

Health Science Libraries Group Annual Report 2015

Chair:	Michael Doheny (Athlone Institute of Technology)
Treasurer	Anne Murphy (AMHD library, Tallaght Hospital)
CPD Officer (external):	Anne Madden (St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin)
Secretary:	Louise Bradley (Institute of Public Health, Dublin);
Communication Officers:	Caroline Rowen (St Michaels Hospital, Dun Laoghaire) & Diarmuid Stokes (University College Dublin)
Committee Members:	Brian Galvin (Health Research Board); Bennery Rickard (Regional Librarian, Dr. Steevens' Hospital).

The Committee met six times during 2015:

The 2015 Annual Conference of the Health Sciences Library Group took place in Athlone in the Sheraton Hotel from 14th – 15th May.

Chairperson's Report

There has been as usual a lot of work and events carried out by HSLG members and the HSLG committee over 2015. One example is the new Health Evidence Awareness Report (HEAR); also there is the continuing success of the Health Information News and Thinking newsletter (HINT) which is now in its 10th year! The first edition rolled off the presses in May 2005. HINT has become a quarterly publication this year due to the hard work and commitment of the HSLG communication officers Caroline Rowan and Diarmuid Stokes, Anne Madden resigned from the committee in 2015 but continues to do a lot of work organising CPD events for the HSLG. The whole HSLG committee have continued to give a lot of their time and expertise to in 2015 and it is moot to say nothing could occur without all this volunteer work which is much appreciated|

In 2015 many HSLG members have continued attending librarian conferences, and this added to the expertise and community of learning available to us all. Among many other notable activities by HSLG members which cannot all be mentioned was the publication of a book, *'The Invisible Librarian: A Librarian's Guide to Increasing Visibility and Impact'* by Aoife Lawton. Aoife (along with Louise Farragher) was also one of the main drivers of the ICML conference which is coming to Dublin in 2017 and which is now in planning by the HSLG and HSLG members together with Louise and Aoife. Louise Farragher has been co-opted onto the HSLG committee in the run up to this conference and we are delight to have access to her expertise again. Brian Galvin attended the IFLA conference from 15-21 August 2015, in Cape Town, South Africa, in his capacity of Chair of the Health and Biosciences Libraries Section.

The HSLG annual conference 2015 took place in Athlone this year and had a unique and interesting format this year. On day one there were two parallel CPD sessions, one on presentation and management skills and the

other on critical appraisal, both of these were well received by attendees. Sarah Burke (Journalist, Broadcaster & Policy Analyst) was the keynote speaker on day two and gave a very interesting reporters view of the current state of Irish health system. There then followed a number of presentations by HSLG members and the day finished with our first HSLG conference debate which was on the theme of 'Health Librarian - Dodo or Phoenix' This was a very entertaining, informative and good humoured event and the HSLG debate may hopefully become an annual event in the future.

This year there was also valuable research undertaken relating to Health information and government strategy. It is always great to see the discussion topics continuing on the HSLG E mailing list, which continue to be informative and a great example of a learning community sharing knowledge freely

Michael Doheny

HSLG CPD Report 2015

Attending training events presents an ongoing challenge to HSLG members. With this in mind, two alternative training events were built into the HSLG Annual Conference which took place in Athlone in May of this year.

Choice was between these two sessions:

- Des Doyle, Desmond Doyle & Associates: “**Presentation, Communication & Management Skills**”.
- Mala Mann, Information Specialist/Systematic Reviewer, Cardiff University : “**Critical Appraisal**”

This concept proved extremely popular and similar sessions will be built into next year’s Conference.

Following the Conference, a short survey of CPD requirements was carried out. The primary purpose was to identify core activities, skill sets and competencies required for Health Librarians in different settings, and to match these with any self-reported skills gaps. Main topics emerging from the survey results were Advanced Searching/Research skills, Use of Social Media in Healthcare, Website/Intranet development & Maintenance, and Finance & Budgeting.

In 2017, Dublin will be hosting two major International Health Library Conferences – the 12th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML), and the European Association for Health Information & Librarian (EAHIL). In addition to the survey results, this was one of the drivers for the 2nd CPD activity for 2015 – the “Librarian as Researcher” which is scheduled to take place on 17th December 2015, presented by Rosarie Coughlan, Queen’s University, Ontario (formerly of NUI Galway) with expertise in Bibliometrics & Research Performance Measurement, Scholarly Publishing, and Open Access Publishing.

Plans for 2016 are to again feature CPD activity in the 2016 HSLG Conference, scheduled to take place in May, with a second event to take place later in the year. It is planned to source presenters from within the HSLG membership as much as possible. Discussions have already taken place with some presenters so that these events can be tied down as soon as possible.

The CPD Survey also revealed that a growing number of members have now completed an online Course. This format was tried in 2014 but had to be cancelled owing to lack of take-up. Signs are that an online offering would receive more support in 2016 so this will be broached again once an appropriate topic has been identified.

Anne Madden

HSLG Communications Officer Report 2015

Communications Officers: Caroline Rowan, St. Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire & Diarmuid Stokes, Health Sciences Library, University College Dublin

This year the HSLG published four issues of our newsletter *HINT: Health Information News and Thinking*. The move to a quarterly publication allows for more frequent engagement with members and also gives members additional opportunities to contribute pieces for publication.

The HSLG List continues to be a strong communications channel for members who use it to share information regarding health resources, interesting articles, and to seek advice on a variety of topics.

This year also saw the development of *HEAR: Health Evidence Awareness Report*, a current awareness publication developed by a collaboration of health librarians. The idea was proposed and led by Anne Madden of the HSLG committee.

In November, the HSLG website was hacked which led to it being taken down. Unfortunately the external website manager was unable to resolve the exposures. A new website is being built and will be online soon. However the incident has highlighted the need for stronger website protection and the importance of backing up website content in a cloud-based environment.

Caroline Rowan / Diarmuid Stokes