teacher showing them in practice how searches are done. This is not surprising. Information skills are by nature practical whereas self-study materials tend to be more or less theoretical. It is like hand-knitting a sweater: easy to state what has to be done but difficult to achieve in practice (6).

Although online learning environments are very popular and even hyped up today, they are not suitable for each and every student. There will always be learners who prefer other kinds of teaching and studying methods. The best possibility would be a hybrid method, where the main content is in the virtual learning course, and this is supplemented with classroom teaching.



## International cooperation in information literacy dissemination : training of the trainers

Higher education is definitely globalizing. Especially in the field of health sciences many of the challenges and interests are very similar all over the world so there clearly is a need for co-operation. The first phase of this project has ended and we have just received the news

that the follow-up project was accepted by the FORMIN. We aim to deepen our co-operation and are preparing to implement a joint course for IL tuition, if possible, for all the libraries involved.

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Founded in Brighton, UK in 1987, EAHIL seeks

- to encourage professional development
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- to improve cooperation among health care libraries
- to strengthen links with medical and health libraries in Eastern and Central Europe
- to raise standards of provision and practice in the healthcare and medical research libraries
- to keep health librarians and information officers professionally informed
- to encourage mobility and continuing education
- to represent health librarians at European level, particularly at European institutions and WHO

The Association numbers 1600 members from Europe and further afield. Join EAHIL at [www.eahil.eu](http://www.eahil.eu). Free membership!

## THE JOURNAL OF EAHIL

The Journal of EAHIL (JEAHIL) is the quarterly official journal of the Association, available online. Printed copies on request.

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- opinion and discussion papers
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- Promoting and marketing library services
- Virtual libraries, virtual librarians: what's next
- Coping with financial restrictions in libraries; challenges and solutions
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- Digitalization and Preservation

## FUTURE THEME ISSUES

- International cooperation and networking
- Outreach: go to customer!





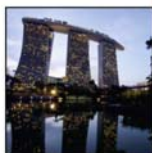


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# Experiences of developing an educational course for librarians in international cooperation. MedLibTrain: a joint Polish-Norwegian project

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### Abstract

*Medical librarians from Poland and Norway participated in the joint project MedLibTrain, and developed a training program for medical librarians performing teaching tasks. The project was developed in tight Polish-Norwegian cooperation, with the use of seminars, group discussions, mutual reviewing and communication on a web platform. The result was a course handbook containing readings and educational aids in English and Polish. Challenges we experienced during the project were concerning communication, language, research and writing skills, accompanied by a tight time schedule and limited budgets. Sharing these experiences can hopefully be useful for others in cross-national projects.*

*Key words:* libraries, medical; librarians; teaching; education, continuing; international cooperation.

### Background

In 2009/2010 ten librarians from Krakow, Poland together with seven librarians from Norway worked on the development of a training program for medical librarians performing teaching tasks. Newly published articles on international trends in health science librarianship show that pedagogy, teaching and training is among the common trends in medical libraries in several European countries and in both Norway and Poland medical librarians are involved in teaching (1, 2). Traditional library education does not provide sufficient competence and continuing education is therefore in high demand. In the MedLibTrain project we developed a course for teaching staff in health libraries, in order to adjust and enhance librarians' competency as information literacy teachers.

The MedLibTrain project was well designed before the work started, but even so we experienced some unforeseen problems and challenges concerning workload, communication, and research and writing

skills. Limited time and budgets made these more urgent. Project work across national borders often causes practical challenges (3). In this paper we share our experiences on international cooperation in the Polish-Norwegian MedLibTrain project, and hopefully others can benefit from them.

### Communication between partners

Librarians from Poland participating in the project mostly worked at the same library and knew each other; in contrast, only some of the Norwegian librarians knew each other beforehand. We had only a month from the project was settled at the first meeting, and the time to prepare introduction, do literature searches and read articles was short. At the first meeting the time schedule was tight and there were many things to sort out and decide but we were all enthusiastic about the project and curious to meet the other project members. The distance between Poland and Norway made the cooperation and communication challenging. Also, some of the Norwegian participants were located far from each other

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and were not able to meet on a regular basis. The Norwegian project members therefore used a blog for discussion and information. Distance is of course no hindrance for cooperation when using modern communication systems. In addition to email communication, the project members shared and exchanged documents on the e-learning platform Alfresco. Basically partners communicated in English but since a Polish version of the handbook was planned, and some Polish partners preferred to write in their native language first, many mid versions of the Polish edition were created and translated back and forth from English to Polish.

Oral communication was easier, more efficient, and less time consuming compared to written communication. During the project, all participants met three times, once in Poland and twice in Norway. When volcano ash from Iceland stopped flights over Europe we instead held a Skype meeting. In December 2010 the project was finished and a final project dissemination conference was held in Krakow, Poland.

Since none of the participants used English as a mother tongue, we found that plenum discussions at our meetings were most fruitful when supplemented with group discussions respectively in the Polish and Norwegian team.

Our project showed that a good knowledge of English language was an advantage for efficient communication. This is confirmed by Immonen et al. (3; p. 845). Further, we saw that to write in more than one language and the use of translators complicates work and the result is not time and cost effective. It is better to avoid multilingual tasks; otherwise a separate budget for translation services has to be carefully planned. Nevertheless, to meet in person is crucial for getting to know each other and definitely makes it easier to discuss informally and to clear misunderstandings swiftly. Personal contact contributes to better knowledge of the partners and building bridges over cultural differences (3; p. 846). At our meetings, informal gathering at lunchtime, dinner or visits to a museum and other cultural events were essential for creating a good climate for discussions in the project.

We believe that more face to face meetings would benefit participants in international projects, and even be beneficial to the quality of the results. Especially in the

beginning of a project this is crucial for the common understanding of the goals of the project and getting to know each other in person. One should also emphasize the opportunities online communication represents (video-conferencing, Skype) and usage of these tools should be thoroughly planned in advance.

### **Research skills**

Not all the participating librarians had sufficient knowledge of research methods. This is normal since librarians do not have many opportunities to conduct research. However, this is now changing with the advances of evidence-based librarianship. For the project this meant that, along with realization of the project goals, an intensive self education took place, and this added to the workload.

We learned that the project should be preceded by a careful checkout and self-checkout of qualifications needed. Before submission of a project proposal it is recommended that interested parties meet and discuss the goals of the project and agree in advance to what type of work and what commitment it requires. This is possible in some financing programs and there are also opportunities to request funds from sources which support preliminary meetings of potential partners. Anyway, doing research is a very good way to learn how to do research.

### **Writing skills**

Many of us had little or no experience with scientific writing. Not in our own language, even less so in English. But the review process made us aware of how we used language and made us be more precise and careful. As the amount of new versions of the handbook arose, the text became uniform, since it was based on our collective writing and reviewing. Being “forced” to write we progressed in this skill. We now possess an understanding of the written scientific language and realize that we need further practice to master academic writing.

### **Mutual reviewing**

Along with writing own chapters, all the project participants had to review modules written by project members from the other country. It may be difficult to express negative remarks to someone not very well known. Receiving feedback might also be difficult. Questions like these were addressed in the project: To what extent can we be critical? How to voice the

opinions in a nice way? Be polite or honest? How to handle cultural differences? We believe that being more honest and direct in the review at an early stage might be wise. Critical reflection might save time in the project, but you can lose creativity and writing spirit. On the other hand, comments and feedback on your text motivate and inspire you to be more creative in the writing.

### Translation

Another issue during the MedLibTrain project was translation. We chose different approaches – the Poles wrote their modules in Polish and then translated to English. The modules by the Norwegians were written in English and were not translated into Norwegian. There may be linguistic weaknesses in this work, but tight budgets and deadlines meant this could not be fully prioritized. Writing in your native language makes it easier to express yourself precisely. Therefore, English native speakers should be closely related to the project group, for either translate text written in your native language or contribute with advice and help in the writing process. For this task it is best to find a person who knows the professional terminology.

### Project administration

For international projects funded from either EU or some other international body, there are many rules and regulations to follow. In the MedLibTrain project one member from each country was especially engaged to work with the project administration. These two persons had each a coordinator role for the time schedules, billing, writing stage reports and so on. Having a national coordinator dealing with this kind of work was a great advantage for the project process, and saved the other project members a lot of time which could be used on writing the handbook. We strongly suggest engaging project coordinators who can work with administrative duties of the project.

### Time schedule

The timetable of the project was very tight. This required very strict discipline of the participants. The workload was underestimated at the stage of writing the proposal; especially some barriers like English fluency, writing skills, research skills appeared to be higher than expected. Intensive collaboration made it even more difficult. Deadlines were important to maintain progress in the project, but were quite stressful at times. We learned that it is very important to do realistic

estimations when planning work flow and tasks. These should take into account all expected barriers and all limitations. There should be some time set aside for unexpected events, such as sick leave, job change or eruption of a volcano.

