

# Journal of EAHIL

## Feature Articles

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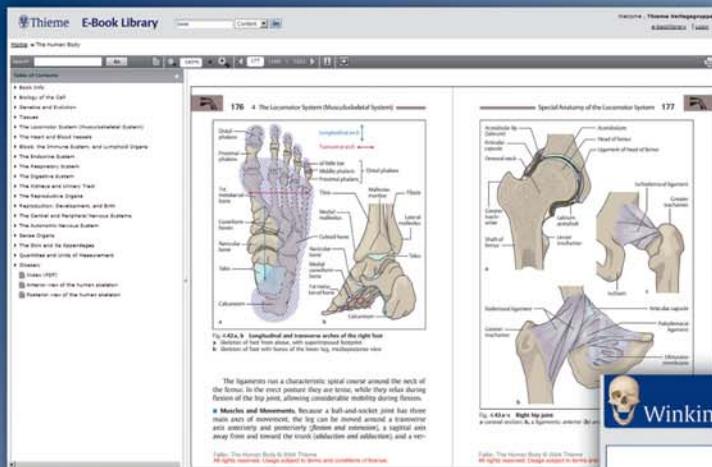
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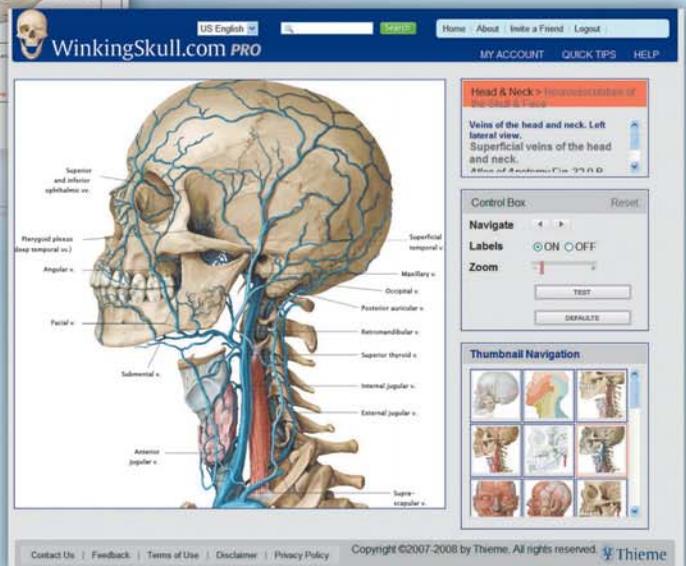
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# Journal of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries

Vol. 7 No. 1 November 2011

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## Editorial

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**Sally Wood-Lamont**  
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Hello Everyone,

A new decade has begun amid much turbulence in the Middle East and with a great deal of uncertainty regarding the outcome. Extreme weather conditions continue to ravage the world and all sort of theories exist why this is happening. Amid this unsettling climate most of us continue to work as normal but with increasing problems in the world of libraries, not least of them unstable economies and financial restrictions. In the next issue of the *JEAHIL* the Editorial Board decided to choose a theme with a subject that will be all too familiar to EAHIL members: *Coping with financial restrictions in libraries; challenges and solutions*. All of us have had to deal with these measures at one time or another and we felt it would be very helpful if you would share your experiences and possibly, at the same time, offer advice and practical solutions. The deadline is 5<sup>th</sup> May and all articles should be submitted directly to me at [swood@umfcluj.ro](mailto:swood@umfcluj.ro) Please study the *Instructions to Authors* before submitting the article - [http://www.eahil.net/journal/jeahil\\_instructions\\_authors.html](http://www.eahil.net/journal/jeahil_instructions_authors.html)

ISSUE 2011	THEME	DEADLINE
June	Coping with financial restrictions in libraries; challenges and solutions	<b>5<sup>th</sup> May</b>
September	Memories from the Turkey workshop	<b>5<sup>th</sup> August</b>
December	Virtual libraries: virtual librarians - what's next?	<b>5<sup>th</sup> November</b>

2011 also welcomes a new EAHIL President – Peter Morgan who is Head of Medical & Science Libraries, based in the Medical Library, at Cambridge University Library, UK. He is well known to most of the long-standing EAHIL members, attending its first conference in Brussels (1986) and most of its subsequent conferences and workshops, serving on the EAHIL Council 2005-6 and on the International Programme Committee (Cologne, 2002) as well as contributing regular articles to *JEAHIL*.

Early bird registration for the EAHIL workshop at Koç University, Istanbul begins on 1st April and finishes on 2nd May. Last day for registration is on 17th June 2011. The LOC have put on a splendid programme of CE courses as well as an excellent social programme and are working very hard to organise a memorable conference. More details about the Continuing Education Courses and the conference can be found in the colour pages of this issue. Six EAHIL scholarships will be available and Suzanne Bakker has designed an online application form which can be accessed at – <http://www.formdesk.com/eahil/scholarship2011>

In view of many accounts of EAHIL members no longer being able to obtain financial support for attendance at the EAHIL conference from their workplaces, at the last AGM of the *Journal of EAHIL* Editorial Board in Estoril, Portugal, a proposal was put forward that EAHIL would also offer an additional EAHIL Workshop/Conference scholarship for the best article, in the opinion of the members of the Board, submitted in any one year. The winner of the 500 euros scholarship in 2010 is: Jarmo Saarti, who submitted an article entitled: *Cyberspace information specialists in digital networks or librarians helping health professionals within the university?* in issue 4 of the *JEAHIL* 2010. The runner-up was Eirini Tsalapatani and Eleni Kalogeraki with an article entitled: *Training needs of health science librarians in Greece*. Congratulations to Jarmo Saarti, Eirini Tsalapatani and Eleni Kalogeraki.

# Using the Delphi technique to gather expert recommendations about promoting and evaluating healthcare library outreach services

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### Abstract

*There is a gap in the literature about effective methods to promote and evaluate healthcare library outreach services. This study used the Delphi technique to gather recommendations from twenty-nine UK-based librarians about how to promote and evaluate outreach services. Qualitative data analysis of the recommendations revealed an overall lack of consensus. The most frequently recommended promotion method was to use a different method to promote each aspect of the service. The most frequently recommended evaluation method was to use questionnaires to evaluate various aspects of the outreach service. Further research is needed to determine whether consensus amongst healthcare librarians can be reached on the issue of promoting and evaluating outreach services.*

*Key words:* outreach; promotion; evaluation; Delphi technique; librarians.

### Introduction

‘Outreach’ is a term often used in the literature to refer to librarians ‘reaching out’ of the physical library building (1, 2). Outreach services in the context of a healthcare library “include participating in grand rounds or morning report, performing liaison work such as attending faculty meetings, and engaging in Continuing Education (CE) and other training efforts for practicing health professionals” (2).

This study focuses on the promotion and evaluation of healthcare library outreach services. Burroughs (3), for example, argues that effective promotion and evaluation methods are essential to preserve the *viability* of outreach services *in the current economy*. Norrey and Rao (4) write in favour of full cost-benefit analyses to be conducted to provide evidence of how practically effective outreach services are for healthcare professionals. Healthcare library outreach services in the UK are mostly state funded (NHS) and face public sector cuts (5), so questions of value and evaluation are timely. Evaluation emerges as a valuable aspect of the engagement with stakeholders in the services, and helps librarians to measure the effectiveness of outreach (6).

Evaluation generates evidence to support and defend the case for continued funding of these projects (7). The Delphi technique was used to evaluate the views of librarians (8), to gather recommendations for best practice in promotion and evaluation methods for healthcare library outreach services.

### Methods

The Delphi method is a structured process “for collecting and distilling knowledge from a group of experts by means of a series of questionnaires interspersed with controlled opinion feedback” (9). It is especially useful for this research because it makes it possible to ask medical or clinical librarians to think more creatively about their outreach services, and how they promote and evaluate what they may be doing on a daily basis (9).

The Delphi technique was developed by the RAND Corporation to gather long-term forecasts during the 1950s (9). It has been used by researchers to gather opinions from experts, and has been used in library science to study issues such as research priorities for health sector libraries in the UK (10).

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The basic characteristics of a Delphi study are as follows: the relevant experts are identified; a first 'round' of questionnaires is sent to them for their initial responses; the results of this round are collated anonymously; a second round is sent out asking the same questions and including the collated responses from the first round (11). As Dietz describes, when "responses begin to stabilize across iterations, or when resources are exhausted, the results of the final round are used as the forecasts produced by the study" (12).

The Delphi method has four features: anonymity; controlled feedback; statistical group response; and expert input (10). Benefits of this research method include the systematic way in which "a wide reservoir of knowledge, experience and expertise" can be drawn upon, "instead of relying on *ad hoc* communications with selected individuals" (9).

For this study, the questionnaire, consent form and introductory letter were piloted with colleagues from the Bodleian Health Care Libraries outreach team before improvements and additions were made (following Landeta (13)). This was to avoid any *possible misunderstandings or 'fuzzy' contributions* (9). This was a valuable exercise, as for example colleagues suggested that the cover letter should refer to medical and clinical librarians, not to 'outreach librarians', as many professionals do not have this word in their job title or even in their job description, in spite of what they do in practice.

The full questionnaire asks for descriptions of the outreach service, current methods of promotion and evaluation, as well as recommended promotion and evaluation methods, using a mixed methods approach to gather a variety of quantitative and qualitative data (14). The questionnaire is designed to be completed by participants in under half an hour.

This project used only two rounds to keep the scope realistic for the timeframe and resources available (15). The first round was sent out in early May to three email listings for UK 'expert' medical or clinical librarians, and the second round was sent out directly to those who responded to round one within two months of the return of the first round of questionnaires, as recommended by Landeta (13). This

article focuses on the results from Round Two, which concentrates on recommended methods of promotion and evaluation.

## Results

### *The respondents*

Twenty-nine people responded to the emails sent via the LIS-MEDICAL, HLG-MEMBERS and CLIN-LIB mailing lists on 10/05/10 for Round One. From email addresses and email signatures, it was possible to extrapolate some additional information about the participants. The gender ratio was 27 : 2 [female : male]. Twenty-eight of the respondents were based in England, and one was located in Scotland. This information indicates that the results of this Delphi study will mainly be of relevance to those working in libraries funded at least in part by NHS England.

From the detailed answers to the first question, about half may be classified as either 'Clinical Librarians' (7 out of 29), 'Clinical Outreach Librarians' (3 out of 29), or 'Library Information Services Manager' (3 out of 29). The variety of these results tally with the finding by Spring (16) that there are seven types of health librarian: clinical librarians; health library service managers; senior strategic health librarians/ managers; academic health librarians; independent health librarians; academics; and research librarians. We therefore can be confident first that the respondents are 'experts', and second that we have a good cross-section of professionals represented in this self-selected sample.

### *Results from Round Two: recommended promotion methods for healthcare library outreach services*

Fourteen of the original twenty-nine participants responded to the second questionnaire for Round Two. The qualitative data analysis revealed that the fourteen participants referred to twenty themes in their responses. The response which occurred most frequently, referred to seven times and similarly the most frequent response to this question in Round One, recommended the use of multiple methods of promotion. For example, a participant wrote that "...outreach needs to include a number of marketing strategies and that each organisation will be different depending on local issues and culture". The second most frequent responses were 'tailored approaches' and 'build relationships', each

receiving six references in the answers for this question. The importance of attending meetings was highlighted as a way of “building relationships with key members of staff”.

‘Personal contact’, ‘word-of-mouth’, ‘email library users’, the use of a ‘current awareness bulletin’, being ‘visible’, and being ‘responsive to needs’ all were referred to a maximum of three times by respondents, signifying the importance of these methods in conjunction with those more frequently cited. The use of ‘champions’ was not as popular, which signifies the importance of differentiating advocacy, networking and word-of-mouth as promotion methods.

Six other promotion methods were mentioned by participants: ‘demonstrating how the service can help users’; ‘embedding the service’; ‘displays’; ‘demonstrating your expertise’; ‘involvement in research’; and ‘case studies’. These twenty themes and methods represent an imaginative range of responses from the fourteen respondents to Round Two, as well as a lack of real consensus about any one method of promotion in particular.

These collated recommendations from the experts therefore form the following guidelines for outreach librarians wishing to promote their services, listed in order of frequency of response:

1. *most frequently recommended method*: use different methods to promote the various aspects of your service, taking the culture of your organisation into consideration when planning promotion and marketing strategies;
2. tailor your approaches to promote your services to your target user groups;
3. build relationships with your user groups, especially influential members of staff;
4. attend meetings to promote your services to your user groups;
5. maintain personal contact with users; encourage users to promote your service via word-of-mouth; email your user groups; send out current awareness bulletins; keep visible to current and potential users at all times; and be seen to be responsive to the needs of your users;

6. *also recommended*: promote your service by demonstrating how the service can help users; embed the service within the host organisation; use displays to promote services; take opportunities to demonstrate your expertise to current and potential users; get involved in research and promote this helpful service; and promote your services through case studies.

### *Results from Round Two: recommended evaluation methods for healthcare library outreach services*

The results for question two (*In your expert opinion, what is the most effective way to evaluate a healthcare library outreach service?*) revealed 18 themes in the qualitative data analysis. Questionnaires were mentioned nine times by participants, as the most frequently occurring theme in the data. The respondents indicated that they recommend the use of questionnaires for different purposes, to evaluate different aspects of the outreach service. Overall, this theme corresponds closely to the findings of the literature review that questionnaires are used to evaluate different aspects of services, such as assessing the impact of the Northern Outreach Program in Ontario (17), or to evaluate a literature search service (18).

The second most frequent theme was proving the ‘impact of services’, highlighting the importance of evaluation data in providing evidence of impact mainly to defend budgets, as one participant points out. There are frequent references to demonstrating the impact of services in the literature (17-22). The NHS Library Services toolkit recommends the use of four different data collection techniques to demonstrate and measure impact, including a questionnaire for the recipients of mediated literature searches (19). The other three data collection methods recommended in the toolkit are not as popular with the fourteen participants of Round Two, as interviews were referred to only five times (the third most common theme), yet surveys (online or otherwise) received just two references, and case studies were not mentioned at all in response to this question. It is interesting to note that the respondents indicated that case studies are useful as a promotion method for healthcare library outreach service, yet not as an evaluation method.

The use of mixed methods to evaluate healthcare library outreach services was a theme mentioned five times by

the respondents. One respondent commented that “a variety of methods does seem best, concentrating on the use/impact of the search or information, as well as levels of satisfaction with the service...” Just as the participants recommended using different methods to promote different aspects of outreach services to various user groups, they recommend the use of different methods for a variety of evaluation purposes. This was a theme in its own right, which was referred to three times in the data. There was, again, a very wide range of expert professional ideas and a strong result: no expert consensus about any one method of evaluation in particular.