Another aspect on workload is that the time spent with project work has to be clear from the beginning. Besides this, one should anticipate the necessity of doing extra work in critical phases of the project. This must fit in with the workload of the project members outside the project (see 3; p. 846). Pay attention that holidays often are placed at different times in different countries and can affect keeping the schedule.

### Money

Unfortunately, the financial crisis made the switch from Euro to Polish Zloty not in the project's favour, and made the original funding less valuable. Problems like this are not easy to foresee, but there should be set aside some money for unexpected expenses. Underestimation of the workload was another reason for the miscalculation of the costs. Some project members offered to work voluntarily, not expecting how serious and time consuming the work ahead was. Working without appropriate salary after some time became annoying, especially when the workload was much higher than expected. Even then it should be stressed that all project participants were highly motivated to create a useful and needed teaching aid.



**Fig. 1.** Participants in the MedLibTrain project at the meeting in Bergen September 2010.

From the left: Urszula Zdeb, Małgorzata Marczan, Marcin Stasiak, Frøydis Løken, Hege Sletsjøe, Jolanta Cieśla, Anne Stenhammer, Regina Kűfner Lein, Karin Bakkemo, Ewa Czarnik, Barbara Niedźwiedzka, Irene Hunsjør, Randi Bolstad, Lucjan Stalmak, Ireneusz Korfel, Małgorzata Sieradzka-Fleituch  
(Foto: Regina Kűfner Lein)

For future projects it is important to estimate the budgets very carefully, and realistically. A careful and in depth analysis of probable personnel workload is extremely important. In the budget unexpected costs have to be assumed and planned for.

### Final project results and conclusions

After mentioning the difficulties and barriers above there were many fruitful aspects of this collaboration! Some are very concrete, such as two books that all participants can be proud of (4) and several publications and presentations given at national and international conferences. Some benefits were intangible, but even more significant. The project members had a great deal of experiences together both in teaching and in librarianship as a whole. Putting this together with our project goals and our way of evidence-based work in the project, there were significant cultural exchanges, new impressions, especially in network building, professional development and language skills among the participants. Our knowledge in known and unknown subjects was greatly increased and in addition our research and writing skills have tangibly improved.

Despite our struggling with language and tight deadlines, we learned a lot about project work and international collaboration. We gained experience and took part in each other cultures and working conditions. According to Immonen (3; p. 846-847) knowledge about hierarchical work structure, decision-making and responsibility in each country, may be vital for a cross-national project to succeed. During two years of collaboration, we obtained more insight and understanding of each others' way of thinking and working styles.

There is no question that despite hard work, participation in an international project like MedLibTrain is an interesting and very rewarding experience. We have also learned that together we are stronger and when we put our best forces together – it is possible to fulfil such a large project. With the experiences from this project we surely will be able to handle a new project in a different way. Mainly we will stress the importance of good contact and communication.

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### Acknowledgements

*This paper is based on the oral presentation at the EAHIL conference in Istanbul 2011 (5). The project was financed by the European Economic Area Financial Mechanisms and the Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2004 - 2009 as a part of the Scholarship and Training Fund.*

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# The Human Resource Development Project – a collaboration between the Finnish and Namibian University Libraries

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### Abstract

*The Human Resource Development Project at the University of Namibia Library is the co-operation project between Helsinki University Library and Tampere University Library in Finland and Namibia University Library during 2011-2012. It was financed by HEI ICI (Higher Education Institutions Institutional Cooperation Instrument [http://www.cimo.fi/programmes/hei\\_ici](http://www.cimo.fi/programmes/hei_ici)) which supports collaboration projects between higher education institutions in Finland and developing countries. The main activities of the project were seminars in Namibia (2), staff exchanges for Namibians (total 14 persons) and co-authoring. The author was one of the participants in the second seminar in April 2012. This article describes the background and results of this successful cooperation.*

*Key words:* international cooperation; international educational exchange; libraries; public health..

### Introduction

Finland and Namibia have known each other for a long time: 140 years ago Finnish missionaries started their work in Namibia. In addition to missionary work, they established education and health care systems in Owambo, the northern part of Namibia. It is not rare to meet Namibian citizens baptized with Finnish names! Also later on, Finland had a part in Namibia's history: President Martti Ahtisaari's role was significant in the independence negotiations. Namibia gained its independence in 1990, and after that it became one of Finland's main partner countries in development

cooperation. During the independence struggle a young lady called Ellen Namhila showed her interest for libraries by setting up a library at the SWAPO refugee camp in Angola. Thanks to this, she was chosen as the recipient of a scholarship from the Finnish Library Association to study librarianship at the University of Tampere. This was the beginning of a career for her and now Ms. Ellen Namhila is the Library Director of the Library of the University of Namibia (*Figure 1*) and she is continuing her studies for her doctoral thesis at the University of Tampere.

Ellen Namhila's profile can be found in this link: <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/librarians/management/viewpoints/namhila.htm> and an interview with Ellen Namhila as a guest of the Finnish Library Association's 100th year celebration can be seen here: <http://vimeo.com/38908582>.

Namibia has a strong emphasis for development – in the year 2004 its first President Sam Nujoma launched the Namibia Vision 2030: *A prosperous and industrialised Namibia, developed by her human resources, enjoying peace, harmony and political stability.* To be able to put in practice the principal ideas of this vision means an effort on education and naturally the role of the library features high on the education agenda. This is when our project stepped into the picture.

The main activities of our project were seminars in Namibia (2), staff exchanges for Namibians (totally 14



**Fig. 1.** The main library of University of Namibia in Windhoek

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persons) and co-authoring. The HEI ICI programs enhance the higher education capacity in the developing world, and they are financed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Finland.

### The seminars

Almost all library work fields were covered, but of course with some focus points. Four participants from both Finnish libraries, a total of 8 Finns at any one time attended both Namibia seminars. The subjects at the first seminar – the launching seminar in October 2011 – were: *Policy Analysis and the Development of the UNAM Library, Scientific Publishing, Open Access & Copyrights, Evidence-Based- Librarianship, Quality and Benchmarking and Collection Development*. The first seminar program can be accessed here at this link: <http://wiki.helsinki.fi/display/namibiahanke/The+Launching+Seminar+Programme+in+Windhoek+7th+October+14th+October+2011> . It was in this seminar where the project partners met each other for the first time.

I myself was lucky to be one of the participants in the second seminar in April 2012. The main subject of this seminar was information literacy, and one of the designed outputs was to set up the IL instruction program at the UNAM Library. The first two days were about IL pedagogical skills and the marketing of library services and facilities, and the last two days were dedicated also to evidence-based (EB) librarianship projects: *the alignment of collection to curricula and process analysis*. According to this title three UNAM librarians had studied how well the collections in their libraries met user needs. These studies were very interesting and also very concrete approaches to EB Librarianship. Also presentations about strategic planning and competence and capacity building were on the agenda and the 2nd seminar program illustrates this: <http://wiki.helsinki.fi/display/namibiahanke/The+Seminar+Programme+in+Namibia+in+April+2012>

It was really great to see how enthusiastic and engaged all the participants were! We used several kinds of collaborative working methods, and we all learned a lot from each other. For each session one Namibian and one Finn together took notes and on the last day of the seminar, they presented summaries and focus points of each presentation. It was a very good way to memorize what we had done and discussed! I also liked the atmosphere: it was so open and trusting and you really could feel how it improved the communication and that way learning, too.

### Staff exchanges

On the whole 14 Namibians participated in the staff exchanges. All UNAM Library staff were given the chance to send in applications to participate in these exchanges, which covered areas of interest, knowledge gaps and also a statement to share skills and report outcomes. The selection was made by the UNAM Library. The exchange programs were planned in Finland covering the interest areas with diverse approaches. The visits were usually divided for two weeks in Helsinki and two weeks in Tampere, a total of four weeks. The first visitors to arrive were Vice Director Joseph Ndinoshiho and medical librarian Menete Shatona, who came to Finland in November 2011. Menete's stay in Helsinki was focused in medicine, so half of her Helsinki visit was at our library, Terkko which we found very pleasant. A medical education program started in Namibia in 2010, so Menete and her team have set up the medical library (*Figure 2*).



**Fig. 2.** Medical librarian Menete Shatona and the author in front of the brand new medical faculty

Before 2010, the Namibians who wanted to become physicians attended medical education programs mostly in the neighbouring countries such as South Africa, Botswana and Zambia. It was also a very lucky coincidence that IFLA 2012 was organised in Helsinki, and so we arranged staff exchange visits during IFLA and altogether eight of our Namibian colleagues including Library Directors could attend the conference, and one of them joined our IFLA satellite at Terkko

Library. Tampere had a satellite meeting about information literacy and we had a presentation about our part in the project. <http://www.ifla.org/events/satellite-meeting-in-tampere-finland>

### Co-authoring

The most palpable result of our co-operation is the book entitled *Empowering People – a collaboration between Finnish and Namibian University Libraries*. It consists of joint articles written by Namibian and Finnish colleagues together. Each article was reviewed and it was a very giving and challenging experience to write together because of the huge distance! It gave new perspectives for both sides. Luckily on the last day in Namibia we had arranged time to talk and prepare the articles and writing process (Figure 3). I feel very happy and proud of our book, and I'm sure that all of my colleagues in Helsinki, Tampere and Namibia share this feeling!



Fig. 3. Co-authors meet

The visit in Namibia for me was a once-in-a-lifetime experience; it was my first visit to this huge continent. I

was impressed by the people, the nature, the whole atmosphere. Before the start of the seminar we had a chance to travel to the northern part of Namibia, Owamboland. On the first day, we visited the campus libraries to meet colleagues working there. At the weekend, we had a chance to experience the Etosha National Park – we could see lions, giraffes, even elephants living in the wild (Figure 4). It was simply wonderful!

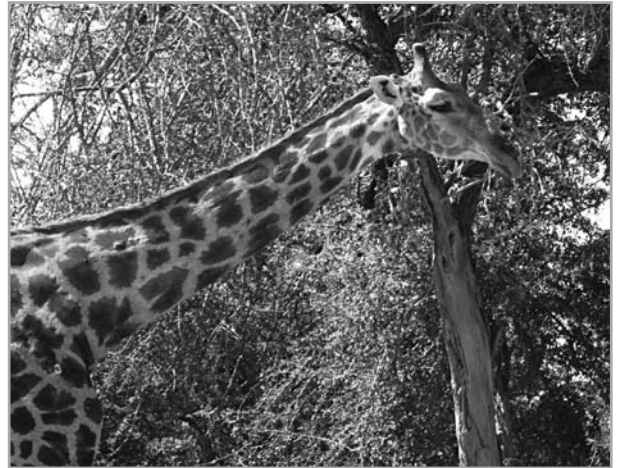


Fig. 4. A giraffe at the Etosha National Park

I really feel I am one of the lucky ones to have had the chance to be part of this co-operation project. It has been such of an experience to learn to know and to work together with our Namibian colleagues. I think I was picked for this project because of my experience in the Nordic-Baltic-Russian co-operation *Transfer of Knowledge* from 2006, and the roots of it are in EAHIL! Both of these co-operation projects have given me so much – this energy from the people we are involved in. What really touched my heart are the people here and there. We miss them a lot – that feeling is the second side of the coin!

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## Keeping up to date with information retrieval research: Summarized Research in Information Retrieval (SuRe Info)

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### Abstract

*Whether one is developing systematic reviews, health technology assessments, clinical practice guidelines or clinical procedures, a well conducted and adequately extensive literature search is crucial for a reliable and rigorous end product. It is however time-consuming and demanding to stay up-to-date on the latest developments within the field of information retrieval for such evidence syntheses. SuRe Info is a new open-access web resource that provides research-based information relating to the information retrieval aspects of producing systematic reviews and health technology assessments. The aim of this website is to contribute to evidence-based information retrieval practice.*

*Key words:* technology assessment, biomedical information; storage and retrieval; medical informatics.

### Introduction

In the field of medicine and health care, there is a need for information specialists with knowledge and expertise in how to conduct extensive and systematic searches for relevant literature. Whether one is developing systematic reviews, health technology assessments, clinical practice guidelines or clinical procedures, a well conducted literature search is the foundation for a reliable and rigorous end product. Searches for such evidence syntheses often aim at being as extensive as possible in order to identify as many relevant studies as possible, but must usually be delivered within given time frames and with limited resources.

### An everyday challenge

Increasing numbers of methods papers about information retrieval to produce systematic reviews, health technology assessments and other evidence syntheses are being published in scientific journals, but it is time-consuming and demanding for information specialists and other researchers involved in evidence synthesis to stay up-to-date on the latest developments

in the field. In addition, all information specialists are likely to have to assess the same papers before putting evidence into practice. A common platform that provides an overview of current research evidence could help to meet this challenge, and in that way contribute to an evidence-based information retrieval practice and to standardisation of search methods where feasible and appropriate.

### A short introduction to health technology assessment

A health technology assessment (HTA) is an evidence synthesis that summarises what the research says about the clinical effectiveness and safety related to a specific health technology. A health technology may, for example, be a drug, a medical device or a diagnostic test. In addition, a health technology assessment often contains an economic evaluation (assessing the cost-effectiveness of competing technologies), and may discuss ethical, social and organisational consequences connected to the specific health technology. HTA uses, in many respects, the same methods for collecting, selecting, quality assuring and summarising the evidence as a systematic review and other similar types

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of evidence syntheses. Subsequently, many of the same method papers within information retrieval would be relevant when searching to inform the development of all of these products.

### An international effort

*Health Technology Assessment international (HTAi)* (1) is an international society for organisations and individuals who produce, use or are interested in health technology assessments. Within HTAi, there are nine Interest Sub-Groups that focus on different aspects of HTA. One of them is the *Interest Sub-Group on Information Resources (IRG)* (2). The group was established in 2003, and is an international forum for information specialists and others who work on or are interested in information retrieval issues for health technology assessments and similar evidence syntheses. The IRG has currently about 180 members.

In 2011 a small group of IRG members started to consider how to meet the continuing challenge of staying up-to-date on the latest developments within the field of information retrieval. A project called *Summarized Research in Information Retrieval for HTA (SuRe Info)* (3) was launched in November 2011 to meet this challenge.

### What is SuRe Info?

SuRe Info is a web resource that summarises the current knowledge of best information retrieval methods gathered from papers investigating information retrieval for health technology assessments and systematic reviews and published research-based guidance. It is published as a part of an already existing web resource, *HTAi Vortal* (4) that seeks to collect and make available information of interest regarding health technology assessment at one place.



Fig. 1. SuRe Info website

SuRe Info comprises two sections:

1. information on general search methods common across all health technologies;
2. methods to use when searching for specific aspects of health technologies.

Within both sections there are chapters summarising the current research evidence. The first section is divided into chapters concerning which sources to search, how to design search strategies, the peer reviewing of search strategies, and how to document and report the search process.

The second section is structured in accordance with the structure of the *HTA Core Model* (5), a model developed by the *European Network for Health Technology Assessment (EUnetHTA)* (6). The HTA Core Model provides a framework for producing and sharing results of health technology assessments, and consists of 10 different aspects:

- health problem and current use of health technology;
- description and characteristics of health technology;
- safety;
- diagnostic accuracy;
- clinical effectiveness;
- costs and economic evaluation;
- ethical analysis;
- organisational aspects;
- social aspects;
- legal aspects.

Since the HTA Core Model includes all the aspects of HTA and these aspects require somewhat different information retrieval methods and approaches, this model was considered to be the most suitable way to structure the second section of SuRe Info.

Each chapter within SuRe Info provides a concise summary of the current research findings concerning a particular information retrieval aspect. The references listed at the end of each chapter are linked to structured appraisals of the included studies, written by members of the SuRe Info project team. A specific format for structured summaries has been developed for this purpose. Links are also provided to the full text of the articles, if available.

The evidence is identified by running chapter specific search strategies in selected relevant databases. Alerts

are set up for prospective identification of evidence as well, in order to keep the chapters regularly updated.

### **The SuRe Info project team**

The project is managed by information specialists Sari Ormstad from the Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services (NOKC) and Jaana Isojärvi from the Finnish Office for Health Technology Assessment (Finohta). The international project team also includes Patrice Chalon (KCE, Belgium), Sigrid Droste (IQWiG, Germany), Steven Duffy (CRD, UK), Julie Glanville (YHEC, UK), Su Golder (CRD, UK), David Kaunelis (CADTH, Canada) and Carol Lefebvre (Lefebvre Associates Ltd, UK). The project team receives some funding from the HTAi, but the majority of the resource devoted to this project is voluntary. The team collaborates via e-mail and holds regular teleconference meetings. An internal work space on the internet (at <http://www.box.com>) has been created for documenting the work process and sharing files.

### **Common tool for information specialists in different countries**

Over time, many organisations that produce health technology assessments, systematic reviews and other

types of evidence syntheses, have developed their own policies with respect to information retrieval and management. Different practices exist with respect to issues such as which sources to search, what parameters or limits to apply, how to update searches, and how to report search processes and strategies. SuRe Info will not substitute these methods handbooks and search policies of different organisations, but the content of SuRe Info can be used when creating and updating the search guidance in such handbooks. In that way, SuRe Info may contribute to standardisation of search methods across organisations, where standardisation is deemed desirable.