These collated recommendations from the experts, therefore form the following guidelines for outreach librarians wishing to evaluate services, again listed in order of frequency of response:

1. most frequently recommended: use questionnaires to identify critical incidents, capture impact, to evaluate training sessions and literature searches;
2. interviews are a valuable method to evaluate aspects of the library service;
3. consider using mixed methods, a mixture of qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques, to evaluate outreach services. For instance, use statistical data as well as interviews to measure the impact of services or customer satisfaction;
4. ask external colleagues to evaluate your services to reduce and limit researcher bias; use statistical data; focus groups to explore ways to improve the service; or evaluate your service through one-to-one discussion with individuals at the point of use;

5. also recommended: The Critical Incident Technique; surveys; formal and informal feedback; formal evaluation; other qualitative research methods; personal approaches; informal anecdotes; and it is important to disseminate evaluation results to demonstrate the value of services.

### Conclusions

The conclusions that we can draw from this Delphi study are that expert librarians recommend the use of a variety of methods to promote the different aspects of an outreach service, and questionnaires are recommended as the best way of evaluating that service. Further research is needed to determine whether consensus amongst healthcare librarians can be reached on the issue of promoting and evaluating outreach services.

This article concludes with two recommendations for future applications of the Delphi method to the field of healthcare library outreach services. First, this interesting and useful research method has demonstrated the lack of consensus amongst members of the clinical or medical library communities, and it would therefore be interesting to compare the emerging themes of this research project with a similar Delphi study conducted amongst public librarians or academic librarians specialising in law. Second, it would be fascinating to adjust the questions in both Rounds and ask them of European healthcare librarians, such as the members of the European Association of Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL), to compare perspectives on promotion and evaluation methods across Europe. The Delphi method is challenging and rewarding, and hopefully it will continue to be used across the library and information science communities.

*Submitted on 04.02.2011 Accepted on 15.02.2011*

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# A joint collaboration among European institutions: the Work Package 4 activity in the semantic area of the Ethicsweb Project

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### Abstract

*Funded under the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) of the European Commission, Ethicsweb is a Project developed with the aim to create a common reference focal point for the documentation in Ethics and Science available in different European member states, regional providers and centres. Started in June 2008 and including 15 partners, the Project aims to promote critical debate on issues of major significance in ethics and science. In this article special emphasis is placed on the activity of the Work Package 4, whose leader is the Istituto Superiore di Sanità.*

*Key words:* documentation; bioethics; information system.

### Introduction

On November 24, 2009 the USA President Obama, announcing the New Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues, said “as our nation invests in science and innovation and pursues advances in biomedical research and health care, it’s imperative that we do so in a responsible manner” (1). This increasing interest of the United States in bioethical issues is related to the continuous and rapid developments in science, medicine and technology that have led to a number of ethical dilemmas.

In Europe the attention to these issues is different, mainly due to the political scenario. Each country has its own legislation and traditions, and the civil and political debate reflects the heterogenic nature of the society itself. As a matter of fact, the variety of historical, legal and cultural backgrounds can lead to different approaches on ethical issues. In the absence of European Treaties tackling ethics in research on the basis of shared common values, the European Union has adopted significant initiatives to promote responsible science and research. One of these regards the decision of the European Parliament and the Council to fund only research projects taking into due consideration the role of ethical standards in science and research.

### Ethics and Science in the context of the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme

Accordingly, under the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme (FP7), running from 2007 to 2013, all research

activities must comply with the fundamental ethical principles, included those reflected in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, since “ethics is central to scientific integrity” (2). With the overall aim to build “the most dynamic competitive knowledge-based economy in the world”, as stated by the European Union’s Lisbon strategy, FP7 has been structured into four categories, corresponding to the main objectives of EU research policy: cooperation, ideas, people and capacities (3). Each of these is sub-divided into further categories and sub-programmes, designed to help create a European Research Area (ERA), envisaged by the European Commission in order to overcome the fragmentation and dispersal of activities and resources of the European Research and Development policies. One of the most interesting areas of the Capacities category is represented by the *Science in Society* initiative, designed to encourage a “Europe-wide reflection and debate on science and technology and their relation with society and culture” (4). The basic idea of this work programme is to promote the integration of science into society through the enhancement of societal dialogue on scientific developments, as only a well informed debate can lead to sound decisions and choices in research policy. A feasible and easy access to information is essential to foster the engagement of an informed general public, but information sources are not easy to find when we deal with ethics and science, due to the interdisciplinary nature of the subject.

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### The Ethicsweb Project

In this context, the FP7 Science in Society programme has funded the ETHICSWEB Project [www.ethicsweb.org](http://www.ethicsweb.org), aiming at the development of a unique reference point for information of ethical concern provided by different European member states, regional providers and centres, and by international organisations too. Since June 2008, 15 European partners, including the Istituto Superiore di Sanità, have been working together for the establishment of a common platform with common standards and

protocols, connecting existing resources and activities in the field.

The development of such an infrastructure serves multiple purposes:

- easy access to reliable, up-to-date and comprehensive information;
- promotion of transnational access to exchange and training programmes in Europe;
- public visibility of institutions, experts and projects involved in this sector (5).

**Table 1.** Namespaces used for describing the different kind of documents and resources in the field of ethics and science.

Type of documents and resources	XML Schemas	Namespaces
Document like Objects (DLIO)	Dublin Core Agricultural Metadata Element Set	<a href="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/">http://purl.org/dc/terms/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/">http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/</a>
News and Events	RSS 2.0 <sup>(9)</sup> Dublin Core Agricultural Metadata Element Set	<a href="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/">http://purl.org/dc/terms/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/">http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/</a>
Experts	Europass Dublin Core Agricultural Metadata Element Set	<a href="http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/Europass/V2.0">http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/Europass/V2.0</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/">http://purl.org/dc/terms/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/">http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/</a>
Knowledge Organisation Systems (KOS)	Dublin Core Agricultural Metadata Element Set	<a href="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/">http://purl.org/dc/terms/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/">http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/</a>
Learning Resources	Learning Object Metadata Dublin Core Agricultural Metadata Element Set	<a href="http://ltsc.ieee.org/xsd/LOM">http://ltsc.ieee.org/xsd/LOM</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/">http://purl.org/dc/terms/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/">http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/</a>
Projects	Europass Dublin Core Agricultural Metadata Element Set	<a href="http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/Europass/V2.0">http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/Europass/V2.0</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/">http://purl.org/dc/terms/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/">http://purl.org/agmes/1.1/</a>
Training Programmes	Learning Object Metadata Dublin Core	<a href="http://ltsc.ieee.org/xsd/LOM">http://ltsc.ieee.org/xsd/LOM</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/</a> <a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/">http://purl.org/dc/terms/</a>

### Work Package 4 activities

The Ethicsweb Project consists of seven work packages and each WP includes a varying number of involved parties. The WP4 is composed of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS), the German Reference Centre for Ethics in the Life Sciences (DRZE), the University of Ljubljana, the University Medical Center of Göttingen and the University of Tübingen.

Thanks to its long-term experience in semantic and linguistic analysis, as well as in identification and surveying of Italian resources on bioethics, and due to its participation in multilingual projects, the ISS is the leader of the WP4. The main activity of this WP is to customize existing XML exchange standards for digital and non-digital ethic resources and to collect different Ethics Knowledge Organisation Systems (KOS) (thesauri, ontologies, glossaries, term lists).

The work flow of the work package has been divided into different steps: subject matter specialists in the area of ethics have identified the sample resources to be described, which are: document-like objects, news and events, experts, learning resources, projects, training programmes. The second step has been the selection of currently XML existing namespaces to describe those resource types in order to capture the characteristics of documents. A namespace is a collection of names, such as element types and attribute names, identified by a URI reference (6). The XML namespaces for the description of documents are taken mainly from Dublin Core (DC) and Agricultural Metadata Element Set (AgMES).

For the other kind of resources the metadata come also from Really Simple Syndication (RSS 2.0), Learning Object Metadata (LOM) and Europass schema (Europass). An application profile — a set of metadata elements, policies, and guidelines defined for a

particular application — has been designed as well to create the XML schema in order to integrate all the resources into the Ethicsweb Portal (7).

XML schemas express shared vocabularies and allow machines to carry out rules made by people. They provide a means for defining the structure, content and semantics of XML documents (8). Each XML schema has been used for data integration among Ethicsweb partners according to the OAI Paradigm. To identify these XML schemas, a new namespace named Ethicsweb (ETS) was specially created.

Another task of the Work Package 4 has been the collection, in the field of ethics, of existing thesauri, glossaries, term lists, authority files, and other vocabularies, both mono and multilingual and the realization of a Registry of Knowledge Organisation Systems (KOS), covering classifications, lexical databases, ontologies, taxonomies and thesauri. The KOS will also be shared using RSS feeds and a standard KOS metadata schema such as eXtended Meta Data Registry (XMDR) format (9). This part of the activity concerns the intellectual work to be done by domain experts in identifying, characterizing, reviewing and editing terminology metadata.

### Conclusions

The use of common protocols and standards to integrate existing databases and resources into a common reference portal will ensure the sustainability of Ethicsweb beyond the project funding. The choices of a modular, dynamic platform, in fact, was designed to allow the opening to future partners from other member states, which will take a step further towards the creation of a “European knowledge-based society”.

*Submitted on 08.02.2011 Accepted on 15.02.2011*

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# Evidence-based library and information practice: bridging the language barrier\*

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### Abstract

*From its early origins over a decade ago, Evidence Based Library and Information Practice (EBLIP) has become a widely acknowledged movement. Are communications and publications about and within EBLIP continuing to evolve? Three different indicators of its global impact were analysed. 1) A literature review pinpoints EBLIP journals and authors. 2) A similar analysis was then performed concerning the delegate lists of the two last EBLIP conferences. 3) An EBLIP awareness survey was conducted among Belgian librarians, giving a snapshot of the current situation in a European non-English-speaking country. The literature review yielded 237 references to EBLIP, the large majority published in English. The English-speaking founding countries play a leading role in the organisation of the conferences. The constitution of the international programme committee of the conferences also indicates a predominance of members from English-speaking countries. Results of the Belgian survey show a 14% EBLIP-awareness among responding librarians. Further research into the impact of native language on the spreading of new concepts and ideas such as EBLIP, along with studies concerning the influence of systematic translation of EBLIP literature in specific pilot countries cannot only be recommended but are also most likely to benefit all concerned.*

*Key words:* communication barriers; evidence-based practice; library science; multilingualism; social change.

### Introduction

From its early origins over a decade ago, when librarians from the United Kingdom (UK), Canada and the United States (USA) simultaneously realised the potential to transpose the evidence-based paradigm from the medical realm into librarianship, Evidence Based Library and Information Practice (EBLIP) has evolved from a simple shared idea to what could be considered a widely acknowledged movement with all the right components: gurus, aficionados, a biennial conference, a journal etc. What is its current state of affairs? Are communications and publications about and within EBLIP continuing to evolve?

We attempted to answer these questions, thereby sketching the spread of EBLIP, by analyzing three different indicators of its global impact. We first conducted a literature review to pinpoint EBLIP journals and authors, using the “Library and

Information Science Abstracts” (LISA) and PubMed databases as well as Google Scholar. Tables of contents were also browsed, with a particular focus on those written in French. French translations of the term “evidence-based medicine” were adapted to library and information science to perform full-text research. The bibliographic details of retrieved articles were organised to highlight the countries of origin and the languages in which articles were published.

A similar analysis was then performed concerning the delegate lists of the EBLIP4 and EBLIP5 conferences, highlighting countries of origin and, for each country, their national language or languages.

In the third part of this study we conducted an EBLIP awareness survey among Belgian librarians, giving a snapshot of the current situation in a European non-English-speaking country.

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\* This article was originally published in A. Booth's *Using evidence in practice* column, as Declève, G. EBLIP: Bridging the language barrier. *Health Information and Libraries Journal* 2010 Dec;27:332-7. This paper is reprinted with kind permission from John Wiley and Sons.

**Table 1.** *Language of articles by authoring country.*

Country	Papers	National language of EBLIP publication	Number of papers written in national language
USA	73	English	73
UK	66	English	66
Canada	65	English	65
Australia	10	English	10
Hong-Kong	1	English	1
Iceland	1	English	1
Malaysia	1	English	1
Uganda	1	English	1
Sweden	6	Swedish	1
Japan	5	Japanese	4
Iran	2	Persian	0
Netherlands	2	Dutch	1
Belgium	1	French	1
Brazil	1	Portuguese	1
Korea	1	Korean	1
Turkey	1	Turkish	1
<b>Total: 16 countries; 237 papers; 9 national languages; 227 papers in English; 10 in other national languages</b>			

**EBLIP worldwide: an Anglo-Saxon practice**

The literature review yielded 237 references to EBLIP, the large majority published in English. A few articles appeared in other languages from 2005 onwards, starting with an article in Dutch (1), then a presentation in Portuguese (2) at the tenth International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML). Two years later, in 2007, a first EBLIP article was published in Japanese (3), followed by three more in 2008 (4-6) along with a first paper in Turkish (7). EBLIP publications in 2009 included a French paper (8) and one in Korean (9). In 2010, a master thesis on the subject was issued in Swedish (10). Overall, 96% of all EBLIP literature was published in English, 2% in Japanese with the remaining 2% being shared by six languages: Dutch, Portuguese, Turkish, French, Korean and Swedish.

Although some non English-speaking authors wrote in English, careful analysis indicates that EBLIP literature authorship remains mainly English-speaking: 73 papers by 54 American first authors, 66 articles by 20 British first authors, and 65 papers written by 42 Canadians. If we include Hong-Kong, Iceland, Malaysia, Uganda and Australia, English-speaking EBLIP authors to date account for 218 articles out of 227, i.e. 96% of EBLIP publications in English and 92% of the total EBLIP production.

Table 1 shows the country of first authorship, the number of EBLIP articles stemming from that country, the national language (other than English) used in publications and the number of articles published in the country's national language. According to this review, for European countries other than the United Kingdom, nine articles and a master's thesis have been written about EBLIP in Belgium, the Netherlands and Sweden to date, one publication for each country appearing in a national language. Let us now compare these observations with the figures of attendance at EBLIP conferences. On the one hand, at the 4th EBLIP conference in Chapel Hill (US) in 2007, Europe was represented by 1 Dutch, 1 Belgian, 1 Swedish, 1 Danish and 8 British delegates joining 188 delegates from North America, 7 from Asia-Pacific and 1 from South Africa. On the other hand, the 5th EBLIP conference of 2009 took place in Stockholm (Sweden) and was attended by mostly European delegates: 95 came from Nordic countries (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark and Iceland), 7 from Western Europe (3 Germans, 2 Dutch, 2 Belgians) and 1 from

**Table 2.** *Geographic origin of EBLIP conference delegates.*

Country	EBLIP4, Chapel Hill, US (2007)	EBLIP5, Stockholm, Sweden (2009)	Total
Australia	2	4	6
Belgium	1	2	3
Canada	12	15	27
Caribbean	3		3
Denmark	1	5	6
Finland		5	5
Germany		3	3
Hong Kong		3	3
Hungary		1	1
Iceland		1	1
India		2	2
Iran		1	1
Japan	4		4
Netherlands	1	2	3
New Zealand	1		1
Norway		17	17
Qatar		1	1
South Africa	1		1
Sweden	1	67	68
Turkey		1	1
UK	8	15	23
United States	173	15	188
<b>Total</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>368</b>

Eastern Europe (Hungary). There were 15 British, 15 Americans, 15 Canadians, 4 Australians, 3 from Hong-Kong, and 2 from India, i.e. 54 delegates from official English-speaking countries. There was also 1 delegate each from Turkey, Iran and Qatar. Table 2 compares the country of origin and the numbers of candidates attending the latest two EBLIP conferences.