This project is not seeking to provide a comprehensive bibliography containing all the published research evidence in the field of information retrieval. SuRe Info seeks to help information specialists stay up-to-date in the *latest* developments by providing easy access to current methods papers, and in that way support more research-based information retrieval practice. Work on SuRe Info is well underway and the website will officially be launched in June 2013.

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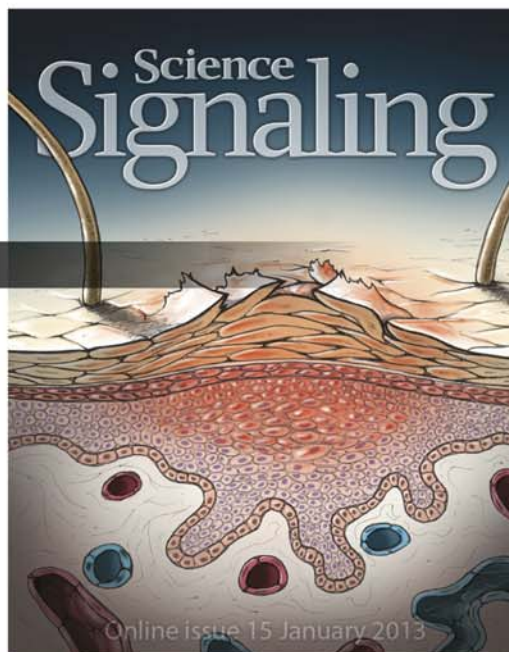


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## EAHIL WORKSHOP June 12-14 2013

The Workshop will soon open and be on its way! We will be developing our own personal strategies to meet the challenges facing health libraries, creating dialog and gaining new insights on key topics. Soon in June in the lovely, Stockholm archipelago - at Vår Gärd (Our Estate) - in Sweden!

### Program

Workshop sessions e.g. success factors for teaching, supporting the e-environment, mobile technology, open research data and future library staff using interactive, dialog-creating methods e.g. Brain Writing Pool, Fish Bowl, Gallery, Knowledge Café, and Opinionator Triangle. The full program can be seen at the EAHIL Workshop Stockholm, Sweden website, [eahil2013.kib.ki.se](http://eahil2013.kib.ki.se)

### How do I prepare?

Hopefully, by now you have been contacted by the session facilitators with advice on what to do to prepare!



University Library







EAHIL Workshop Stockholm, Sweden, 12-14 June 2013

## Trends for the future

- Creating Strategies to Meet Challenges



### Vår Gärd in June 2013!

The Workshop will be hosted at Vår Gärd in Saltsjöbaden, a suburb east of central Stockholm. All sessions will be located at Vår Gärd, and all participants will be staying there for the duration of the Workshop. Vår Gärd is situated in a lovely setting on the shore of the Baltic sea and is famous for its art collection and excellent kitchen and bakery.

### Four museums worth a visit in Stockholm

Modern Museum (modern art at its best!), Vasa Museum (preserved wooden ship!)  
Abba Museum (unique history of pop!), Photography Museum (contemporary such!)

### Finally...

On behalf of the International Program Committee (IPC) and the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), I wish you welcome to Vår Gärd and the EAHIL Workshop Stockholm, Sweden 2013!

Anna Kägedal, Chair of the Local Organizing committee



University Library



Karolinska  
Institutet



# 14th EAHIL 2014 Conference



**Divided we fall, united we inform**  
**Building alliances for**  
**a new European cooperation**  
**Rome, Italy, 11th - 13th June 2014**



## Welcome to the 14th EAHIL Conference

The Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Italian National Institute of Health) in collaboration with EAHIL has the pleasure to invite all the European and International biomedical librarians to the 14th edition of the association conference that will be held in Rome in the prestigious venue of the National Central Library of Rome.

We are confident that the conference will have a large and skilled participation of colleagues, both for the interest of the topics that will be discussed and the cultural richness of the place.

It will be a wonderful opportunity to share exciting professional experiences and unforgettable moments of social life.

We are waiting for you!

## Important Dates

- Opening of call for papers: September 1, 2013
- Deadline for submission of abstracts: November 15, 2013
- Notification of acceptance/rejection: January 15, 2014
- Deadline for confirmation of author participation: January 31, 2014
- Deadline for text for Conference Proceedings: April 15, 2014
- Registration opening: March 1, 2014
- Deadline for early registration: March 31, 2014
- Last day of registration: April 30, 2014

## Conference Venue

The Conference will be held at the National Central Library of Rome



## Continuing Education Courses

The Courses will be held at the Istituto Superiore di Sanità

For further details please visit the Workshop website [www.iss.it/eahil2014](http://www.iss.it/eahil2014)

[Collected during February to April 2013]



**Benoit Thirion**

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**The goal of this section is to have a look at references from non-medical librarian journals, but interesting for medical librarians** (for lists and TOC's alerts from medical librarian journals, see: <http://www.chu-rouen.fr/documed/eahil67.html> )

**Free full text**

**Umesha M.** Information seeking and searching behaviour of dental science professionals in Karnataka  
**DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology 2013 [cited 2013 April 9];33(2)**

*Libraries in health sciences or dental sciences are not just collecting or licensing the information resources. They have various task to match the needs like curriculum based learning, research and point of care. The present study tries to understand the information seeking and searching behaviour of dental science professional in Karnataka. This paper tries to find out the suitable information sources available for dental professionals, the areas in which dental professionals are seeking information, and the barriers they are facing in accessing information.*

Available from: <http://publications.drdo.gov.in/ojs/index.php/djlit/article/view/4193>

1. Satpathy SK *et al.* **Users' perception on medical college libraries' systems and services of Odisha**  
DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology 2013 [cited 2013 April 9];33(2)  
*Users are treated as the most important components of libraries, irrespective of types and size. After all libraries are established and maintained for them. The collection development in libraries is based on the needs of users and offers various library services to satisfy the information and document needs of users. The study found that the medical college libraries need to develop systems which will allow library professionals to quantitatively measure perceived quality, satisfaction, and loyalty towards library as well as the degree to which specific elements of a library's services, collections, and environment contribute to those perceptions.*  
**Available from:** <http://publications.drdo.gov.in/ojs/index.php/djlit/article/view/4195>
2. Butdisuwan S. **Community-based health information and communication (CBHIC): a proposed model for Thailand**  
DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology 2013 [cited 2013 April 9];33(2)  
*The present study is to work out a suitable model for community-based data collection and education, keeping public library network at the locus of the model. The study has reviewed the profile of Thailand with regards*



demographic data and healthcare delivery system particularly at grass root level. The study analysed the existing status and activities of public library network, its building blocks and framework for data-collection and education of the community.

**Available from:** <http://publications.drdo.gov.in/ojs/index.php/djlit/article/view/4194>

3. Ganaie SA. **Health science information system in the curriculum in LIS schools in North Indian universities**

DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology 2013 [cited 2013 April 9];33(2) *Information has gained importance in every sector of societies and health sector is not an exception. Health science professionals need information for conducting their activities related to human care, academic and research pursuits, thus providing library and information support to the health professionals has gained importance. Different health science information systems are associated with health-related institutions like medical colleges, hospitals etc. For managing these information systems on professional and scientific lines, library professionals play an important role. Realising the importance of LIS professionals in health sector, departments of library and information science have introduced different specialised papers. Health science information system is one such specialisation introduced in the library and information science discipline with the aim to produce competent professionals with sufficient skills, knowledge and attitude for managing the libraries and information systems in the health sector. The different components of the curriculum of health science information system is the focus of the present paper. Challenges posed to health science information professionals by the changing information landscape are also highlighted.*

**Available from:** <http://publications.drdo.gov.in/ojs/index.php/djlit/article/view/4196>

4. Vasanthakumar M. **Medical Librarianship as a specialisation: a conceptual review**

DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology 2013 [cited 2013 April 9];33(2) *The medical libraries have played a vital role in disseminating information for different user groups in variety of settings in the health science institution. There are various programs such as The 'LATCH programme', 'medical informatics', 'clinical medical librarianship', 'clinical informationists', 'evidence based medicine' and, 'consumer health library services. Libraries also are undertaking training program called 'Health Information Literacy'. There are some skills like quality filtering and critical appraisal of the literature, notable for information services. Yet, there are many skills required to learn for efficient and effective service to the medical community and hence there is a requirement to consider the 'medical librarianship as specialisation program' from general librarianship.*

**Available from:** <http://publications.drdo.gov.in/ojs/index.php/djlit/article/view/4197>

5. Shaheen M *et al.* **Nurses' information use and literature searching skills for evidence based practices**

Malaysian Journal of Library & Information Science 2013 [cited 2013 Mars 8];18(1)

*Medical and healthcare literature is growing exponentially, and medical professionals, including nurses, need to possess basic literature searching skills to retrieve information for clinical decision making. This study aims to investigate the use of different medical information sources by nurses and their literature searching skills. Questionnaire survey was adopted for data collection and a total of 1,486 nurses from two public hospitals in Singapore participated in this study. It was found that human and printed sources were used more frequently by the nurse, as compared to online sources. For literature searching, nurses used basic search features, and only less than one-quarter of them were familiar with Boolean and proximity operators. The study suggests that hospital libraries should play an active role in improving literature searching skills of nurses which may subsequently result in increased use of electronic information sources, where more updated clinical research information may be found.*

**Available from:** <http://majlis.fsktm.um.edu.my/detail.asp?AID=1339>

## Abstracts only

1. Jackman LW. **Health literacy: a national responsibility – our brothers’ keeper**  
College & Undergraduate Libraries 2013. Volume 20;Issue 1: 95-106  
*Dr. Lana W. Jackman, President of the National Forum on Information Literacy, recently sat down with Ms. Helen Osborne, an early pioneer of health literacy practice and President of Health Literacy Consulting, to discuss the current state of health literacy. In the interview highlights presented below, Ms. Osborne offers some keen insights into how health literacy practice is ultimately a shared community responsibility. The interview was conducted at the Morse Institute Library in Natick, MA. The full interview is available on the National Forum on Information Literacy Website—www.infolit.org*  
**Available from:** <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10691316.2013.761028>
  
2. Kostkova P. **What impact do healthcare digital libraries have? An evaluation of national resource of infection control at the point of care using the Impact-ED framework**  
International Journal on Digital Libraries March 2013. Volume 13;Issue 2:77-90  
*Over the last decade billions of dollars’ worth of investments have been directed into ICT solutions for healthcare. In particular, new evidence-based digital libraries and web portals designed to keep busy clinicians up to date with the latest evidence were created in the UK and US. While usability and performance of digital libraries were widely researched, evaluation of impact did not seem to be sufficiently addressed. This is of major concern for healthcare digital libraries as their success or failure has a direct impact on patients’ health, clinical practice, government policies and funding initiatives. In order to fill this gap, we developed the Impact-ED evaluation framework measuring impact on four dimensions of digital libraries—content, community, services and technology. Applying a triangulation technique we analysed pre- and post-visit questionnaires to assess the clinical query or aim of the visit and subsequent satisfaction with each visit, mapped it against weblogs analysis for each session and triangulated with data from semi-structured interviews. In this paper, we present the complete description of the Impact-ED framework, a definition of the comparative Impact score and application of the framework to a real-world medical digital library, the National Resource of Infection Control (NRIC, <http://www.nric.org.uk>), to evaluate its impact at the point of care and demonstrate the generalisability of this novel methodology. We analysed the data from a cohort of 53 users who completed the registration questionnaire, of which 32 completed pre- and post-visit questionnaires of which 72 sets were matched for analysis and five users out of these were interviewed using Dervin’s method. NRIC is generally perceived to be a useful resource with 93% of users reporting it provides relevant information regularly or occasionally (n = 28 ) and provided relevant information in over 65 % of visits (n = 47 ). NRIC has a positive impact on user knowledge in over half of visits to the library (52.8%), NRIC actual impact score  $I_a = 0.65$  and the study revealed several areas for potential development to increase its impact.*  
**Available from:** <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00799-012-0101-4>
  
3. Flaherty MG. **Consumer health information provision in rural public libraries: a comparison of two library systems**  
The Library Quarterly 2013. Vol. 83;2:155-165  
*To better understand health information provision in the public library setting, two cooperative library systems that serve primarily rural populations in upstate New York were studied. The central library in one of those systems established a consumer health information center (CHIC) in 1999. In the other system, the central library does not have such a center. Visits were made to ten randomly selected libraries in each of the two systems (n = 20), and the query “Do vaccines cause autism?” was posed to library staff. Print resources were provided more often than online resources in both systems. Utilization of the CHIC as a health information resource was inconsistent among libraries. Follow-up phone interviews found none of the twenty libraries had reference policies. Reported practice matched actual practice 60 percent of the time in the system without the CHIC and 40 percent of the time in the system with the CHIC.*  
**Available from:** <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/669548>



4. Mirel B *et al.* **Studying PubMed usages in the field for complex problem solving: Implications for tool design**  
Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology 2013 [cited 2013 Mars 12] article first published online: 8 March 2013  
*Many recent studies on MEDLINE-based information seeking have shed light on scientists' behaviors and associated tool innovations that may improve efficiency and effectiveness. Few, if any, studies, however, examine scientists' problem-solving uses of PubMed in actual contexts of work and corresponding needs for better tool support. Addressing this gap, we conducted a field study of novice scientists (14 upper-level undergraduate majors in molecular biology) as they engaged in a problem-solving activity with PubMed in a laboratory setting. Findings reveal many common stages and patterns of information seeking across users as well as variations, especially variations in cognitive search styles. Based on these findings, we suggest tool improvements that both confirm and qualify many results found in other recent studies. Our findings highlight the need to use results from context-rich studies to inform decisions in tool design about when to offer improved features to users*  
**Available from:** <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/asi.22796/abstract>
  
5. Faricy-Beredo B. **Blowing up Harry Potter: leveraging an NLM exhibition to your advantage**  
Public Services Quarterly 2013 [cited 2013 Mars 8];9(1):34-45  
*Libraries are constantly challenged to find ways to demonstrate their value to their institutions. Can hosting a National Library of Medicine (NLM) exhibition increase a library's impact? In 2012 the University of Toledo engaged their constituents by hosting and developing programming for the NLM exhibit Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science, Magic and Medicine. The process is synthesized into five stages: choosing, visioning, finding allies, budgeting, and marketing. Recommended practices for each stage are presented. Measures of impact (attendance, views, tweets, feedback) are discussed. Author concludes that hosting NLM exhibitions can be cost effective ways to advance a library's mission, improve visibility and user's perceptions.*  
**Available from:** <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15228959.2013.758979>
  
6. **Akinola Ajayi N.** Impact of health informatics on nurses 'computer skills – the library role  
**The Electronic Library Volume Research 2013 [cited 2013 February 25];31(2). Available online 25 February 2013**  
*The concept of the paper is how library can be a useful framework for designing the nurses' computer skills. The overarching aim of the research was to focus on how computer skills of nurses increasing access to health informatics can be used to improve nursing practice consequently leading to better health care delivery. Objective to achieve this aim include: a. to find out the level of nurses' computer literacy b. to find out nurses quest for electronic information for problem-based nursing practice c. investigate nurses' level of awareness of research-based nursing practice d. to find out areas of desirability of informatics in nursing practice. Design/methodology/approach - The measuring instrument used was a self administered questionnaire to senior nursing cadres in the Teaching Hospitals Complex, Ile Ife, Nigeria. There were 230 nurses in these categories out of which 180 were given questionnaires to fill. The questionnaire was pre-tested and validated. One hundred and sixty-seven copies were returned and found useful. Simple percentage and summation weighted index were used to analyse the data. Findings - the paper provides empirical insight into nurses' computer skills - the library role. The majority of the respondents did not have the knowledge of computers while in school of nursing, they learned it through various means while practicing, a few can access and retrieve information from databases available. Few difficulties were expressed such as workload, lack of skills, location of the library to the hospital, etc. The desirability of introduction of health informatics to the profession is high. Research limitations/implications - The study is limited to Teaching Hospitals, it may not be generalised to non-teaching hospitals. Hence the need for studies. Practical implications - The impact of health informatics on nurses' computer skills - library role will save nurses from routine work, enhance their productivity, better equip them for the challenges of Information Technology poses on health professionals. Originality/value - This paper fulfils and identified the need to introduce health informatics to nursing practice in order to improve patient care.*  
**Available from:** [http://www.emeraldinsight.com/journals.htm?articleid=17082694&WT.mc\\_id=journallocalerts7](http://www.emeraldinsight.com/journals.htm?articleid=17082694&WT.mc_id=journallocalerts7)

### MLA + ICML 2013: all journeys have secret destinations of which the traveller is unaware <sup>1</sup>



**Oliver Obst**

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In April I thought over and over again if I should go to the combined MLA and ICML conference at Boston, Massachusetts, a huge event with 2500 librarians from all over the world. Fortunately, my travel expenses were covered, but to be honest, I hate conferences... especially the ones, which are difficult to travel to and where I do not know anyone. So for weeks and weeks I chewed the pro and cons in my mind till I finally missed the early bird reduced admission fee and the conference hotel was fully booked. Hesitance is a most serious illness...

If I had not to attend an advisory board meeting, I probably would not have gone. But I am German. I am on duty. I am a librarian. I feel committed. If I did not attend, the world would probably collapse! So in the end, I booked a short trip of three days for both, meeting and conference. That should be more than enough, I thought.