As expected from the location of the two conferences on two different continents, there is a major geographical bias in attendance at EBLIP4 and EBLIP5 towards North American and North European representation respectively. However, data in Table 2 are consistent with the analysis in Table 1, indicating a large representation of candidates of English-speaking countries.

The English-speaking founding countries i.e. the UK, USA and Canada also play a leading role in the organisation of the conferences, as observed from the analysis of the country of origin of EBLIP conference keynote lecturers: out of the 15 keynote lecturers of EBLIP4 and EBLIP5, 12 came from English-speaking countries (7 from the USA, 3 from the UK, 1 from New-Zealand and 1 from Canada), even though 3 of the 5 keynote lecturers were Swedish at EBLIP5, as might be expected from EBLIP5's location.

The constitution of the international programme committee of the conferences also indicates a predominance of members from English-speaking countries, as for EBLIP4 there were 16 Anglophones and 1 Japanese, whereas for EBLIP5, there was a greater variety of countries and languages represented, with 11 out of 29 members (38%) stemming from non-English-speaking countries (Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Denmark, Poland and Finland).

Non-English-speaking countries remain largely under-represented with likely reasons for this being multifactorial.

**EBLIP in Belgium and neighbouring countries**

Articles not written in English included one from Belgium, written in French (8). Belgium is a small country with three official languages: Dutch, French and German. Only one paper has been published among Belgium's immediate neighbours, namely from the Netherlands in Dutch (1), no papers having yet been published by authors from Germany, France or Luxemburg. To further investigate the impact of EBLIP among Belgian librarians, we conducted an enquiry among the participants of the most recent conference of the Belgian association for documentation (ABD-BVD), which draws a good mixture of the majority of Belgian

librarians. A few months before the conference, a narrative synthesis of the EBLIP paradigm was published in French in the Cahiers de la documentation – Bladen voor documentatie, the ABD-BVD journal (8). Questionnaires, in French and in Dutch, were added to each of the 230 conference bags. Delegates were asked to complete and return them by the end of the day.

Eighty one questionnaires were retrieved, i.e. yielding a 35% response rate. Among them, 11 people (i.e. 14% of the respondents) actually knew what “EBLIP” stood for, and 7 of these professed using EBLIP in their professional practice (6 'sometimes', 1 'usually').

Assuming that those who know the meaning of an acronym also, at least to some extent, have some awareness of the subject that it represents, Figures 1-5 compare percentages of answers by librarians depending on whether or not they actually knew what “EBLIP” stood for.

Responding librarians were typically female (74%). EBLIP-aware responding librarians were likely to be female (73%), 36% were younger than 31 years old and 36% were aged between 41 and 50.

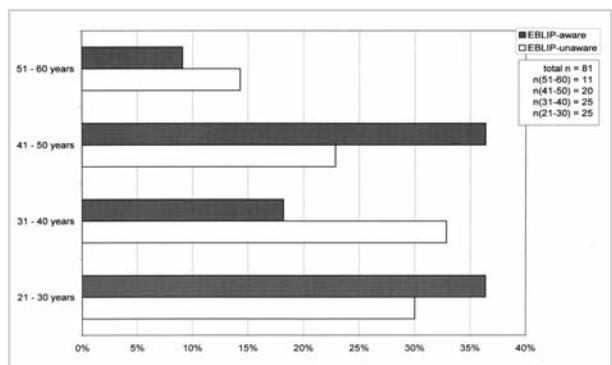


Fig. 1. Distribution of the responding librarians' age and gender.

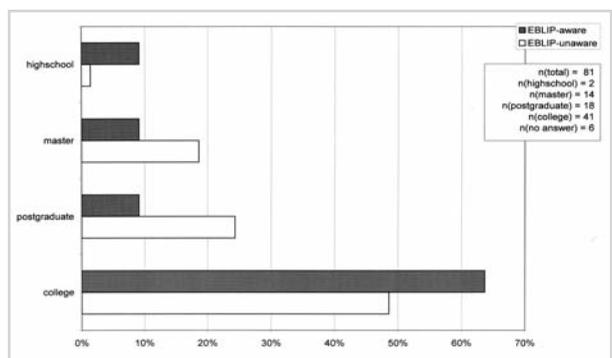


Fig. 2. Education of responding librarians.

The typical responding librarian, representing 51% of the respondents, has a college degree. This proportion grows for EBLIP-aware responding librarians, among whom 64% hold a college degree, while only 18% hold a master or a postgraduate degree (compared with 39% of total respondents).

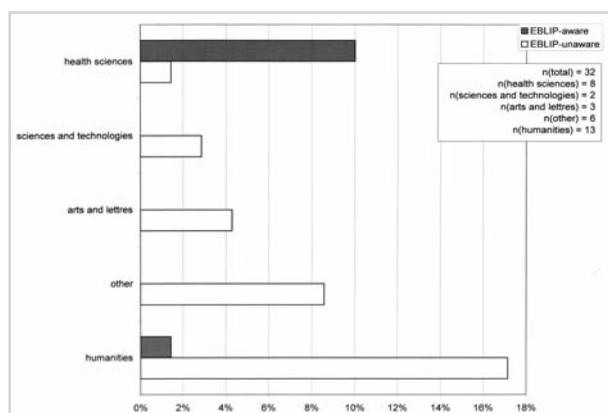


Fig. 3. Workplace of responding librarians.

As seen in Figure 3, most respondents (32%) work in a university library or in a national or federal institution (21%). The same trends characterise EBLIP-aware librarians, who were more likely to work in a university library (73%), only 18% working in a national or federal institution.

Figure 4 illustrates the various university or college library domains of the responding librarians. Clearly there is a bias towards EBLIP-awareness in Health Sciences, with the author of the Belgian paper being head of a health science university library in Brussels. A few librarians working in the humanities sector had also heard of EBLIP. To understand the sources of an eventual EBLIP

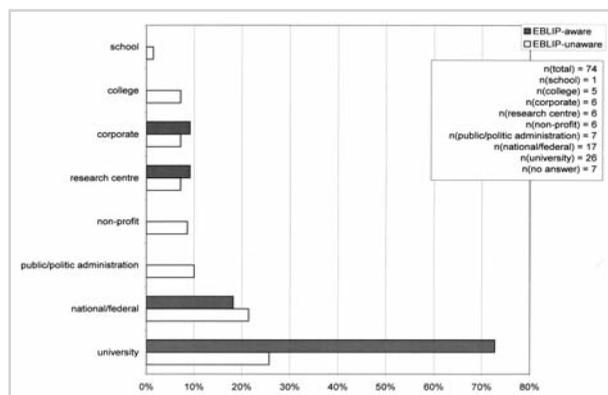


Fig. 4. Distribution of university and college librarians by subject.

awareness of the respondents, they were asked to indicate whether they regularly read certain well-known peer-reviewed journals. As seen in Figure 5, the journal most regularly read by the Belgian librarian respondents was the Cahiers de la documentation –Bladen voor documentatie, reportedly read by 73% of EBLIP-unaware librarians. Most of the other regularly read journals are either French (from France) or Dutch (from Belgium and the Netherlands). English publications, which correspond to the largest numbers of EBLIP papers, are scarcely read. EBLIP-aware librarians indicated that they read more varied journals, including journals in other foreign languages.

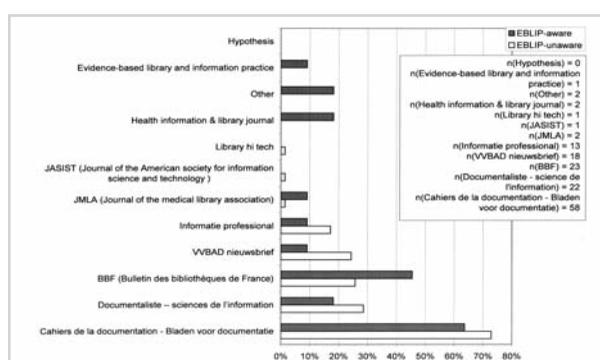


Fig. 5. Journals read by respondents.

### Future perspectives

EBLIP is Anglo-Saxon in origin. More than a decade after its creation, an EBLIP literature review and analyses of EBLIP conference attendance and organisation still show little EBLIP interest and activity among other cultures or language communities of librarians. Could it be that EBLIP is so specifically Anglo-Saxon that other cultures cannot identify it as pertinent or useful in their own situation?

Is it a matter of culture, of policy, of language or simply a matter of time?

Is English language such an issue among Belgian and other librarians that non English-speaking librarians could not and would not be aware of EBLIP? Should there be a service translating cutting-edge papers into the language commonly spoken in the various countries? Would these be more readily scanned and retained among non English-speaking librarians? Our study concerning Belgian librarians remains inconclusive with regards to this latter point, further research being required to find the answer to the question.

This first Belgian investigation among librarians shows the small proportion of EBLIP-aware librarians. Further

studies on a larger sample of librarians would be required to map the Belgian situation. Further questionnaires similar to the ones submitted to ABD-BVD conference participants could be submitted to a range of Belgian professional organisations members.

This could be conducted alongside an analysis of Belgian library and information science curricula at college and/or university level in order to give a better overview of the Belgian situation. Is EBLIP introduced to the student, and why? This would also possibly bring EBLIP to the teaching staffs of those schools and universities.

One proposal could be the systematic introduction of EBLIP to working librarians, as reported in Sweden (11). An increased involvement of Belgian library associations, following the Iranian example reported by Gavvani (12), could be fundamental to the spread of EBLIP.

Last but not least, systematic translation and diffusion of EBLIP's fundamentals into the native languages of carefully targeted individual countries would reach potentially interested librarians who do not read publications in English. Bringing EBLIP to the

information professionals, in their own language, would enable them to become more aware of EBLIP's role and potential. This in turn would enable librarians to gradually feel more comfortable using EBLIP and increasingly ready to take an active role in sharing, developing and further disseminating the benefits of EBLIP.

In conclusion, further research into the impact of native language on the spreading of new concepts and ideas such as EBLIP, along with studies concerning the influence of systematic translation of EBLIP literature in specific pilot countries can not only be recommended but are also most likely to benefit all concerned.

#### **Acknowledgements:**

The author thanks Ann De Meulemeester for her efficient help in translating the questionnaire into Dutch, and the Belgian association for documentation (ABD-BVD) for the distribution of the questionnaire among INFORUM 2010 participants.

The author is greatly indebted to Claire de Burbure and Andrew Booth for their critical and constructive readings of the manuscript.

*Submitted on 10.01.2011 Accepted on 07.02.2011*

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## Continuing Education Courses

Courses	Theme	Lecturer	Cost	Capacity	Time
<i>CEC 1</i>	Searching for a Systematic Review	Jacqueline Limpens (Netherlands)	100€ Early-bird 110€ Late Registration (Full-day Course)	Min:7 Max:14	July 5 Tuesday 09.00-17.00
<i>CEC 2</i>	Tips for the Trainer of Library Courses	Tomas Allen & Jennifer Lopez (Switzerland)	60€ Early-bird 70€ Late Registration	Min:7 Max:20	July 5 Tuesday 09.00-12.00
<i>CEC 3</i>	HINARI/Internet Resources for Health Information Professionals: Training the Trainers	Lenny Rhine (USA) & Gaby Caro (Switzerland)	Free (Full-day Course)	Min:7 Max:20	July 5 Tuesday 09.00-16.00
<i>CEC 4</i>	Research and Publication Ethics (in Turkish)	Şevket Ruacan & Önder Ergönül (Turkey)	Free	Min:7 Max:40	July 5 Tuesday 09.00-12.00
<i>CEC 5</i>	Clinical Trials, Health Technology Assessment Reports, Practice Guidelines: Where and How to Search	Chiara Bassi & Vanna Pistotti (Italy)	60€ Early-bird 70€ Late Registration	Min:7 Max:25	July 5 Tuesday 13.00-17.00
<i>CEC 6</i>	Retrieving Medical Information from Free and Reliable Sources	Aida Farha (Lebanon)	60€ Early-bird 70€ Late Registration	Min:7 Max:30	July 5 Tuesday 13.00-17.00
<i>CEC 7</i>	Opening the Information Literacy Toolbox	Helen Buckley Woods (UK)	60€ Early-bird 70€ Late Registration	Min:9 Max:20	July 6 Wednesday 09.00-11.30
<i>CEC 8</i>	Searching Skills for Finding the Evidence	Mala Mann (UK)	60€ Early-bird 70€ late Registration	Min:7 Max:15	July 6 Wednesday 09.00-12.00
<i>CEC 9</i>	HINARI User Community Forum (SIG Meeting)	Hatem Nour-EI Din (Egypt) & Gaby Caro (Switzerland)	Free	Min:7 Max:30	July 6 Wednesday 09.00-13.00
<i>CEC 10</i>	Designing and Setting up a 23Things Programme for Your Library	Isla Kuhn (UK)	60€ Early-bird 70€ Late Registration	Min:7 Max:14	July 6 Wednesday 09.00-12.00
<i>CEC 11</i>	Bibliometrics: The Basic of Using Citations	Suzanne Bakker (Netherlands)	60€ Early-bird 70€ Late Registration	Min:7 Max:18	July 6 Wednesday 09.00-12.00
<i>CEC 12</i>	Best Practices in Health Science Libraries - Achieving Operational Excellence: A Quantum <sup>2</sup> workshop	Gabrielle Derricks (Belgium)	Free	Webinar	July 6 Wednesday 10.00-11.30

Course registration is embedded into the Conference Registration form which will be accessible at <http://eahil2011.ku.edu.tr> on 1 April 2011

Early bird registration ends on 2 May 2011

EAHIL 2011 Continuing Education Committee :

Güssün Güneş, Koç University School of Nursing Library, ggunes@ku.edu.tr

Patricia Flor, Telemark University College, Patricia.Flor@hit.no

Paul Murphy, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, pjmurphy@rcsi.ie

## Sponsorship and Exhibition



We would like to invite you to the EAHIL 2011 Workshop and Exhibition which will be held at Koç University in Istanbul between 5 and 8 July 2011.

You have a chance to come together with more than 250 participants from different institutions all over Europe.

We look forward to welcoming you at the EAHIL 2011 Workshop in Istanbul!

EAHIL 2011 Local Organizing Committee

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### **Koç University - The Conference Venue**

The University was founded in 1993 by the Vehbi Koç Foundation, with the aim of creating a world-class university and stimulating modern research. It sprawls over a sixty-two acre site. The sixty buildings, academic and administrative, laboratories, library, dormitories, faculty residences, social and sports facilities are the product of a meticulous, integrated design.

### **Welcome Dinner – Wednesday, 6 July 2011 Hosted by the Rector of Koç University**



### **Gala Dinner - Thursday, 7 July 2011 Dinner cruise on the Bosphorus.**

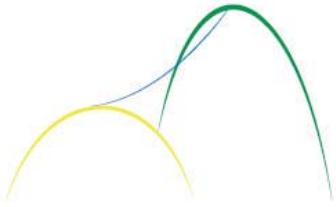


### **Library Visit. Friday, 8 July 2011: Süleymaniye Manuscript Library**

The Süleymaniye Complex, which also houses the library, was built by the chief architect at the royal court, Mimar Sinan for Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent, and was completed in 1549-1557. This complex with its health-related elements and library, contributed to the development and progress of science.