Going to EAHIL conferences is so comfortable. They have always the same good old schedule, which makes sure you do not miss anything. On the contrary, the Boston conference overwhelmed me even before it started. Long before I left, I was buried by emails, sometimes 20 per day or more. After a short while I suffered from information overload and gave up understanding what it was all about. Almost desperately, I booked two courses on tablet PCs in advance, the Welcome Reception and the "25th annual YBP Health Walk", so as not to waste my time. I had no clue about the walk, but at 6:30 in the morning it seemed to be a nice activity before breakfast.

Once being on the road, my fears vanished like snow in the sun. The flight was fortunately long enough to watch "The Hobbit" and "Django Unchained", two movies which I have longed to see but had missed before. The plane was not fully booked so I had a whole row to myself. The receptionist at the Hilton gave me a nice room and the Board Meeting started in a nearby restaurant.

Mostly, companies make use of library advisory boards to get sound feedback, to enhance their image and to influence the profession. At the boards of *Nature*, *UpToDate*, *NEJM*, Thomson Reuters or Wiley (to name just a few) usually you find a bunch of well known and reputed librarians from around the world, with a focus on the USA. It is always a pleasure and inspiring to discuss matters with these people. And it is highly rewarding, if the company really listens to you and change their product accordingly (but certainly not their price).

The conference was also a success. On Saturday morning I attended a course on emerging technologies, where I learned quite a lot about Phablets, Apps and Google's Glass. In the afternoon I enjoyed the welcome reception and the impressive exhibition of hundreds of vendors.

<sup>1</sup>The title of the article is taken from a quote from Martin Buber in *Tales of the Baal Shem Tov*.



Fig. 1. Exhibition area

at 20 to 30 round tables, that lunch was served, but there was no lecturing going on. Instead on each table there was an iPad expert facilitating the discussion. Luckily I found myself on a table with three quite knowledgeable librarians using iPads in diverse settings such as clinical rounds, library instruction, and accessing information. Almost instantly, a vivid discussion started on everything from Apps to Cats. Dr. Besser's kind of presenting was a hot topic too. So we asked our facilitator (who, by coincidence, was organizing next year's conference at Chicago) to provide a course on storytelling and critical thinking there. I can profess that I never had a similar encouraging discussion. These two hours alone would have been enough to justify my trip.

In the afternoon, Jaime Blanck, a Clinical Informationist from the William H. Welch Medical Library at Johns Hopkins University, delivered an amazing overview on the closing of their library's doors: *The library without walls: how we moved out of the Welch library building and continued to improve our services* [see interview with Nancy Roderer in JEAHIL 17(4)]. I was surprised to learn that Nancy quit her job as the Director just after the closing, but Jaime assured me that this was just a pure coincidence.

When I left the conference on Sunday evening, my bag was full of ideas and impressions and a longing to have stayed some more days and at least to accomplish the YBP Health Walk.

For the first time I met Peter Stadler from *Unbound Medicine*, who had helped me to start our handheld project ten years ago. There was a Cochrane Library booth too, where you could learn about their new Apps, and the National Library of Medicine booth, where you could complain about the PubMed interface. All in all, it was the most comprehensive exhibition of library vendors I may have seen in my lifetime.

That evening, Elsevier invited me to the *Clinical Key Party*. Usually I would not miss an opportunity for dancing, but two things held me back this time: I recently ruptured my achilles tendon by foolishly playing basketball, and secondly, I was holding on to the German time to avoid jetlag, which forced me to sleep between 9pm and 3am.

The conference started on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, with a keynote speech by Dr. Richard Besser, medical TV expert and former CDC director. He told us stories about his fight against SARS, why he quit CDC and moved to ABC News and why he prefers storytelling to Powerpoint.

The speech was followed by a *Chapter Council Round Tables Luncheon* on "iPads in the curriculum, clinics, and library". The topic seriously caught my attention, but I was not sure what to expect. It turns out, that we all were seated



Fig. 2. Round table luncheon

### Letter from the President



**Marshall Dozier**

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Dear Colleagues,

At the time of writing, I'm thinking about the EAHIL 2013 Workshop in June, and looking forward to the creativity, ideas and activities that will develop during the week. I hope they will continue to flourish afterward too, though I recognise that it can be easy to slip into the day-to-day exigencies of our workplaces and not give time or attention to strategic thinking or reflecting on our practices. The workshops and conferences are really special, protected, times for thinking in these ways, but how can we give ourselves the opportunity to reflect for the rest of the year? And what about those of us who are unable to attend the workshops and conferences? I'd love to hear your ideas in response to this dilemma. I have one suggestion that I'll describe here: participating in a journal club.

Many of you will already be familiar with Journal Clubs since they are fairly common among health practitioners, and increasingly common among health librarians/information specialists – but just in case you aren't familiar with the idea, here's a short description. A group of colleagues meet periodically to discuss an article that has been selected in advance by a member of the group, and circulated so that everyone has a chance to read it before a meeting. When the group meets, they typically will critically engage with the aims, methods and findings of the study reported in the article, and discuss the issues presented in relation to their own areas of practice. There is an introductory page on Health Lib Wiki which outlines some journal club practices in more detail, and with helpful references to further readings (1).

I collaborate in organising a Journal Club that meets approximately once per month, and which has been running for about two years. On the basis of that experience, I'd like to highlight a few elements that I think are important in running a Journal Club that is not linked to a formal, credit-bearing, educational or professional development programme. Deenadayalan et al (2) conducted a systematic review to identify elements necessary for a successful Journal Club, but I think two elements they identified are particularly problematic in an informal context: mandatory attendance and compulsion to read the papers in advance.

Thinking about motivations and real constraints in balancing an activity such as a Journal Club with other demands on our time, I'd argue that an effective Journal Club needs to be run in ways that allow for the facts that:

- not all participants will have had a chance to read the papers in advance
- participants may have differing motives for attending
- the meeting is also a space for socialising and finding areas of shared interest
- the meeting is also an opportunity for exchanging support and ideas
- it can be demanding to organise and convene meetings
- we might not have immediate colleagues who want to participate in a Journal Club

To address the likely possibility that not all participants will have had the chance to read the paper in advance, the discussion can begin with a short presentation summarising the paper and identifying key points and questions of interest to the summariser. If the discussion can be framed to allow attendees to discuss their own practice or experiences in relation to the points from the summary, then this widens the scope for participation to those who haven't had a chance to digest the paper. Or, as in a library Journal Club described by two EAHIL members, Lotta Haglund and David Herron (3), participants were given time during work to read the papers – maybe our own organisations can be persuaded to see the core professional aspects of a Journal Club, too?

Participants may have different motives for attending, which can lead to frustration if individual aims are not met. It's probably impossible to satisfy everyone, but it can help to manage expectations a bit by being clear about how the club operates - for example, what topics are within the scope of the group discussion? Is it a formal group, or informal?

The two points I've made about space for socialising, networking and exchange of experience may be closely linked to motivations for attending. If the Journal Club discussion is allowed to expand a bit from the confines of the paper itself, and if there is a bit of 'relaxing' time at the beginning and end of the meeting, participants can take advantage of the opportunities if they wish to.

There's no denying that it takes time to organise a journal club and prepare for meetings – this was one key challenge identified by Young and Vilelle in their review of academic library journal clubs (4). I'd suggest sharing the organisation with a partner, and rotating among participants as much as possible the role of selecting a paper and preparing a summary for each meeting.

If you don't have interested colleagues in your own organisation, what about teaming up with colleagues from nearby organisation? Or, what about joining an online Journal Club? The Journal Club I help to organise with Sheila Webber (Sheffield University) meets in the online virtual world called Second Life. Sheila has also started a blog-based club called 'Information Literacy Journal Club' at <http://infolitjournalclub.blogspot.co.uk/>. Twitter is another possible forum for flexible online discussion (see for example Twitter Journal Club (medical) <http://www.twitjc.com/> look for hashtag#twitjc).

Can you think of any other points that need to be borne in mind? How would you address these and the points I raised above? Perhaps we can talk about them at the 2013 workshop, and on the email list... But, most importantly, let's see if we can take inspiration from the 'unconference' format of this year's workshop and sprinkle a bit of 'unconference' throughout the year – whether with journal clubs or other activities – that makes us pause from our daily routines and causes us to look up at the horizon a little bit.

## References

1. Giustini D, Clairoux N, Curators. HLWIKI International: Journal Clubs [Internet]. Giustini D, Clairoux N, curators. University of British Columbia; 2013 [cited 2013 May 19]. Available from: [http://hlwiki.slais.ubc.ca/index.php/Journal\\_clubs](http://hlwiki.slais.ubc.ca/index.php/Journal_clubs)
2. Deenadayalan Y, Grimmer-Somers K, Prior M, Kumar S. How to run an effective journal club: a systematic review. *Journal of evaluation in clinical practice* [Internet]. BLACKWELL PUBLISHING; 2008 Oct [cited 2010 Nov 17];14(5):898–911. Available from: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com.ezproxy.webfeat.lib.ed.ac.uk/doi/10.1111/j.1365-2753.2008.01050.x/pdf>
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4. Young P, Vilelle L. The Prevalence and Practices of Academic Library Journal Clubs. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship* [Internet]. 2011 [cited 2012 Apr 29];37(2):130–6. Available from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0099133311000188>

### U. S. Medical Library Association report for EAHIL



**Carol Lefebvre**

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**‘One HEALTH’ 2013: Boston, Massachusetts, 3-8 May 2013. What a conference!**

As you all know from my previous columns, MLA 2013 was held this year in conjunction with the 11th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML), the 7th International Conference of Animal Health Information Specialists (ICAHIS) and the 6th International Clinical Librarian Conference (ICLC). The conference went under the title and theme **‘One Health: information in an interdependent world’** and it was indeed a truly international, multicultural and multidisciplinary affair. It was generously hosted by MLA but was never once (or, at least, not in my hearing) referred to as the ‘MLA’ conference!



Of course, this was a difficult time for Boston, after the recent events of the bombings in association with the Boston Marathon but MLA rose to the challenge as we all knew they would. EAHIL President, Marshall Dozier, and I had written to Carla Funk, Executive Director of the MLA, immediately after the bombings offering our condolences on behalf of the Board and membership of EAHIL. We had said that we had every confidence in MLA with respect to the forthcoming conference and we wanted to assure them of our continued support and solidarity. We were not disappointed. Apart from increased but courteous and efficient security at the venue and the call from the MLA President, Jane Blumenthal, during the opening session, for a moment’s silence in recognition of the victims and their families and friends, the conference went ahead as any other large international conference, with great spirit. The organizers need have had no fears about delegates changing their travel plans. There were over 2,700 delegates, compared with about 2,300 for an average MLA Annual Meeting. Of these, c. 310 were from outside the US and of these, c. 120 were from Europe. Delegates came from c. 45 countries in total – a truly international affair!

More than 150 papers and 310 posters were presented – plus 15 ‘Lightning Rounds’ presentations – a recent introduction brought over from the MLA meetings, where participants have just five minutes and a limit of three slides in which to present a late-arising topic such as new research or service implementation. (Please look out for these at future MLA meetings, as the closing date for submitting abstracts for the ‘Lightning Rounds’ is usually considerably later than the closing date for submitting abstracts for the main programme and might tie in better with late acceptance of funding applications to attend MLA in future.) Carla Funk said that the figures were “only surpassed by the 1995 MLA/ICML meetings that had about 3,500 attendees and MLA’s Centennial meeting with about 3,100 attendees. It had the largest number of papers and posters presented ever and probably the largest number of delegates from outside the US” – with the possible exception of the 1995 meeting.

Of particular interest to us as Europeans, plenary speaker, Joanne Marshall (<http://ils.unc.edu/~marshall/index.html>), in her 2013 Janet Doe Lecture, paid tribute to European librarians and information specialists in the role they have played and continue to play in evidence-based library and information practice. It was a great pleasure to hear a

## News from EAHIL

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Canadian, at an international meeting hosted in the US, give such generous credit to her European counterparts.

Please note that the 'e-conference' registration is still available post-conference at:  
<https://www.xpressreg.net/register/medl053/lookup.asp>

There is a special rate of 130 US dollars for Affiliate Organization members such as members of EAHIL. Once you have registered for the 'e-conference', you can listen to recordings and follow the slides of the plenary and parallel sessions and browse or search the ePoster Gallery (amazingly good value for 130 US dollars!)

For those of you who have not registered, you can still go to the Official Annual Meeting Blog and read about the various sessions and events, now, of course, illustrated with the ubiquitous photographs!

[www.npc.mlanet.org/mla13/](http://www.npc.mlanet.org/mla13/)

There were a number of social events and networking opportunities during the conference. The International Cooperation Section (ICS) of MLA was particularly active this year. They had organized an International Visitors' Desk, located near the registration area, as a focus for international visitors to meet. They had organized 'ICS Connection' - an opportunity to pair-up international attendees with ICS members for informal networking, an ICS Dining Circle to give international attendees and ICS members an opportunity to meet and chat together over dinner, and, as usual at MLA, the International Visitors' Reception on Sunday evening, generously sponsored by the New England Journal of Medicine. This was a great opportunity so early on in the conference to meet other international visitors. So, all in all, a great meeting and thank you to all MLA staff, the National Programme Committee, the Local Assistance Committee and others who contributed to its success.

### **Future MLA annual meetings - dates for your diary:**

**MLA Chicago, Illinois, 16-21 May 2014**

**MLA Austin, Texas, 15-20 May 2015**

**MLA Toronto, Canada 13-18 May 2016**

### **Membership of MLA**

MLA offers International Membership to individuals at a reduced rate for those health information professionals who live outside the United States or Canada. The current annual subscription rate for International Membership is 130 US dollars. For details of what this includes, see the link below.

<http://www.mlanet.org/joinmla/intern.html>

### **News and publications from MLA**

The latest issue of the Journal of the Medical Library Association (JMLA) (Volume 101(2) April 2013) is now available on open access together with **open access to back issues of the JMLA (and its predecessors back to 1898) from:**

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/93/>

Preprints of forthcoming issues of the Journal of the Medical Library Association (JMLA) are available (for members only) by selecting JMLA Preprints under the Publications option when you login with your username and password. MLA News Online and the current edition of MLA-FOCUS (the fortnightly electronic newsletter (both for members only) are also available when you login with your username and password.





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Milan, Italy

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Dear Colleagues,

Here are two interesting articles on the cost of open access publishing and libraries as active partners in the research enterprise.

“Data from the consulting firm Outsell in Burlingame, California, suggest that the science-publishing industry generated \$9.4 billion in revenue in 2011 and published around 1.8 million English-language articles – an average revenue per article of roughly \$5,000. Analysts estimate profit margins at 20-30% for the industry, so the average cost to the publisher of producing an article is likely to be around \$3,500-4,000.” (R. Van Noorden. *Nature*. 2013;495:426)

“At Johns Hopkins and many other top universities, libraries are aiming to become more active partners in the research enterprise – altering the way scientists conduct and publish their work. Libraries are looking to assist with all stages of research, by offering guidance and tools for collecting, exploring, visualizing, labeling and sharing data. *I see us moving up the food chain and being co-contributors to the creation of new knowledge*, says Sarah Thomas, the Head of libraries at the University of Oxford, UK.” (R. Monastersky. *Nature*. 2013;495:430).

**Giovanna F. Miranda**

### **Journal issues**

Since the Journal of December 2012, the following journal issue of *Health Information and Libraries Journal* has been received:

#### **Editorial**

**V. Wilson. Evidence based library and information practice: what’s in it for you?**

#### **Review Article**

**J. Harrison, C. Creaser, H. Greenwood. The status of health librarianship and libraries in the Republic of Ireland (SHELLI): a mixed methods review to inform future strategy and sustainability.**

#### **Original Articles**

**L. Duhon, J. Jameson. Health information outreach: a survey of U.S. academic libraries, highlighting a Midwestern university’s experience.**

**R. Sladek, J. Tieman, J. Tyndall, P. Phillips. Searching Medline for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health literature: questionable sensitivity.**

**H. Ayattollahi, P. Bath, S. Goodacre. Information needs of clinicians and non-clinicians in the Emergency Department: a qualitative study.**

## Publications and new products

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**O. Hole, F. Winther, H. Cederkvist, S. Nitter-Hauge. A bibliometric analysis of the clinical development of drugs in Norway.**

**M. Galvao, I. Ricarte, R. Grad, P. Pluye. The clinical relevance of Information Index (CR11): assessing the relevance of health information to the clinical practice.**

### Books Review

**The Information Society. A study of continuity and change.** 6th edition Ed. J. Feather. Facet Publishing, London, UK, 2013. ISBN: 978-1-85604-818-7, £49.95 (price to CILIP members £39.96), 240 pp.

This book provides an overview on the information society and technological development since the last edition of 2008.

**Rare Diseases. How Europe is meeting the challenges.** Directorate-General for Research and Innovation. Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2013

ISBN 978-92-79-28317-8 (doi:10.2777/56070).

At the end of this publication, you will find a selection of over 110 recent projects on rare diseases, which the EU has funded since 2007.