Süleymaniye Manuscript Library was founded as a modern library in 1918. The Süleymaniye has now five affiliate libraries: Atıf Efendi Library, Hacı Selim Ağa Library, Köprülü Library, Nuruosmaniye Library, and Ragıp Paşa Library. It is one of the richest centers in the field of oriental studies as it contains the largest collection of Islamic manuscripts in the world. The library houses nearly 131,000 works, including manuscripts in Ottoman Turkish, Arabic and Persian, printed materials in Ottoman Turkish and modern Turkish, English, French, German and other languages.





8<sup>th</sup> annual  
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June 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, Rio de Janeiro  
<http://www.htai2011.org/>

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#### Basic skills in literature searching for HTA

**Date:** Saturday June 25th 2011

**Organizers:** The Information Resources Group of HTAi, the Brazilian Cochrane Centre and the Iberoamerican Cochrane Centre

**Content:** This training day will alert participants to key issues for literature searching for HTA, the variation in approaches for different elements of the HTA process and the need to adapt the approaches to the requirements of the individual HTA. The sessions will involve:

- Brief overview of what HTA involves
- Key issues for literature searching to support HTA
- Scoping and developing the research question
- Searching approaches and techniques
- Where to search
- Downloading records, documenting and reporting the searches

---

#### Advanced information retrieval methods to support HTA: regional databases, grey literature searching and identifying patients' preferences

**Date:** Sunday June 26th 2011

**Organizer:** The Information Resources Group of HTAi

**Content:** This workshop will focus on advanced information retrieval methods to inform health technology assessment and will be composed of four sessions:

- An introduction to HTA practice in Latin America
- Effective searching of LILACS and other BIREME resources for HTAs and systematic reviews
- Grey Matters! Identifying grey literature for health technology assessments and systematic reviews
- Bringing social views into HTA: how can we extract relevant information about patient and citizen preferences and patient experiences from database and web based sources?

---

Pre-conference workshops are open both to members and non-members of HTAi.

For more information, please contact Sari Ormstad, HTAi Information Resources Group Chair: [sor@nokc.no](mailto:sor@nokc.no).

# Health Information and Libraries Journal

Edited by **Maria J Grant**  
Assistant Editor **Penny Bonnett**

*Health Information and Libraries Journal* (HILJ) is a European journal of international and interdisciplinary interest to practitioners, researchers and students in the information, library and healthcare sectors. Its objectives include promoting debate about new health information developments with an emphasis on communicating evidence-based information both in the management and support of healthcare services. Reviews and original health information articles on current practice, research projects or the development of new resources or services are welcomed.

**The Journal encompasses (but is not restricted to):**

- Educating and training health library and information workers
- Identifying health information needs and use
- Information technology and its applications in healthcare settings
- Managing health information programmes and services in the changing environment
- Outreach to healthcare providers as users of health information services



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Edited by **Maria J Grant**

This inaugural virtual issue of the *Health Information and Libraries Journal* (HILJ) celebrates the contribution of health information in informing health and social care library and information provision. It has been drawn together to reflect the 2010 biennial *Health Libraries Group* conference theme of *Keeping Information Centre Stage Amid Changing Scenery* and includes a series of eleven key papers published in the journal over the last two years.

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[www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/hilj](http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/hilj)

## Highlights include:

**The emerging Web 2.0 social software: an enabling suite of sociable technologies in health and health care education**

Maged N. Kamel Boulos & Steve Wheeler

**The information-seeking behaviour of doctors: a review of the evidence**

Karen Davies

**A typology of reviews: an analysis of 14 review types and associated methodologies**

Maria J. Grant & Andrew Booth

**The value and impact of information provided through library services for patient care: a systematic review**

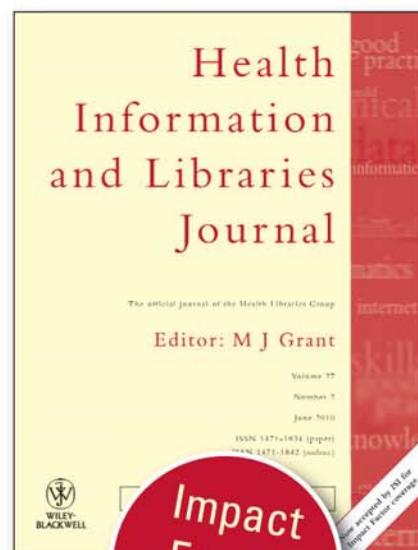
Alison L. Weightman & Jane Williamson

**How to create successful partnerships: a review of the literature**

Valerie Wildridge, Sue Childs, Lynette Cawthra and Bruce Madge

## Why submit your article to HILJ?

- Impact factor 1.521 (2009)
- The official journal of the Health Libraries Group, Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals
- Large international readership – over 65,000 articles downloaded every year
- Over 4,000 institutions have access to current content
- State of the art online submission site, simple <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/hilj>
- Articles appear on Early View before the paper version is published
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### [Collected October 2010 - January 2011]



**Benoit Thirion**

Chief Librarian/Coordinator  
CISMef Project  
Rouen University Hospital, Rouen, France  
Contact: Benoit.Thirion@chu-rouen.fr  
Benoit\_Thirion@yahoo.fr

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**

1. 1.Hoseth A. **Google Scholar**

The Charleston Advisor 2011; [cited 2011 February 3] 12(3):36-9

*Google Scholar is an internet-based search engine designed to locate scholarly information, including peer-reviewed articles, theses, books, preprints, abstracts, and court opinions from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities, and other Web sites. This review looks at the strengths and weaknesses of this search engine to assist librarians in making informed decisions about the use of this tool.*

Available from:

<http://charleston.publisher.ingentaconnect.com/content/charleston/chadv/2011/00000012/00000003/art00009>

2. Dixon et al. **Finding articles and journals via Google Scholar, journal portals, and link resolvers: usability study results**

Reference & User Services Quarterly 2011; [cited 2011 February 3] 50(2).

*Finding journal titles and journal articles are two of the toughest tasks on academic library webpages. Challenges include choosing the best tools, using terms that make sense, and guiding the user through the process. In addition, the continued development of Google Scholar raises the question of whether it could become a better tool for finding a full-text article than link resolver software or journal portals. To study these issues, researchers at James Madison University analyzed results from two usability tests. One usability test focused on the library homepage navigation and had two tasks related to finding articles by citation and journals by title. The other test asked participants to find citations in three web interfaces: the library's journal portal, Google Scholar, and the library's link resolver form. Both usability studies revealed challenges with finding journal titles and journal articles. The latter study showed Google Scholar provided more effective user performance and user satisfaction than either the journal portal or the link resolver form. Based on the findings from the two usability studies, specific changes were made to the library webpages and to several library systems, including the catalog and link resolver form.*

Available from: <http://www.rusq.org/2010/12/29/finding-articles-and-journals-via-google-scholar-journal-portals-and-link-resolvers-usability-study-results/>

3. Beel J Gipp B. **Academic search engine spam and Google Scholar's resilience against it**  
Journal of Electronic Publishing 2010; [cited 2010 December 21] 13(3).  
*In a previous paper we provided guidelines for scholars on optimizing research articles for academic search engines such as Google Scholar. Feedback in the academic community to these guidelines was diverse. Some were concerned researchers could use our guidelines to manipulate rankings of scientific articles and promote what we call 'academic search engine spam'. To find out whether these concerns are justified, we conducted several tests on Google Scholar. The results show that academic search engine spam is indeed—and with little effort—possible: We increased rankings of academic articles on Google Scholar by manipulating their citation counts; Google Scholar indexed invisible text we added to some articles, making papers appear for keyword searches the articles were not relevant for; Google Scholar indexed some nonsensical articles we randomly created with the paper generator SciGen; and Google Scholar linked to manipulated versions of research papers that contained a Viagra advertisement. At the end of this paper, we discuss whether academic search engine spam could become a serious threat to Web-based academic search engines.*  
Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3998/3336451.0013.305>
  
4. Hightower C Caldwell C. **Shifting sands: Science researchers on Google Scholar, Web of Science, and PubMed, with implications for library collections budgets**  
Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship 2010; [cited 2010 December 2] Fall 2010.  
*Science researchers at the University of California Santa Cruz were surveyed about their article database use and preferences in order to inform collection budget choices. Web of Science was the single most used database, selected by 41.6%. Statistically there was no difference between PubMed (21.5%) and Google Scholar (18.7%) as the second most popular database. 83% of those surveyed had used Google Scholar and an additional 13% had not used it but would like to try it. Very few databases account for the most use, and subject-specific databases are used less than big multidisciplinary databases (PubMed is the exception). While Google Scholar is favored for its ease of use and speed, those who prefer Web of Science feel more confident about the quality of their results than do those who prefer Google Scholar. When asked to choose between paying for article database access or paying for journal subscriptions, 66% of researchers chose to keep journal subscriptions, while 34% chose to keep article databases.*  
Available from: <http://www.istl.org/10-fall/refereed3.html>
  
5. Dempsey B. **Survey on fees for library services: for love or money**  
Library Journal 2010; [cited 2010 October 5] September 15.  
*Public libraries are walking a tightrope. They are a free service to all, but increasing funding cuts have some libraries turning to a wide variety of revenue-generation strategies to ensure financial security. Gift and coffee shops, meeting room rentals, classes, and more are being launched in hopes of filling funding gaps. In fact, in a recent survey by LJ more than 40 percent of 408 respondents say they feel pressure to reimagine even such core services as interlibrary loan (ILL) and holds as fee services. The urgency comes from multiple sources. About one-fourth of respondents say they feel the pressure or have a mandate from local government, and nearly half of those surveyed have Friends group- and board-generated initiatives in place. Others are trying out fee-based services that improve customer service or position the library as a destination: What's a new central library without a café? However, nearly 60 percent are looking at revenue generation as a response to funding cuts, feeling a need to "self-fund." And there's the rub: discussion with librarians and analysis of results show that revenue generation that actually generates revenue is elusive, and, in fact, such activities can often drain resources. While these programs can help change the perception of the library, even increase goodwill (like that café), they are no panacea for funding dilemmas.*  
Available from:  
[http://www.libraryjournal.com/lj/ljinprint/currentissue/886465-403/survey\\_on\\_fees\\_for\\_library.html.csp](http://www.libraryjournal.com/lj/ljinprint/currentissue/886465-403/survey_on_fees_for_library.html.csp)
  
6. Morgan PS. **The impact of the acquisition of electronic medical texts on the usage of equivalent print books in an academic medical library**  
Evidence based library and information practice 2010; [cited 2010 October 5] 5(3).  
*Objectives – This study examines whether acquiring a text in electronic format effects the usage of the print version of the text, focusing specifically on medical texts. Studies in the literature dealt specifically with general collections and it was not clear if they were applicable to medical collections. It was also not clear if*

*these studies should play a role in determining whether a medical library should purchase electronic texts or whether reserve collections are still needed for print texts. Methods – Four usage studies were conducted using data from the circulation system and the electronic vendor systems. These were 1) trends of print usage; 2) trends of electronic usage; 3) a comparison of electronic usage with print usage of the same title in the reserve collection; 4) a comparison of electronic usage with print usage of the same title in the general collection. Results – In comparison to print, substantial usage is being made of electronic books. Print is maintaining a level pattern of usage while electronic usage is increasing steadily. There was a noticeable difference in the usage levels of the electronic texts as regards to the package in which they are contained. Usage of print texts both on reserve and in the general collection has decreased over time, however the acquisition of the electronic version of a medical title had little impact on the usage of the equivalent print version. Conclusion – There is a demand for medical texts in medical libraries. Electronic versions can replace print versions of texts in reserve. Further investigation is needed of current patterns of print collection usage, with particular emphasis on trends in reserve collection usage.*

Available from: <http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/EBLIP/article/view/8040>

7. Special Issue: **A tribute to Eugene Garfield, Information Scientist Extraordinaire, on his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday**  
ALIS Annals of Library and Information Studies 2010; [cited 2010 October 5] 57(3).

*Editorial: This issue is dedicated to Dr Eugene Garfield, who has revolutionized the way scientists and scholars search, retrieve and use information, on his 85th birthday. He gave scientists and scholars of the world many innovative tools such as Current Contents and Science Citation Index, developed tools for evaluation of research performance and the study of historical evolution of ideas, and brought out a quality science news magazine, The scientist. At a time when databases were mainly covering individual fields like biology, chemistry and medicine, he thought of a database for all of science and later all of knowledge. With his work and writings spanning over six decades, Garfield has had a tremendous impact not only on scholarly communication and information access but also on public policy and public understanding of science.*

Available from: <http://nopr.niscair.res.in/handle/123456789/10230>

#### Abstracts only

1. 1.Peng Kao KC. **A park in the library: The “new reading paradise” in the National Taiwan University Medical library**

New Library World 2011; [cited 2011 February 3] 112(1/2):76- 85.

*Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to present the experience of National Taiwan University Medical Library (NTUML) in changing the atmosphere of the library, catering to the needs of current users; attracting potential users to the library; and modifying the library's image from a place filled with stacks of books and clusters of computers to a place where people might relax and enjoy reading. Originality/value – The paper describes how the library transformed itself to become more in tune with the needs of its users. The Reading Paradise reminds the users to slow down, take a mind break, and enjoy reading and thinking. This is a responsibility of the library.*

Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/03074801111100472>

2. Salisbury L. **CAB Abstracts on CAB Direct, EBSCOHost, and Thomson Reuters Web of Knowledge: comparing the platforms and their searching and retrieval capabilities**

The Charleston Advisor 2011; [cited 2011 February 3]12(3):5-14.

*This comparative review of CAB Abstracts on the CAB Direct, EBSCOHost and Thomson Reuters Web of Knowledge platforms focuses on the similarities and differences in the way they are accessed, their interfaces, and their search and retrieval capabilities. Evaluating the platforms highlights how well they provide for the different levels of users, the ease in navigation and use, flexibility in display and output formats, availability of useful Help, update frequency, and added features for discoverability and alerting. Examining the search and retrieval capabilities of each product reveals the variety of searching modes, ease of use for all levels of expertise, the availability of browseable indexes, thesaurus capabilities, limit features, wildcard and Boolean connectors, field searching, proximity operators, and search history usability. Examples using standardized searches from the databases highlight the recall and precision of search results.*

The Charleston Advisor, Volume 12, Number 3, January 2011 , pp. 5-14(10)

Available from:

<http://charleston.publisher.ingentaconnect.com/content/charleston/chadv/2011/00000012/00000003/art00004>

3. Boyd-Byrnes MK. **EBSCO's health and psychosocial instruments (HaPI)**  
The Charleston Advisor 2011; [cited 2011 February 3]12(3):23-5.  
*EBSCO's Health and Psychosocial Instruments (HaPI) database provides global access to information on measurement instruments and tools in health, the psychosocial sciences, industrial/organizational behavior and education, and other medically related disciplines. The HaPI database is highly specialized and contains a variety of resources including, but not limited, to checklists, coding schemes, indexes, interview schedules, projective techniques, questionnaires, rating scales, tests, and vignettes/scenarios. EBSCO's Health and Psychosocial database is an invaluable resource for researchers looking to locate testing and measurement instruments, especially some of the more obscure ones. HaPI is invaluable in reducing research inefficiencies and streamlining the research process.*  
Available from:  
<http://charleston.publisher.ingentaconnect.com/content/charleston/chadv/2011/00000012/00000003/art00006>
4. Hiebert J. **Nursing@Ovid**  
The Charleston Advisor 2011; [cited 2011 February 3]12(3):43-4.  
*In May 2010 Ovid announced its intention of building portals that combine bibliographic databases, journals, e-books, and third-party resources. Nursing@Ovid is just such a product in that it provides all the functionality of the SP platform, includes the full-text of 16 Wolters Kluwer journals and select electronic reference books from the American Nurses Association, and offers the choice of 3 external sources from a list of over 3,000 options. Libraries and institutions with smaller budgets will find this a very useful product to consider.*  
Available from:  
<http://charleston.publisher.ingentaconnect.com/content/charleston/chadv/2011/00000012/00000003/art00011>
5. Xia J *et al.* **Multiple open access availability and citation impact**  
Journal of Information Science 2011; [cited 2011 January 31]37(1):19-28  
*This research examines the relationship between multiple open access (OA) availability of journal articles and the citation advantage by collecting data of OA copies and citation numbers in 20 top library and information science journals. We discover a correlation between the two variables; namely, multiple OA availability of an article has a positive impact on its citation count. The statistical analysis reveals that for every increase in the availability of OA articles, citation numbers increase by 2.348.*  
Available from: <http://jis.sagepub.com/content/37/1/19.abstractKim>
6. B, Ball M. **Mobile use in medicine: taking a cue from specialized resources and devices**  
The Reference Librarian 2010; [cited 2011 January 31] 52(1-2): 57-67.  
*This article compares mobile resources and the use of mobile devices in medicine and healthcare with those in non-practice-based disciplines, examines libraries' challenges in providing access to mobile resources, and explores the questions of whether and how mobile devices will be able to offer unique benefits to students, instructors, and researchers as mobile technologies continue to advance. This article is based on the presentation, "Mobile Access to Licensed Databases in Medicine and Other Subject Areas," given at the Handheld Librarian Online Conference II on February 17, 2010.*  
Available from: <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a931819337>
7. Burnette P. **Mobile technology and medical libraries: worlds collide**  
The Reference Librarian 2010; [cited 2011 January 31]52(1-2):98-105.  
*Use of mobile technology in medicine has steadily gained momentum over the past 10 years. With the advent of new mobile devices that offer superior functionality and connectivity, medical librarians have an opportunity to expand mobile services and resources that have the potential to enhance user experience, medical education, and clinical practice. This article looks at the genesis of mobile medicine from the early adopters to today's always connected user.*  
Available from: <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a931819850>

8. Cromley EK. **The role of the map and geographic information library in medical geographic research**  
 Journal of Map & Geography Libraries 2010;[cited 2011 January 31]7(1):13-35.  
*Map and geography libraries play an important role in supporting the work of medical geographers conducting research in the U.S. and other countries. Libraries provide access to three key types of information needed in medical geographic research: geographic data on places including their locations and environmental contexts, spatially-referenced data on population, and spatially-referenced data on health events. There is an important ongoing role for map and geography libraries and librarians in acquiring, cataloging, and making accessible information needed to advance medical geographic research.*  
 Available from: <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a931970035>
  
9. Piorun M. **Evaluation of strategic plans in academic medical libraries**  
 Library & Information Science Research Libraries 2011[cited 2011 January 14]33(1):54-62.  
*A multicase approach was used to explore evaluation methods being used in academic medical libraries that are engaged in strategic planning, including where in the planning and implementation process evaluation is being incorporated and how the evaluation data are collected, analyzed, and incorporated into future strategic planning processes. Data collection included document review (strategic plans, memos, Web sites) and interviews (semistructured individual interviews and focus groups). The strategic planning process used at each institution varied yet could be mapped to Bryson's process for strategic planning. Strategic planning was found to serve as a management tool, providing libraries in the study with direction and focus; however, there remains a strong need for leaders to communicate the importance of incorporating evaluation into the planning process.*  
 Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.lisr.2010.05.002>
  
10. Baykoucheva S. **Selecting a database for drug literature retrieval: a comparison of MEDLINE, Scopus, and Web of Science**  
 Science & Technology Libraries 2010;[cited 2011 January 4]29(4):276-88.  
*Three widely used databases—MEDLINE, Scopus, and Web of Science—were compared for their relative ability to retrieve the largest number of articles within the drug literature, using three search terms: two for specific drugs (atorvastatin and olanzapine) and one for a major class of drugs (statins). These drugs and the class of drugs were chosen for their longevity and continued high clinical and scientific interest, as indicated by the many articles concerning them published in scholarly and professional journals over the last two decades. Significant differences were observed in the journal coverage and the number of documents each database retrieved, with Scopus significantly outperforming the other two databases in these respects. Based on the results from this limited but by no means atypical study of comparative strengths and degree of coverage, the best option for retrieving the largest numbers of articles on a particular drug in the literature would be to use both Scopus and Web of Science, as these two databases complement each other with respect to the journal coverage. MEDLINE retrieved much smaller numbers of documents in all searches and should be used only when the other two databases are not available.*  
 Available from: <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~db=all~content=a930795897~frm=titlelink>
  
11. Chen X. **Google Scholar's dramatic coverage improvement five years after debut**  
 Serials Review 2010;[cited 2010 November 23]36(4):221-6.  
*This article reports a 2010 empirical study using a 2005 study as a base to compare Google Scholar's coverage of scholarly journals with commercial services. Through random samples of eight databases, the author finds that, as of 2010, Google Scholar covers 98 to 100 percent of scholarly journals from both publicly accessible Web contents and from subscription-based databases that Google Scholar partners with. In 2005 the coverage of the same databases ranged from 30 to 88 percent. The author explores de-duplication of search results by Google Scholar and discusses its impacts on searches and library resources. With the dramatic improvement of Google Scholar, the uniqueness and effectiveness of subscription-based abstracts and indexes have dramatically changed.*  
 Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.serrev.2010.08.002>

12. Richesson R *et al.* **[RD] PRISM library: patient registry item specifications and metadata for rare diseases** *Journal of Library Metadata* 2010;[cited 2010 November 9]10(2-3):119-35.

*Patient registries are important for understanding the causes and origins of rare diseases and estimating their impact; and they may prove critical to the development of new diagnostics and therapeutics. This paper introduces the [RD] PRISM resource (<http://rdprism.org>), a project funded by the National Institutes of Health to develop a library of standardized question-and-answer sets to support rare disease research. The paper presents a project case-driven plan for creating a new registry using questions from an existing related registry, revising and expanding an existing registry, and showing interoperability of data collected from different registries and data sources. Each of the use cases involves the retrieval of indexed questions for reuse. Successful retrieval of questions can facilitate their reuse in registries, meaning new registries can be implemented more quickly, and the use of "standard" questions can be facilitated. The paper further discusses issues involved in encoding the sets with relevant data standards for interoperability and indexing encoded sets with metadata for optimal retrievability.*

Available from: <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~db=all~content=a928339351~frm=titlelink>

13. Schloegl C Gorraiz J. **Global usage versus global citation metrics: The case of pharmacology journals** *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology* 2010;[cited 2010 October 14] Article first published online 13 Oct 2010.

*Following the transition from print journals to electronic (hybrid) journals in the past decade, usage metrics have become an interesting complement to citation metrics. In this article we investigate the similarities of and differences between usage and citation indicators for pharmacy and pharmacology journals and relate the results to a previous study on oncology journals. For the comparison at journal level we use the classical citation indicators as defined in the Journal Citation Reports and compute the corresponding usage indicators. At the article level we not only relate download and citation counts to each other but also try to identify the possible effect of citations upon subsequent downloads. Usage data were provided by ScienceDirect both at the journal level and, for a few selected journals, on a paper-by-paper basis. The corresponding citation data were retrieved from the Web of Science and Journal Citation Reports. Our analyses show that electronic journals have become generally accepted over the last decade. While the supply of ScienceDirect pharma journals rose by 50% between 2001 and 2006, the total number of article downloads (full-text articles [FTAs]) multiplied more than 5-fold in the same period. This also impacted the pattern of scholarly communication (strong increase in the immediacy index) in the past few years. Our results further reveal a close relation between citation and download frequencies. We computed a high correlation at the journal level when using absolute values and a moderate to high correlation when relating usage and citation impact factors. At the article level the rank correlation between downloads and citations was only medium-sized. Differences between downloads and citations exist in terms of obsolescence characteristics. While more than half of the articles are downloaded in the publication year or 1 year later, the median cited half-life was nearly 6 years for our journal sample. Our attempt to reveal a direct influence of citations upon downloads proved not to be feasible.*

Available from: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/asi.21420/abstract>

14. Stankus T Spiegel SE. **Wikipedia, Scholarpedia, and references to journals in the brain and behavioral sciences: a comparison of cited sources and recommended readings in matching free online encyclopedia entries** *Science & Technology Libraries* 2010;[cited 2010 October 5]29(3):258-65.

*In a follow up to an earlier article in the previous issue of this journal on book references in 47 matching entries in the brain and behavioral sciences in two competing free online encyclopedias, the anonymously authored and unrefereed Wikipedia and the assigned expert authored and refereed Scholarpedia, references to journals are now compared. Much as was the case with book references, it is now shown that both encyclopedias predominantly cite reputable scholarly and professional journals, with Scholarpedia predictably having more entries and Wikipedia just as predictably having somewhat newer ones. However, in all categories except journals related to psychiatry and psychotherapy, Scholarpedia authors placed a notably stronger emphasis on citing papers from the most highly ranked titles.*

Available from: <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~db=all~content=a926436402~frm=abslink>

15. Shen, Min *et al.* **China's medical periodicals: from localization to internationalization**

Learned Publishing 2010;[cited 2010 October 5]23(4):303-11(9).

*From English and Chinese periodicals published by missionaries, to Chinese and English periodicals published by the Chinese, China's medical periodicals have experienced a developmental process that is the outcome of the introduction of Western medicine into China, gradually replacing traditional Chinese medicine (TCM), to become eventually the mainstream medicine. For half a century after the founding of People's Republic of China, Chinese medical periodicals focused on serving the planned economy, directed as they were by government policies on healthcare and publication. These periodicals scarcely entered the international sphere, and became typical regional publications. This article charts the interesting history of these developments. At the beginning of the 21st century, the growth of international medical exchange put Chinese medical periodicals in a difficult position: both good submissions and subscriptions are insufficient for viability. In today's multicultural world, the internationalization of Chinese medical periodicals can be accomplished by promoting the internationalization of TCM and regional medicine. The ability to ensure academic independence and control of their economic management are essential if these periodicals are to thrive.*

Available from: <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/alpsp/lp/2010/00000023/00000004/art00004>

16. Ove K. **Combining peer review and metrics to assess journals for inclusion in Scopus**

Learned Publishing 2010;[cited 2010 October 5]23(4):336-46(11).

*Peer review has been in place for centuries as an accepted process to validate manuscripts submitted for publication in scientific journals. Yet a similarly rigorous assessment of content also happens a level up, when looking at the quality of journals that apply for indexing in bibliographic databases. Scopus, an abstract & citation database provided by Elsevier, indexing 18,000 scientific titles, is receiving an increasing number of title suggestions; in 2009 this grew to almost 5,000 in that year alone. Some of the suggested journals are dedicated to niche areas and/or are published in other languages than English. To ensure a fair and transparent evaluation of these titles and to address the rising interest in being indexed, Scopus redesigned its entire title evaluation process - basing it on a metrical scorecard and on the principles of peer review. By developing an online editorial system - the Scopus Title Evaluation Platform (STEP) - Scopus also created the prerequisite of an improved communication with publishers and editors about their journals.*

Available from: <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/alpsp/lp/2010/00000023/00000004/art00011>

17. Buhler AG *et al.* **External reporting lines of academic special libraries: a health sciences case study**

College & Research Libraries 2010;[cited 2010 October 5]71(5):467-94.

*Very little literature exists on the nature of external reporting lines and funding structures of academic special libraries. This study focuses on academic health sciences libraries. The authors analyze information gathered from statistics published by the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) from 1977 through 2007; an anonymous online survey of AAHSL library directors; and phone conversations with a select number of directors who were willing to take part in follow-up interviews. The history of changing trends in reporting lines over the years and a view of the diverse arrangements, including strengths and weaknesses, currently existing in academic institutions are examined.*

Available from: <http://crl.acrl.org/content/71/5/467.abstract>

18. Thohira M *et al.* **Full-text databases: a case study revisited a decade later**

Serials Review 2010;[cited 2010 October 5]36(3):152-60.

*In 1999 librarians at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs evaluated the feasibility of canceling print subscriptions for journals available in full-text aggregators. Finding deficiencies in currency, coverage, graphics, and stability of online journals, they recommended caution in using titles available in aggregators as replacements for journal subscriptions. Today print subscriptions are giving way to online subscriptions through a variety of subscription models. Nevertheless, full-text aggregators remain vital content providers. Using the journals featured in the 1999 study as a lens, this study investigates how the world of full-text content has changed over the past decade.*

Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.serrev.2010.07.001>

## Emerging challenges

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### There's an -oodle for that...



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In January, we had to elect new EAHIL councillors for Germany. We examined the possibility to vote by email in short, but what a hassle of for- and backwarding and counting emails would this have been! By chance I had used Doodle (1) a lot in the last months for scheduling meetings and found this web tool very helpful. It is straight forward, easy to use, and registration-free. I was surprised to learn that Doodle offers also voting, named "Make a choice". After some trial and error we set up an election site with hidden and one-time-only voting. It made the election process an easy and playful experience. It's not an exaggeration: in social networking, everything is like that. No matter what your task or demand is: on the Internet a (free) service can be found for it! In the following I will point out some of them, which may be useful for your library. I will omit the most obvious ones such as free blogs, bookmarks, or wikis, because I have described them already in detail in former columns.

#### **Documents**

Make PDFs from your documents and publish them on Scribd (2) "so others can read them online or download them. It's also a great place to find articles and papers written by others" (3). Upload your PDF on Issuu (4), they will convert it to a high quality output with animated pages. Let them do the usage statistics for you as well.

Are you looking for a place to publish your PowerPoint slides? The default is SlideShare (5), where there are literally tons of presentations. It offers not only storage capacity, but you can share, comment and follow the presentations of hundreds of people as well. You may even add a recording of your speech and customize it, so that the slides change in accordance with your speech.

At Google documents, you can store, edit and share almost anything, from PDF and text files to spreadsheets to drawings or presentations. But Google is a big brother and you never know what they might do with your data. Google documents may not be evil on their own, but in combination with Google Mail, Google search, and their other services, they can know you better than yourself. So maybe it is wise to use other services such as DivShare or myDrive (6).