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/health/pdf/rare-diseases-how-europe-meeting-challenges\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/health/pdf/rare-diseases-how-europe-meeting-challenges_en.pdf)

### Papers Review

**Open access: The true cost of science publishing.**

R. Van Noorden. *Nature*. 2013;495:426.

**Publishing frontiers: the library reboot.**

R. Monastersky. *Nature*. 2013;495:430.

**Copyright harmonisation in the EU: securing a borderless single market in the digital age.**

Eblida News. April 2013, n. 4.

<http://www.eblida.org/>

**Viva la evolution! Specialized adaptation and the Medical Library Association's ongoing commitment to the teaching and learning roles of health sciences librarians.**

G. J. Perry. *J Med Libr Assoc*. 2013;10:1.

**Internet addiction as a manageable resource: a focus on social network services**

I. Kang, et al. *Online Information Review*. 2013;37:28.

**Space planning: a renovation saga involving library users**

H. F. Norton. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly*. 2013;32:133.

### News

**Petition on reporting clinical trials results.** Patients, researchers, pharmacists, doctors and regulators everywhere benefit from the publication of clinical trial results. Thousands of clinical trials have not reported their results; some have not even been registered. Information on what was done and what was found in these trials could be lost forever to doctors and researchers, leading to bad treatment decisions, missed opportunities

## Publications and new products

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for good medicine, and trials being repeated. All trials past and present should be registered, and the full methods and the results reported.

<http://www.alltrials.net/>

**Alzheimer.** According to the latest US Alzheimer's Association report, one in three seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia in the United States. The new report shows that while deaths from other major diseases, such as heart disease, HIV/AIDS and stroke, continue to experience significant declines, Alzheimer deaths continue to rise – increasing 68 percent from 2000-2010. [http://www.alz.org/national/documents/facts\\_and\\_figures\\_2013\\_press\\_release.pdf](http://www.alz.org/national/documents/facts_and_figures_2013_press_release.pdf)

**Patent law in biotechnology.** The European Commission will be building a new team with 15 experts, to examine the development and implications of patent law in the field of biotechnology and genetic engineering. The group will consist of experts in the areas of intellectual property law (in particular patent law and the law on plant variety rights), public and industrial research and development, life sciences (including plant and animal breeding) and biotechnology. Their role will be to examine the implications of patent law and provide high quality legal and technical expertise, which will help the Commission with its reporting obligations.

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article\\_en.cfm?id=/research/headlines/news/article\\_12\\_12\\_12\\_en.html&item=Infocentre&artid=28653](http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article_en.cfm?id=/research/headlines/news/article_12_12_12_en.html&item=Infocentre&artid=28653)

**No Hate Speech.** The Council of Europe is launching a campaign against the growing problem of hate speech online. The No Hate Speech Movement will aim to tackle all forms of racism and discrimination on the internet by helping young people and youth organisations to recognise and act against this latest form of human rights violation. The rise in the use of hate speech – in social media, forums, chat rooms and elsewhere online – has prompted some commentators to label the digital phenomenon as a new form of human rights abuse.

<http://webtv.coe.int/index.php?VODID=261&CategoryID&SubCategoryID&arrows=1>

### Information sources... web based

**Orphadata** - The mission of Orphadata is to provide the scientific community with a comprehensive, high-quality and freely-accessible dataset related to rare diseases and orphan drugs, in a reusable format. The dataset is a partial extraction of the data stored in Orphanet, which is also accessible for consultation purposes only. This freely-accessible dataset is available in six languages (English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish). It includes: an inventory of rare diseases, cross-referenced with OMIM, ICD-10 and with genes in HGNC, OMIM, UniProtKB and Genatlas; a classification of rare diseases; epidemiology data related to rare diseases in Europe and a list of signs and symptoms associated with each disease, with their frequency class within the disease.

<http://www.e-rare.eu/related-eu-initiative/research/orphadata>

[www.orpha.net](http://www.orpha.net)

**Gut Microbiota World Watch**, has been created by the Gut Microbiota and Health Section of the European Society for Neurogastroenterology & Motility. As clinicians and researchers in the field of gut microbiota, they have developed this online information centre to expand knowledge about the topic. All content is endorsed by the Gut Microbiota for Health Exchange Platform (a website dedicated to experts in the field). Most of the information found on Gut Microbiota World Watch is selected from this experts' platform and adapted for easier accessibility for a non-scientific audience.

<http://www.gutmicrobiotawatch.org/about-us/>

<http://www.gutmicrobiotaforhealth.com/>

**Research\*eu results** features highlights from the most exciting EU-funded research and development projects. It is published 10 times per year in English, and covers different topics among them biology and medicine

[http://cordis.europa.eu/research-eu/magazine\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/research-eu/magazine_en.html)

### News from publishers

**Nature Publishing Group** announces the Spring 2014 launch of Scientific Data. Open for submissions this autumn, Scientific Data is a new open-access, online-only platform for the publication of descriptions of scientifically valuable datasets. Scientific Data will initially focus on experimental datasets from the life, biomedical and environmental science communities with future plans to expand to other fields in the natural sciences. Scientific Data will introduce and publish a new type of content called Data Descriptors: peer-reviewed, scientific publications that provide detailed descriptions of experimental and observational datasets. Data Descriptors will be a combination of traditional scientific publication content and structured information curated in-house, and are designed to maximize reuse and enable searching, linking and data mining. Data Descriptors may be associated with articles from a broad range of journals.

<http://www.nature.com/scientificdata/>

**Oxford University Press** announces that from 1 April 2013 its journals will be compliant with the Research Councils UK and Wellcome Trust policies on open access. Oxford University Press embraces both 'gold' and 'green' open access publishing to support his mission to facilitate the widest possible dissemination of high-quality research

Oxford University Press's open access programme, Oxford Open, dates back to 2004. They publish 13 fully open access titles, and over 120 'hybrid' titles. In total through these two channels Oxford University Press have published over 3,200 open access papers in 2012.

<http://www.oxfordjournals.org/oxfordopen/>

**EBSCO.** HAN University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands has chosen EBSCO Discovery Service™ from EBSCO Publishing to provide easier access and increased usage of the institution's resources. HAN University with a selection of almost every type of professional course, was seeking a discovery solution providing excellent coverage in many areas.

<http://www.han.nl/international/english/>

<http://www.ebscohost.com/discovery>

### **Thieme's Gold Standard Atlas of Anatomy 2e now in Latin nomenclature!**

New York/Stuttgart – The Atlas of Anatomy Latin Nomenclature, 2nd edition, recently published by Thieme, is the Latin version of the latest edition of Anne Gilroy et al.'s award-winning Atlas of Anatomy which became a bestseller by promoting the process of learning anatomy while providing exquisite art and clinical context. This new edition takes the same user-friendly approach as the first edition and is packed with over 2,400 full-colour illustrations. It guides users step-by-step through each region of the body, helping them master the details of anatomy.

### Forthcoming events

**28 May 2013, Ghent, Belgium**

**“Dealing with Data - what’s the role for the library?”**

**OpenAIRE/LIBER Workshop**

For further information: <http://www.openaire.eu/en/component/content/article/9-news-events/450-openaire-workshop-may-28-ghent-belgium>

**4 - 7 June 2013, Rome Italy**

**5th International Conference on Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries**

For further information: <http://www.isast.org/qqml2013.html>

**6-7 June 2013, Tartu, Estonia**

**To Digitise or not to Digitise: Copyright, Public Domain, Orphan Works and Other Issues**

**EOD (ebooks on Demand) Conference**

For further information: <http://www.utlib.ee/eod2013/>

**9-11 June San Diego, CA USA |**

**SLA 2013 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO**

For further information: <http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac13/index.cfm>

**12-14 June 2013, Stockholm, Sweden**

**EAHIL Workshop “Trends for the Future - Creating Strategies to Meet Challenges”**

For further information: <http://kib.ki.se/eahil2013>

**13-14 June 2013, Karlskrona, Sweden**

**17th International Conference on Electronic Publishing**

For further information: <http://www.bth.se/elpub2013>

**15 June, Seoul, South Korea**

**Capacity building for information retrieval for health technology assessments (HTA)**

**The 10th Annual Meeting of HTAi**

For further information: <http://www.htai2013.org/>

**26-29 June 2013, Munich, Germany**

**Research Information Infrastructures and the Future Role of Libraries**

**LIBER 42nd Annual Conference**

For further information: <http://www.liber2013.de/index.php?id=40>

**19-22 August 2013, Copenhagen, Denmark**

**CoLIS 8**

**Eighth International Conference on Conceptions of Library and Information Science**

For further information: <http://www.iva.dk/english/colis8/>

**4-6 September 2013, Limerick, Ireland**

**"Beyond the Cloud: Information...Innovation...Collaboration..."**

**The 4th International Symposium on Information Management in a Changing World**

For further information: <http://imcw2013.bilgiyonetimi.net>

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