When it comes to paper, presentations and citations, you need bibliographic software too. The former killer appliances such as Endnote or Reference Manager have now very strong (and free) web competitors such as Citavi, CiteULike, LibraryThing, Mendeley, or Zotero (7). These offer almost all features of commercial bibliographic managers, and may even exceed them with services such as metadata extraction from PDF (Mendeley).

### Web conferencing

You are working with someone on a shared document? Put it on Google documents and discuss it side by side with a Skype “group conversation”. Or use Elluminate (ex-Wimba) (8) and start in 50 seconds your own online classroom (free for up to three people). WebEx from Cisco is a wide spread commercial web conferencing tool offering free trials (9).

### Cloud Computing

Google documents, SlideShare, Flickr and a lot of the other mentioned services make use of cloud computing to offer file sharing, but in the following I would like to address some specialized tools which act as your remote hard disk. The most used is obviously Dropbox (10). It comes free and offers a data plan of 2 Gigabytes (50 GB for \$ 99 a year), which you can upload on their servers and share with anybody (including your iPhone or iPad of course). SugarSync offers 5 GB for free (30 GB for \$ 50 a year) and offers more privacy (11), at least in the “terms of service”, than Dropbox (12). Frequently, smartphone apps are accustomed to use Dropbox, SugarSync or Boxnet (13) as file folders.

### Alerting

What you do, if your Professor of Sports Medicine requests an RSS feed from you, which would alert him on scientific papers as well current news items for “Sports and COPD”, “Exercise and Elderly” and so on? Just go to Yahoo Pipes (14), where you can embed, filter, merge, and manipulate feeds from PubMed, SportDiscus or Reuters Health in a variety of ways. If you want only to merge some feeds or put them on the Web, Google reader (15) or Feed Informer (16) may do the job quite well too.

### Medicine

There are many, many web tools targeted to doctors or patients. AIRO is a system for clinics / hospitals / medical centers to record incidents, problems, and changes (17). For patients, there comes Mentaline, a booking system for online therapy or coaching sessions with +275 coaches, psychologists, psychotherapists and other therapists – you can choose between audio/video through Skype and phone sessions (18). Or ReliefInsite, a secure online pain management system, for helping patients *take a more active role in their health* and better communicate with their doctors (19). Its slogan is: *Tracking your pain is one of the best things you can do to treat it*. Patient record management systems (much needed and much offered) are usually subscription based.

Fig. 1. Mentaline for booking online therapy.

### Some more tools

- Mindmeister.com is a free mind mapping tool on the web;
- Prezi.com is for animated, breathtaking presentations;
- Netvibes.com is for creating comprehensive worlds of information, updated automatically;
- Sitemeter.com offers little html snippets, which will tell you how much your web site is used (Google analytics is better, but in some countries it is illegal to collect personal information. And see above: “Google is not evil”);
- Host discussion groups on Homepagedmodules.de;

- Publish surveys and analyze answers with SurveyMonkey.com (coming with free basic services and subscription plans for bigger surveys with more options);
- BasecampHQ.com for online project management and collaboration. I have not tried it myself, but there is certainly a big need for that;
- Lobbying for your library? Use Epetitions.net for collecting votes against the closure of your library.

If this short but not comprehensive list does not suit your demands and you are still seeking something, I can recommend two especially valuable directories:

- **Top 100 Tools for Learning 2010 List**

*Compiled since 2007, the recent list derives from the contributions of 545 learning professionals worldwide*

*(20). Among the top 10 you will find pretty much every tool that I have described in past issues. Moodle, a prominent course management system, comes in at rank 10.*

- **Webtools Directory of the UK National Health System**

*It's hard for busy NHS managers and clinicians to keep track of what's out there. NHS web tools is for helping by selecting and annotating useful web tools. The NHS Web Tools (21) is showing you, what's out there. As the Web changes fast these days, it's hard for busy NHS managers and clinicians to keep track of what's out there. NHS Web Tools is for helping this special clientele by selecting and annotating useful web tools.*

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**Projects Manage Themselves with Basecamp.**  
 Millions of people use Basecamp, the leading online project collaboration tool.

See Plans and Pricing  
 30-day free trial. Sign up in 60 seconds. Or, take a quick tour.

**Basecamp is the top choice for entrepreneurs, freelancers, small businesses, and groups inside big organizations.**

R.BIRD  
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Altelier  
High-end wedding planner

Over 5 million people worldwide have used Basecamp to collaborate on over 4 million projects, track 57 million hours of work, share 46 million files, and complete 43 million to-dos. How will you

Fig. 2. Basecamp for web-based project management.

### Letter from the President



**Peter Morgan**

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Dear EAHIL Colleagues,

By the time you read this the EAHIL Executive Board will have met in Amsterdam for the first time in 2011. This event marks the start of a new chapter in EAHIL's history, since three of the Board's longest-serving and most valued members - Arne Jakobsson, Pirjo Rajakiili, and Benoit Thirion - have all now left. My predecessor as President, Suzanne Bakker, paid tribute to them in these pages at the end of last year, and I am glad of this opportunity to echo her thanks and, on behalf of all members of EAHIL, to wish them well for the future. I must also pay tribute to Suzanne's own work as President over the past four years. Her term of office has been a highly distinguished one, during which she has provided EAHIL with effective leadership and a clear vision of how the Association's role must evolve, and she has fully earned our gratitude. Suzanne will of course continue to serve on the Board as Past President, and I'm delighted that I and my fellow Board members will be able to draw on her advice for a further two years. During her term as President she also, seemingly without effort, supervised the EAHIL Secretariat office, which is located in The Netherlands, to ensure that the Association's administrative affairs are dealt with efficiently, and it is an additional cause for satisfaction that she will continue in this role as well.

There have also been a number of changes on the EAHIL Council. We have said goodbye to Constantin Cazan (Austria), Conni Skrubbeltrang (Denmark), Friedhelm Rump (Germany), Muriel Haire (Ireland), Laura Tei (Italy), Hilde Stromme and Anne-Cathrine Overskott (both Norway), Arminda Susteio (Portugal), Fanny Ribes-Cot (Spain), and Eva Alopaeus, Ingrid Harnemo, and Birgitta Stevinger (all Sweden), and are very grateful to all of them for the support they have provided, in some cases over many years of active - and doubtless continuing - participation in the Association.

Following the elections at the end of 2010, their replacements as new Councillors are Helmut Dollfuss (Austria), Liikala Minna (Finland), Paul Murphy (Ireland), Maurella Della Seta (Italy), Hanne Dybvik, Regina Kufner Lein, and Liv Vikan (all Norway), Liv Vikan (Portugal), Larisa Zhmykhova (Russian Federation), Veronica Quillis (Spain), Colm Doyle, Sofia Pemer, and Janet Wamby (all Sweden), and Janet Harrison (UK). The Board will look forward to working closely with the Council, which exists to provide a vital link between the Association's executive body and the membership in each country.

The importance of such links, and of keeping in touch with what's happening in each EAHIL member's country, was underlined last autumn when we received the regrettable news that the Medical Library of Latvia in Riga was to close for financial reasons. This closure became effective on 1 October 2010. The library's collection has been transferred to the Riga Stradins University, but staff of the Medical Library have lost their jobs. We naturally have great sympathy for colleagues who have suffered in this way, and wish them success in finding new professional employment as soon as possible.

But we should also heed the lesson of Latvia, since it has implications for all of us. The worldwide economic recession of the last three years, and the pressure on most organisations to find ways of saving money, has inevitably resulted in a close and critical scrutiny of expenditure on activities such as library and information services in our universities, hospitals, and other similar establishments. The need to be able to defend our work, to demonstrate its value, and to justify our professional skills, has never been greater, and has led in some cases to well-organised campaigns extolling the virtues of libraries. In the UK, for example, a national programme has been mounted in defence of the public library service and has attracted much media coverage and public support. There is, though, a danger here, for public libraries are in many respects very different from the services in which EAHIL members typically work. Public libraries depend on funding allocated by elected national or local government representatives: those representatives are very much aware of the need to keep their electors happy, and can therefore be influenced by populist media campaigns and mass demonstrations. But those of us working as skilled professionals in the highly specialised world of health information cannot easily call on the same sort of leverage. Our masters (of both sexes) are not canvassing votes to remain in their jobs, but are hard-headed administrators and governing bodies. It follows that if we wish to defend ourselves against the threat of cuts we need to employ carefully reasoned arguments backed up by objective data, and must at the same time demonstrate the ability to be self-critical and to accept the need for change when the economic condition of our parent organisation makes it impossible to maintain the status quo. Even then, as the Latvian experience has shown, success cannot be guaranteed. I am anxious that the EAHIL Board should play its part in providing support to members who are fighting for the survival of their service: if you feel that we can help you, do ensure that we are made aware of your situation.

While we understand that economic pressures are likely to restrict some members' ability to attend conferences, I do hope that many of you as possible will be able to attend this year's workshop, to be held at Koç University in Istanbul, Turkey in July. By joining EAHIL we are all declaring our interest in sharing experiences and in learning from one another across geographical, political, and cultural boundaries, and Istanbul's location and history will highlight EAHIL's inclusive character more than ever before. The response to the call for papers was impressive, and the International Programme Committee have put together what promises to be a very stimulating week full of Turkish delights. Registration details are available elsewhere in this issue of the Journal, and I would particularly draw your attention to the scholarships that are being offered to support attendance: they are an opportunity not to be missed. I'll hope to see you in Istanbul!

### **EAHIL WORKSHOP SCHOLARSHIPS 2011**

Deadline for applications: **31st March 2011**

The EAHIL Executive Board is pleased to announce the availability of 6 Scholarships to be awarded to worthy individuals to attend the EAHIL Workshop at Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey, on 5-8 July 2011. The scholarships, which are partly sponsored by the generous support of EBSCO, will be 500 euros maximum.

Applications must be made using the online application form at <http://www.formdesk.com/eahil/scholarship2011> and must be submitted online not later than the closing date of 31st March 2011.

Please note all applications will be considered in confidence and will be judged on the merits of the case submitted by each applicant. The EAHIL Executive Board will notify successful applicants not later than 15<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

(NB, Registration for the Workshop will open on 1 April, with Early Bird rates available until 2 May 2011).

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## Where HINARI took me and where I took HINARI



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Last year's EAHIL conference in Estoril is now eight months behind us and our professional community is already looking forward to meeting up in Istanbul. However, one important aspect of the conference in Portugal has remained with me permanently. I was one of fourteen participants who attended a HINARI *Train the Trainers* CE Course held a day before the official opening. Under the inspiring tutelage of Lenny Rhine and Gaby Caro we were introduced to key features of the HINARI platform, issues related to access and geographical coverage and the core training modules available to trainers. Using a temporary log-in we experienced the way in which health professionals and librarians in the developing world obtained the online scientific literature. This is an impressive collection of electronic journals, databases and reference sources that would leave many developed parts of the world green with envy. Lenny and Gaby offered a wealth of personal experience and plenty of encouragement. Some participants were hoping to join the projects involving HINARI eligible institutions. Others wished to promote the awareness in their own organizations, primarily amongst visiting students, academics and medics who would benefit from HINARI on their return home. We asked a lot of questions and enjoyed a lively discussion. There was no shortage of photographs from recent HINARI workshops, many held under warm and sunny skies, to boost our interest and Lenny's and Gaby's enthusiasm was contagious.

One day course is just a one day course. You have to accept that, should an opportunity come your way, a lot more preparation is required before you are able to train people. My opportunity came frighteningly soon. Just a month after the EAHIL conference, with a mixture of excitement and apprehension, I accepted to join two experienced colleagues, Keith Nockels from the University of Leicester (UK) and Getachew Bayissa from the University of Jimma (Southern Ethiopia), to help deliver a week long module on Evidence-Based Practice and Health Informatics to the MSc students at the University of Gondar (Northern Ethiopia). This Master's programme is one of many successful initiatives of the Leicester-Gondar Medical and University Link, a well established collaboration going back some 15 years (<http://www2.le.ac.uk/institution/gondar-information-hub>). For the September 2010 intake they were expecting around 35 students from all regions of Ethiopia. As this was a first module of their two year programme, with a lot of hands on exercise, the faculty were looking for a third librarian tutor, preferably one familiar with HINARI. Partnerships in Health Information (Phi), a UK based charity which promotes health librarianship in the developing world, helped coordinate the project and secured funds for my visa, insurance and travelling expenses (<http://www.partnershipsinhealthinformation.org.uk/>).

With the departure scheduled for 11th September I had no time to waste. And this is where a one day *Train the Trainers* course seamlessly turned into a distance coaching of a novice trainer. Regardless of their busy schedules in Geneva (Gaby) or anywhere in the HINARI world (Lenny), my mentors always found time to respond to my queries and offer advice and reassurance. They helped me decide how much teaching content to prepare for the two days



**Fig. 1.** *Students busy retrieving from HINARI.*

excellent. Those who were already familiar with HINARI were able to improve their skills and explore resources they had not used before, but the majority of students were first time users and they took to HINARI immediately. In the first instance the focus was on retrieving the literature for their Master's programme, but as active clinicians they were quick to recognize the full potential of HINARI. This was going to be their professional lifeline, a gateway to up-to-date research and clinical practice vital to low-income countries. Out of 45 MSc students at Gondar there were 21 clinical and laboratory scientists, 15 midwives, 5 physiotherapists and 4 anaesthetists. As I paced up and down a crowded classroom, forever tripping up over random cables, I tried to guess how many practitioners further down the stream these students would be able to introduce to HINARI in the near future.

I learned a great deal in Ethiopia. Any preconceptions about the distance between the minority and the majority world went out the window. I met energetic, vibrant people, hungry for knowledge, who refuse any notion of being left behind by the more developed countries. They came up with clinical scenarios and diagnostic dilemmas that would sound familiar anywhere in the world. The five or ten minutes it might have taken to open a PDF did not faze them. Their mind was on the findings in the paper and whether this would provide the answer they were seeking. They were keen to know about any electronic resources which delivered reliable medical information. I realised how much librarian tutors could offer professionals at the healthcare frontline in resource poor settings and moreover how much this means to them and the people whose health they are trying to improve. Great rewards can come out of a one day CE Course – you should try it!!

HINARI Trainers Photo Album

<http://picasaweb.google.com/hinari.trainers>

*Launched in January 2002, the HINARI Access to Research Initiative (<http://www.who.int/hinari/>) is a collaborative World Health Organization/Participating Publishers' project that provides free or very low cost online access to the major journals and other electronic resources in biomedical and related social sciences to local, not-for-profit institutions in developing countries. Over 7500 e-journals, e-books and other resources are now available to health institutions in 105 countries, areas and territories benefiting many thousands of health workers and researchers, and in turn, contributing to improved world health. All faculty, students and staff at an institution can receive the user name and password and access the e-journals and other electronic resources. For institutions in countries with a gross national income (GNI) below \$1600 per year (Band 1), there is no cost. For organizations in countries with a GNI between \$1600 and \$4700 USD (Band 2), the annual cost for access is \$1000 per institution.*

allocated for the introduction to HINARI and search skills training; guided me in adapting to a slower internet and possible threats of a computer virus; arranged a temporary user name and password for tutors and ensured everyone in Gondar had their institutional log-in details in place. I received such fantastic support I was feeling somewhat guilty about my occasional moments of self-doubt.

In the event everything went really well. 45 students turned up for the module (a last minute increase!) and worked diligently for five days without much pause. At one point the electricity was down for half a day but we managed to make up for the lost time. The content was covered in full and the interaction with students was



**Fig. 2.** *Some of the 45 students with their tutors.*

## Branding - Marketing - Facilitating: the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary seminar of *Bibliothecarii Medicinae Fenniae*



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Nearly 60 participants attended the 30th anniversary seminar of *Bibliothecarii Medicinae Fenniae* (BMF) to listen to presentations on hot topics such as next generation libraries and library marketing as well as to meet colleagues. The venue was the distinguished *Tieteiden talo* (House of Sciences) in the heart of Helsinki.

There were three invited guest speakers from abroad, well-known names among EAHIL, and one from Finland. The topics ranged from the future of health libraries to medical students information behaviour.

**Karen Buset** (*Norges Teknisk-Naturvitenskapelige Universitet NTNU*, Norway) placed particular emphasis on how the library can provide relevant services in the future. In addition to the NTNU library case, Karen talked about new technologies more generally; i.e. how they become adapted and what is their life cycle. **Lotta Haglund** (*Karolinska Institutet Library*, Sweden) stressed that every library employee contributes to marketing, and that marketing is a question of attitude. Her library had a project that aimed to concretize the value of the library in users' everyday tasks, studies or research. Finnish research on information studies was represented by **Eeva-Liisa Eskola**, who – based on her doctoral dissertation – explained how medical students seek information. She compared information retrieval habits in traditional and problem-based learning. The sponsor's representative **Peter Nyberg** gave a talk about the semi-automated indexing developed by *Duodecim*. Finally, **Ronald van Diën** (*Ingressus*, The Netherlands) demonstrated how to make contact with the public and present successfully in his fast-paced lecture regarding presentation as a critical skill.

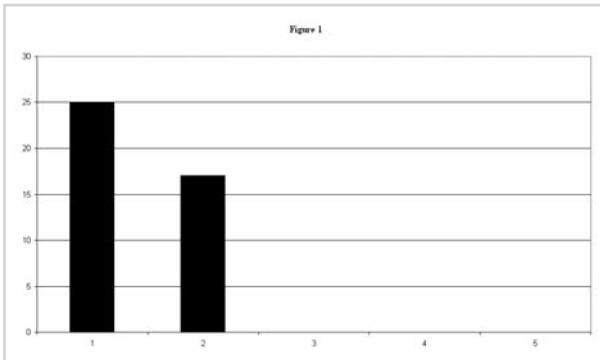


**Picture 1.** Karen Buset answering questions after her presentation.



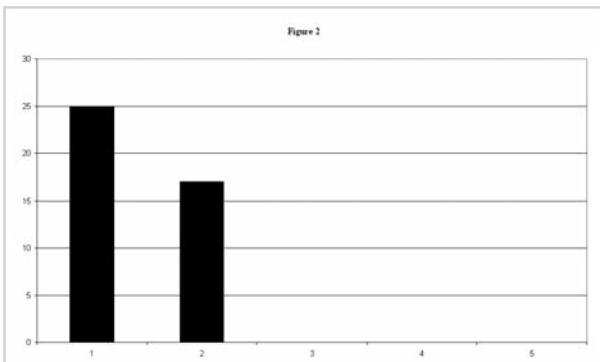
**Picture 2.** Ronald van Diën presenting.

The feedback of the seminar was very positive – 42 participants completed the online questionnaire. Opinions about all the presentations were mostly positive. Lotta Haglund’s presentation was the most popular. The opinions of the seminar generally are presented in the attached *Figures 1-3* where 1 = very good, 5 = very poor. Open comments from the questionnaire were also mostly favourable.



**Fig. 1.** How was the seminar organized?  
Scale: 1 = very well, 5 = very poorly.

Words of thanks were given for the international setting, smooth organization, interesting topics, excellent speakers, professional content and the schedule that gave time for discussions and networking, not forgetting the restaurant and the food. Also some criticism was received, e.g. about the acoustics of the venue and that also the Finnish speaker presented in English. In addition to the feedback we also asked and received proposals for the themes of future seminars. Members of BMF are active and always eager to learn. From the organizers’ point of view, the rich content of seminar and the positive feedback compensated greatly for their efforts.

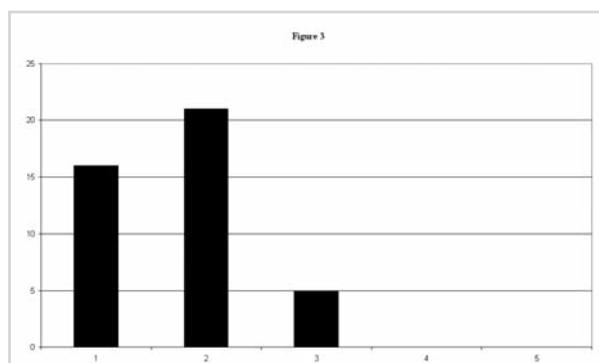


**Fig. 2.** How did the marketing of the seminar succeed?  
Scale: 1 = very well, 5 = very poorly.

BMF’s general assembly elected a new President, Tuulevi Ovaska. The Association also named three new honorary members: former chair persons Pirjo Rajakiili, Ulla Neuvonen and Merja Jauhiainen.

After the seminar the celebration continued over dinner in Restaurant Nokka. The seminar was supported by Suomen Kirjastosäätiö (the Finnish Library Trust) and the dinner by Duodecim to whom BMF is very grateful for making possible this 30th anniversary celebration.

Presentation materials are available at <http://www.bmf.fi/Tapahtumat>



**Fig. 3.** How did the content of the seminar meet your expectations? Scale: 1 = very well, 5 = very poorly.

## Report from the MESH Special Interest Group



**Rosaria R. Cammarano, Maurella Della Seta**

Istituto Superiore di Sanità  
Rome, Italy  
Contact: maurella.dellaseta@iss.it

Another year has passed and 2011 starts with a new MeSH edition. Here are some statistics regarding the new 2011 MeSH edition:

- the total 2011 new descriptors are 573;
- the total replaced descriptors are 54;
- the total deleted descriptors are 19.

The process of the translation of the 2011 MeSH has been particularly challenging, with regard to the new areas introduced, developed, or revised by the National Library of Medicine. MeSH, as Marie Monik<sup>1</sup> wrote in the previous SIG on MeSH report, are not only a mirror of the situation of the world, but also a mirror of scientific and medical development and of emerging subject areas of interest in medicine and public health.

Below some new 2011 MeSH, divided by medical specialties or disciplines:

### *Dentistry*

Dental Restoration Repair  
Orthognathic Surgery  
Overbite, Peri-Implantitis  
Periodontal Debridement  
Photoinitiators, Dental  
Pulp Capping and Pulpectomy Agents

### *Epidemiology*

Lost to Follow-Up

### *Orthopaedics<sup>2</sup>*

Femoracetabular Impingement  
Iliotibial Band Syndrome  
Joint Capsule Release  
Kyphoplasty  
Medial Tibial Stress Syndrome  
Osteoporotic Fractures  
Sacroiliitis

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<sup>1</sup> Marie Monik. MeSH terms – How do they mirror the situation in the world? JEAHIL. 2010. Vol. 6(4), p. 46.

<sup>2</sup> Many new terms were added this year to the field of Orthopaedics. It is a very specialized topic, therefore we wish to thank our colleagues working in the Library of the Orthopaedics Institute “Gaetano Pini” in Milan, Italy for their kind help and fruitful cooperation.

*Psychiatry and Psychology*

Catastrophization  
Cognitive Reserve  
Learning Curve  
Memory, Long-Term  
Neurofeedback  
Social Stigma

*Economics*

For-Profit Insurance Plans  
Gross Domestic Product  
Not-For-Profit Insurance Plans  
Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

*Information Science*

Information Literacy  
Knowledge Management

*Terms not belonging to Medicine, reflecting the large variety of subject areas covered by MeSH*

Airports  
Agricultural Irrigations  
Bullying  
Coral Reefs,  
El Nino-Southern Oscillation  
Military Facilities  
Organic Agriculture  
Quality Improvement  
Recycling  
Seed Dispersal  
Seed Dormancy  
Test Taking Skills  
Water Cycle

*New emerging concepts and techniques*

Circadian Clocks  
Doulas  
Medication Reconciliation  
Molecular Farming  
Natural Orifice Endoscopic Surgery  
Neglected Diseases  
Pandemics  
Performance-Enhancing Substances

Some of the new terms were particularly difficult to translate, as they had no exact equivalent in Italian. The MeSH Translation Maintenance System, used for working on the translation, supports the feature *View this record in*. This feature was particularly useful for Italian translators to verify the solutions adopted by other Neolatin languages. As a general remark, we would point out that English terminology has a strong influence on the current Italian medical language. Many terms are currently not translated by doctors, which tend to use English, even if there is an Italian equivalent available. While the French and Spanish always try to find their translation, the trend in Italian is towards the adoption of the English term, and this is true in many subject fields besides Medicine (e.g. Economics, Information Science and so on). We believe that multilingualism is an asset, so we try to find a translation in our language for each term, counteracting, if and when possible, the speaker and the negligence of the press.

## Medical Library Association report for EAHIL



**Bruce Madge**

MLA representative to EAHIL  
London Upright MRI Center, London, UK  
Contact: Bruce.Madge@uprightmri.co.uk

### **MLA '11 Registration is now open**

It's time to register for MLA '11, "Rethink," in Minneapolis, MN, May 13-18, 2011. For MLA '11, the 2011 NPC has been working hard with the Local Assistance Committee (LAC) to ensure that you will have the best possible venue to rethink. With so many information channels requiring our attention today, we need to allow time to rethink what we need to do in order to remain relevant to our institutional contexts and those we serve. Rethink service, rethink technology, rethink space, rethink leadership, rethink engagement, rethink research, and rethink outcomes. The MLA '11 theme is designed to be flexible and adaptive so that MLA members can rethink what to bring to and receive from the 2011 MLA annual meeting in Minneapolis, MN.

MLA '11 will feature internationally known speakers, including Clay Shirky, T. Scott Plutchak, Geoffrey Bilder and AHIP. Shirky – writer, consultant, and teacher on new technology and social media – will kick off our first plenary session and help us set the stage for the meeting. During the Janet Doe Lecture, Plutchak, director, Lister Hill Library at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, will astound us with his perspectives on the history and philosophy of medical librarianship. And finally, Bilder, director of strategic initiatives at *CrossRef*, will help us rethink scholarly communication.

### *Registration*

Registration material is now available and have been sent to all MLA members. If you are not a member of MLA, information about MLA '11 registration is available at (<http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2011/index.html>) for attendees or ([http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2011/exhibits/vendor\\_info.html](http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2011/exhibits/vendor_info.html)) for exhibitors.

Discounted member rates for early meeting registration are:

Inclusive: \$485, includes admission to all sessions, exhibits, the Welcome Reception, the Awards Ceremony and Luncheon, the MLA Tuesday Evening Reception and Celebration of the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U. S. National Library of Medicine, and exclusive 12 month access to the Online Meeting Content (audio and videos of most sessions)

Conference-only: \$345, includes admission to all sessions, exhibits, the Welcome Reception and exclusive 12 month access to the Online Meeting Content (audio and video of most sessions).

### *Meeting location and hotel accommodation*

Location for most meetings and the Hall of Exhibits is the Minneapolis Convention Center.

### *Accommodation*

**Hilton Minneapolis** (located next door to the Minneapolis Convention Center and connected via Skyway)  
1001 Marquette Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN, 55403-2440

Tel: 612.376.1000 Fax: 612.397.4875

Rates: Single/Double \$174 (plus tax), Triple \$194 (plus tax), Quad \$214 (plus tax)

Complimentary guestroom Internet included for guests in MLA's Hilton room block.

**Hyatt Regency Minneapolis on Nicollet Mall**

1300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN, 55403

Tel: 612.370.1234 Fax: 612.370. 1463

Rates: Single/Double \$199 (plus tax), Triple \$224 (plus tax), Quad \$249 (plus tax)

I hope to see some EAHIL members there.

**Reminder: JMLA Call for Papers on Applying Technologies**

Using technology to improve access to information has long been integral to medical and health sciences libraries. However, today's environment of rapidly changing software and hardware, social networking tools, and increasingly tiny and mobile devices presents special challenges for health sciences libraries. To help readers to better understand and manage this environment, the *Journal of the Medical Library Association (JMLA)* will devote an upcoming issue to papers that help in understanding how health sciences libraries can use technologies to improve delivery of, and access to, medical and health sciences information. *JMLA* particularly welcomes submission of case studies that describe how a particular institution used technology to solve a common problem confronting libraries, as well as research papers that use quantitative or qualitative methodologies to evaluate the use of technology in health sciences libraries and state-of-the-art reviews that look at some aspect of this issue. Papers should follow the guidelines in the *JMLA's Information for Authors*. In addition to describing the application used, case studies should include a discussion of alternatives considered, data that support an evaluation of the projects' success in meeting stated goals, and a section on "lessons learned" that will aid other librarians who may be considering a similar application. To appear in this issue, scheduled for January 2012, papers should be received no later than May 10, 2011. If you would like to discuss an idea for a paper, please contact Susan Starr, editor, *JMLA*.

**Join the MLA Research Section**

The Membership Committee encourages MLA members to join MLA's Research Section. With more than 200 members, the Research Section promotes interest in research, creates awareness of research needs, and fosters research-related skills. The section has many opportunities for member participation, including section committees. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact the Research Section chair, Diane Cooper, AHIP. It also administers awards for the best research-oriented posters and papers at the MLA annual meeting. The section values new members for their refreshing enthusiasm, ideas, and diverse skills. Members stay informed through the section's website and online newsletter, *Hypothesis*.

The Research Mentoring Program matches members who are experienced in research with those who are just beginning research or who want to expand their research knowledge base. If you are interested in learning more about the program, or in becoming either a mentor or mentee, contact Heather Holmes, AHIP, or Elizabeth LaRue, AHIP. Should you have any questions about the Research Section, please contact Beatriz Varman ([beatriz.varman@exch.library.tmc.edu](mailto:beatriz.varman@exch.library.tmc.edu)), Research Section Membership Committee chair.

**NLM and You: The Video**

The US National Library of Medicine (NLM) is planning a contest to recognize original short videos, which promote awareness of NLM's information resources. This contest supports the mission of NLM by publicizing the availability of its products and services. Whether information from NLM helped in research, new discoveries, clinical treatment, family health, patient care, or a school project, we want to hear about it! NLM plans to launch the contest with a posting on its website of entry instructions, contest rules, and other information. Stay tuned! The contest will be announced soon! Questions should be directed to [custserv@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:custserv@nlm.nih.gov). NLM marks its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

**Continuing Education**

If you missed MLA's *ABCs of E-books: strategies for the medical library*, you can now purchase the program on DVD through the MLANET Online Store.

MLA's Online Boot Camp for New Health Sciences Librarians is also available.

**Publications**

The January 2011 issue of the *Journal of the Medical Library Association* is now online at PubMed Central.

The January issue of *MLA News* is now online.

Visit MLA's YouTube Channel.



**Giovanna F. Miranda**

Scientific Information & Library Services  
Sanofi-Aventis, Milan, Italy  
Contact: giovanna.miranda@sanofi-aventis.com

Dear Colleagues,

A more transparent review process in article publication and more openness and transparency in accessing official documents are being discussed. The European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) is expanding its experiment in publishing the referee comments, author responses, and editorial decision letters for each round of peer review.

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has published its new policy on access to documents related to medicines for human and veterinary use. The new policy will be a two-step approach. The first phase will focus on reactive disclosure of documents in response to written requests. In the second phase, the Agency will gradually populate the electronic register with documents held by the Agency which can be disclosed.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the availability of a report entitled “FDA Transparency Initiative: Improving Transparency to Regulated Industry.” The report includes 19 action items and 5 draft proposals to improve transparency to regulated industry.

Reforms to the Australian Freedom of Information Act 1982 (the FOI Act) introduce fundamental changes to the way information held by governments is managed and accessed by members of the public.

**Giovanna F. Miranda**

### **Journal issues**

Since the *JEAHIL* of November 2010, the following journal issue of *Health Information and Libraries Journal* has been received:

#### **Volume 27 Issue 4**

**Grant MJ. Writing for publication: ensuring you find the right audience for your paper. Editorial.** p. 259-261  
In the writing process authors should identify where they wish to publish, how to write and structure their piece. The editorial presents the revised and updated aims and scope of the *Health Information and Libraries Journal*.

**Waffenschmidt S, Hausner E, Kaiser T. An evaluation of searching the German CCMed database for the production of systematic reviews.** p. 262-267.

The aim of this study was to assess the potential benefit of a systematic search in the German database “Current Contents Medizin” (CCMed).

**Olvera-Lobo MD, Gutiérrez-Artacho J. Question-answering systems as efficient sources of terminological information: an evaluation.** p. 268-276.

This study evaluates the efficiency of Question-Answering (QA) systems as terminological sources for physicians, specialized translators and users in general. It assesses the performance of one open-domain QA system, START, and one restricted-domain QA system, MedQA.

**Urquhart C, Thomas R, Ovens J, Lucking W, Villa J. Planning changes to health library services on the basis of impact assessment.** p. 277-285.

The review aim is to provide an action plan for Resource and Information Service (KRIS) through assessing the impact of the current service, extent of satisfaction with existing services and views on desirable improvements.

**Callinan J, McLoughlin K, McCarthy P. Analysis of library associated information needs of staff in a specialist palliative and gerontological care centre in Mid-West Ireland.** p. 286- 294.

This study had three main objectives: to understand the information needs of staff with regard to the new Library and Information Service, to identify current access to and levels of skill in information literacy and ICT, to ascertain the need for training in those skills.

**Robinson C, Graham J. Perceived Internet health literacy of HIV-positive people through the provision of a computer and Internet health education intervention.** p.295-303.

The objective of this study was to assess perceived Internet health literacy of HIV-positive people before and after an Internet health information educational intervention.

**Maden-Jenkins M. Healthcare librarians and the delivery of critical appraisal training: attitudes, level of involvement and support.** p. 304-315.

This study aims to examine the attitudes of healthcare librarians towards delivering critical appraisal training and their level of involvement.

**Clark AW, Li HM, Teaching medical information retrieval and application courses in Chinese universities: a case study.** p. 316-322.

This article provides a case study of Kunming Medical University Library, where courses are provided as credit units at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The teaching practices of Chinese health science libraries are compared with teaching experiences reported in Western countries.

### **Books review**

**Understanding healthcare information.** Ed. L. Robinson. Facet Publishing, London, UK, 2010; ISBN: 978-1-85604-662-6, paperback £49.95 (£39.96 to CILIP members), p. 256. This book looks at examples of healthcare information resources from the perspective of different user groups, including healthcare professionals and consumers, and goes on to highlight areas of research into healthcare information, including evaluation studies, user and impact studies, bibliometrics, metadata and Web 2.0.

**The publish or perish book: A guide to effective and responsible citation analysis.** Ed. A.W. Harzing. Tarma Software Research, 2010; ISBN: 9780980848519; \$74.95.

250. This book is intended for all academic and non-academic readers who want to make better use of the Publish or Perish software and the Google Scholar database. It provides an educational excursion into the history and uses of citations and citation indices, citation metrics and citation controversies.

### Papers review

#### **Performance evaluation and comparison of the five most used search engines in retrieving web resources.**

Deka SK and Lahkar N. Online Information review, 2010;34:757

#### **The quest for full text: an in depth examination of Pubget for medical searchers**

Featherstone R., Hersey D. Medical Reference Services Quarterly, 2010;29:307

#### **Fire-Fox add-ons for medical reference**

Hoy MB. Medical Reference Services Quarterly, 2010;29:269

#### **FDA Transparency Initiative: Improving transparency to regulated industry**

Kux L. Federal Register January 7, 2011;1180

<http://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2011/01/07/>

#### **Top retractions of 2010.** A list of the biggest papers and scientists involved in retractions in the last year

Akst J. The Scientist, December 16, 2010

<http://www.the-scientist.com/news/display/57864/>

#### **Facebook: a new trigger for asthma?**

D'Amato G. Lancet, 2010 ;376 :1740

### New journals

**Clinical Investigation.** Future Science has announced the launch of Clinical Investigation. The journal is dedicated to systematic coverage of the methodology, progress and outcomes of clinical trials. As a peer-reviewed, monthly publication Clinical Investigation provides a forum for the rapid publication of original research and critically reviews the latest developments in medical research, from Phase I trials through to post-marketing studies and pharmacoeconomic research.

<http://www.future-science-group.com/news/1/323>

**New BioMed Central Journals.** Three new journals in BioMed Central: **Clinical and Translational Allergy** publishes research and reviews in the field of allergy, **Medical Gas Research** considers research on the neurobiology and other areas of medical gas research and their applications to related disorders, and **Biology of Mood & Anxiety Disorders** focuses on the pathophysiology of mood and anxiety disorders.

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/update>

### News

#### **Publishers withdraw 2500 journals from the free access scheme in Bangladesh.**

The organization's Health Inter-Network for Access to Research Initiative (HINARI) was set up in 2002 to enable not for profit institutions in developing countries to gain access online to more than 7000 biomedical and health titles either free or at very low cost. Five publishers have now withdrawn free access to more than 2500 health and biomedical online journals from institutions in Bangladesh.

BMJ 2011; 342:d196

<http://www.bmj.com/content/342/bmj.d196.full>

**Reprints Desk, Inc.** announces that it has signed a direct agreement with the Massachusetts Medical Society for the electronic distribution of articles from the *New England Journal of Medicine*. This agreement adds to Reprints Desk's direct distribution agreements covering the top three medical journals in the world – *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, and *The Lancet* from Elsevier.

<http://www2.reprintsdesk.com/News/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?prid=74>

**Peer review opened up at EMBO.** The European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) is expanding an experiment it began 2 years ago with *The EMBO Journal*—including with most published papers the referee comments, author responses, and editorial decision letters for each round of peer review, as well as a timeline showing how long each step took. The more transparent review process will be continued at *The EMBO Journal*, and instituted in EMBO's other journals, *EMBO Reports*, *Molecular Systems Biology* and *EMBO Molecular Medicine*.  
<http://blog.the-scientist.com/2010/12/06/news-in-a-nutshell-24/>

**European Medicines Agency widens public access to documents.** The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has published its new policy on access to documents related to medicines for human and veterinary use. The new policy is part of the Agency's response to increasing public demand for more openness and transparency. Implementation of the policy will be in a two-step approach. The first phase will focus on reactive disclosure of documents in response to written requests. In the second phase, the Agency will gradually populate the electronic register with documents held by the Agency which can be disclosed. Requests for access to documents can be sent to [info@ema.europa.eu](mailto:info@ema.europa.eu)  
<http://www.ema.europa.eu>

**Copyright and disabled persons.** The 21st Session of the World Intellectual Property Organization Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) took place in Geneva on November 8-12, 2010. At the meeting's conclusion the SCCR agreed a work plan for 2011/12 concerning copyright exceptions and limitations for Improved Access for Blind, Visually Impaired and other Reading Disabled Persons. Additionally allocates equal time for "text-based work on appropriate exceptions and limitations" for libraries and archives, educational, teaching and research institutions, and persons with other disabilities.  
<http://www.ifla.org/en/news/unprecedented-opportunity-for-libraries-and-archives-wipo-to-work-on-library-and-archive-copyri>

**Australian FOI Act.** Reforms to the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (the FOI Act) introduce fundamental changes to the way information held by governments is managed and accessed by members of the public. The changes take effect from 1 November 2010, The clear intention of the FOI Act is to promote disclosure of information held by governments  
[http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/FOI\\_fact\\_sheet2\\_freedom\\_of\\_information\\_whats\\_changed.html](http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/FOI_fact_sheet2_freedom_of_information_whats_changed.html)

#### **Information sources... web based**

**Copyright. Droits d'auteur en usage en Europe**

<http://www.lemotif.fr/fr/etudes-et-analyses/etudes-du-motif/droits-d-auteur-en-usage-en-europe>

**Clinical trials in Italy.** The Portal of the Clinical Research with Medicines of the Italian Medicines Agency (AIFA) is a public source of information about the clinical trials with medicines conducted in Italy, the regulations and the ethical principles ruling the research, as well as the initiatives that AIFA promotes in the field of research.  
<http://ricerca-clinica.agenziafarmaco.it/en/node/22>

**FDA basic for industry.** The Food and Drug Administration launches a Web resource to help companies and others save time and resources in their interactions with the agency. The website includes basic information about the regulatory process, including information that is frequently requested by industry.  
[www.fda.gov/FDABasicsforIndustry](http://www.fda.gov/FDABasicsforIndustry)

**DATA.gov.** This site provide scientists with easy and direct access to government data sets relevant to their research. The application utilizes the U.S. government data warehouse.  
<http://www.physorg.com/news/2010-12-application-scientists-easy-access-important.html>

## Publications and new products

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**The world health report 2010 - Health systems financing: the path to universal coverage.**

<http://www.who.int/whr/2010/en/index.html>

### News from publishers

**Nature Publishing Group** announces **open access options** for fifteen further journals. Forty-one journals published by NPG now offer authors an open access option or are wholly open access, including 80% (40) of its 50 academic and society journals.

NPG introduces **mobile and article “rental” access options for readers**. A number of Nature journals now offer 24-hour “view only” access via the DeepDyve platform and a range of access models via the nature.com **iPhone app**. The nature.com reader for **iPad** is expected to launch later this month. Access to a single article for a 24 hour period is available for \$3.99.

[www.nature.com](http://www.nature.com)

**Elsevier** has announced that it is participating in the recently launched Google eBooks store by including a large selection of Elsevier’s eBook titles. Elsevier regards Google eBooks as a valuable new distribution channel.

[http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/authored\\_newsitem.cws\\_home/companynews05\\_01785](http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/authored_newsitem.cws_home/companynews05_01785)

**BioMed Central**. Another three BioMed Central journals have been accepted to receiving their first Impact Factors next year in June 2011.

*BMC Ophthalmology*, *Cell Division* and *Epigenetics & Chromatin* have recently been accepted for citation tracking by Thomson Reuters, which takes the total of tracked BioMed Central journals to 102.

[http://blogs.openaccesscentral.com/blogs/bmcblog/entry/over\\_one\\_hundred\\_biomed\\_central](http://blogs.openaccesscentral.com/blogs/bmcblog/entry/over_one_hundred_biomed_central)

**Wiley-Blackwell** announces the launch of a pilot program to make a portfolio of Biotechnology journals with more than 75,000 articles available through DeepDyve. Through DeepDyve’s innovative “Research, Rent, Read” model, researchers are able to discover and read-only articles from these journals on the DeepDyve site at affordable prices. The pilot will feature 26 journals and content dating back to 1912.

<http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/>

**Thieme Publishing Group** announces that it has reached a new agreement with Accucoms to provide global telemarketing support. **Accucoms** has provided telemarketing support to Thieme since 2005. The scope of this engagement includes contacting institutional customers subscribing to a selection of journals in printed format around the world.

<http://www.thieme.com>

<http://www.accucoms.com>

## Forthcoming events

**17th March 2011, London UK**

**STM/COUNTER Seminar**

Usage Statistics and Publishers: Implementation and New Insights

[http://www.stm-assoc.org/event.php?event\\_id=63](http://www.stm-assoc.org/event.php?event_id=63)

**21-23 March, 2011, Washington DC, USA**

**Computers in Libraries 2011**

For further information: <http://www.infotoday.com/CIL2011/>

**30 March-2 April 2011, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA**

**ACRL 2011: A Declaration of Interdependence**

Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) Annual Conference,

For further information: <http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/national/2011/index.cfm>

**17-20 April, 2011, Trento, Italy**

**ICMR 2011**

ACM International Conference on Multimedia Retrieval

For further information: <http://www.icmr2011.org/>

**24-27 May 2011, Athens, Greece**

**QQML2011**

3rd Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries International Conference

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

**25-27 May 2011, Prague, Czech Republic**

**It's the context, stupid!**

European Library Automation Group (ELAG) Annual Conference

For further information: <http://www.elag.org/homepage.htm>

**13-17 June 2011, Ottawa, Canada**

**JCDL 2011**

**Joint Conference on Digital Libraries**

For further information: <http://www.jcdl.org/index.shtml>

**20-23 June 2011, Aberdeen, United Kingdom**

**Information: Interactions and Impact**

For further information: <http://www.i3conference2011.org.uk/>

**22-24 June 2011, Istanbul, Turkey**

**15th International Conference on Electronic Publishing,**

For further information: <http://www.elpub.net/>

**5-8, July 2011, Istanbul, Turkey,**

**Active Learning and Research Partners in Health**

**EAHIL Workshop**

For further information: <http://eahil2011.ku.edu.tr>

# JOURNAL OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND LIBRARIES

formerly: NEWSLETTER TO EUROPEAN HEALTH LIBRARIANS

## ADVERTISING RATES 2011

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Another **10%** discount is offered to Affiliated Members that book 4 ads in advance..

**COPY DATES** The Newsletter is published in March, June, September and December. Copy is required not later than the first day of the month **before** publication (Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, Nov 1<sup>st</sup>).

**SPONSORSHIP RATES** Prime positions for their advertisements are available to affiliated members (EUR 397 / year) who book space in four consecutive issues in return for a prominent acknowledgement of their support for the Newsletter.

**AFFILIATED MEMBERSHIP** Affiliated membership may be granted to firms and institutional bodies active in the area of medical information, documentation, librarianship or close related areas. Affiliated members receive the newsletter, membership directory (usage for commercial mailing is not allowed!!) and get a reduction on advertisement fees.

**TECHNICAL DATA** Full page (A4) 210 mm wide x 297 mm height; 1/2 page (horizontal) 190 mm wide x 130 mm height; 2/3 page (vertical) 125 mm wide x 262 mm height; 2/3 page (horizontal) 190 mm wide x 170 mm height; 1/3 page (vertical) 59 mm wide x 262 mm height; 1/3 page (horizontal) 125 mm wide x 130 mm height

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