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HINT is the newsletter of the Health Sciences Libraries Group of the Library Association of Ireland. It is compiled & produced by the HINT Editorial Team.
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A Christmas Message from the HSLG Committee

Niamh Lucey, Chair

The students have left the building, the enquiries are slowing to a trickle and, hopefully, in libraries and information services up and down the country, HINT readers are winding down this week and looking forward to a well-deserved rest over Christmas. Before the festive madness begins, I'd like to take a few moments to reflect on the activities of the HSLG over the past year.

As always, our annual conference in March was our biggest event. This year we were particularly delighted with the increased number of registrations, due in part to the broad appeal of our theme, *Time to reflect: managing our professional development*, which attracted colleagues from not just health libraries but the academic and public sectors too. The day was a great success with excellent presentations by keynote speakers and health librarians and a lively discussion around our own CPD requirements, all washed down with some refreshments at the bar. We hope to repeat this success next year and have recently announced that our 2024 annual conference, *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?*, will take place in the Ashling Hotel, Dublin, on 7th March. The deadline for abstract submission is 19th January and we will be opening bookings in the new year so keep an eye on our discussion list and social media for further information.

Continuing with the conference theme, the committee further developed its CPD framework this year and invited health librarians to join focus groups to share their views and ideas. We created a dedicated CPD area on our website and produced a CPD Charter at the end of the year. Arising from the focus groups we gained two new committee members who each brought with them a new project. Breeda Herlihy, Mercy University Hospital, designed and led a very successful first round Peer Review Buddy Scheme in the summer which paired librarians up to review one another's search strategies. A second round, which has been tweaked to include groups of three and a sample strategy to work with, has just been launched with a deadline of February. Meanwhile, Jean McMahon, Tallaght University Hospital, has recently announced the launch of the HSLG Mentorship Programme which will open in January. Further details on these programmes and all our CPD activities can be found on our website <https://hslg.ie/>

After a long absence, the committee was thrilled to partner with colleagues from the Academic & Special Libraries Committee to organise a joint network evening in June. Held in the Royal Irish Academy on the longest and hottest day of the year, we were treated to an excellent and inspiring presentation by Saoirse DePaor from Maynooth University Library, on *Taking your Social Media to the Next Level*. It was a great opportunity to learn and to mingle with friends old and new. We look forward to working with the ASL Committee again next year.

In keeping with recent times, all other activities happened online in 2023. In September we were treated to another inspirational talk, this time on the topic of *Graphic Design for Librarians*, presented by Diane Wakimoto live from sunny California. Diane very kindly al-

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Niamh Lucey, Chair

allowed us to record her talk and this, along with Saoirse's slides and those of our conference presenters, can all be viewed on the HSLG website. Our Virtual Journal Club (vJC) had another successful run of three sessions, presented by Fiona Lawlor, Noeleen Murtagh and Bennery Rickard. Our grateful thanks to each of them for leading us through three very interesting papers and discussions. New members of the vJC are always welcome, please contact us for details.

As you will see within the following pages, this newsletter continues to go from strength to strength with three issues published again this year. We are delighted to announce the winners of our Fiction Competition, whose writings you can enjoy over the next few issues. Huge thanks to all competition entrants and to all our contributors over the past year.

Finally, on behalf of the whole Committee – Breeda, Jean, Mairea, Mary, Nicola, Noreen and myself – I would like to wish all our readers and all our HSLG members a merry and peaceful Christmas with every good wish for a Happy New Year.

Niamh Lucey
Chair



HINT Fiction Competition 2023

Jean McMahon, Editor

The inaugural 'HINT' Fiction Competition received an impressive array of submissions which showcased an extremely high standard within the participating writers. We were extremely fortunate to have Louise Phillips on board as the judge of the competition. Louise is an Irish Times Bestselling author of six crime novels, five of which were shortlisted for the Best Irish Crime Novel of the Year in the Irish Book Awards. Her second novel, *THE DOLL'S HOUSE*, won the award. Her novels have been published in the U.S., and she has been longlisted for the Crime Writers Association (CWA) Dagger in the Library Award in the U.K. Her fifth novel, *The Hiding Game*, was optioned by a major U.S. film company, and her sixth novel, *'They All Lied'* was published last year to critical acclaim. A regular public speaker, panellist and facilitator, Louise has also been a judge on the Irish panel for the EU Literary Award. In 2022 she was also awarded an Arts Bursary for Literature from the Arts Council of Ireland, as well as winning the Jack Harte Award for her latest work- in-progress, *'In All the Unexpected Places'*.



Louise Phillips, Crime Author and judge of the HINT Fiction Competition

Louise kindly gave us feedback on the entries which we have included here and selected the winners for our first ever fiction competition.

- Many congratulations to the organising team and to everyone who took part in this year's HINT short story competition.
- All entries were evaluated on creativity, originality, theme, character/characters, structure, overall appeal, emotional resonance and engagement.
- Because of the high standard of submissions, careful attention was applied in deciding the overall winner and runners up.
- The winning entry was chosen within the criteria noted above, having a particular emotional resonance, alongside a uniqueness and imaginative approach to the short story form.
- Both runner-up entries also held deep emotional resonance, engaging the reader in a very individual way.
- The submissions chosen for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place, left a lasting impression, provoking thought and reflection, alongside eliciting a strong emotional response.

HINT Fiction Competition 2023

Jean McMahon, Editor

Final Note: As noted earlier, all this year's submissions for the 'HINT' short story competition were of an extremely high standard. I congratulate everyone who took part, and I would strongly encourage each writer, irrespective of placement, to continue on their writing journey.

The winners are:

1st place -€100 One4all voucher - **The Book of Light** – Ann Byrne – Digital Librarian, Hibernia College

2nd place - €50 One4all voucher - **Reminiscence** – Lisa O'Leary – Senior Library Assistant, University College Cork

3rd place - €25 One4all voucher - **The Memory Book** – Marie Carrigan – Librarian, Health Information and Quality Authority

Louise Phillips

Winner Best Irish Crime Novel of the Year

Longlisted UK CWA Dagger in the Library Award

Winner of 2022 Jack Harte Award

Irish Times Bestselling Author

Winner of 2022-2023 Arts Bursary for Literature Arts Council of Ireland



Fiction Competition 2023 Winner

The Book of Light

Ann Byrne

It started small, the light. Lucy noticed it occasionally as a small twinkle at the corner of her eye. But gradually it grew. Its warm glow was comforting, and Lucy found that she awoke in the morning a little more brightly than before and slept at night quite a bit more soundly. The presence of her little light was like a silent yet supportive companion.

They peacefully co-existed like this for some time until eventually, something changed. The light grew and shone brighter and stronger. Lucy found that rather than sharing her headspace, the light expanded, unwelcome, throughout her mind. At first, it was a nagging, niggling annoyance but it grew to a downright headache. Lucy tried everything she could think of; she ignored it, she reasoned with it, she pleaded with it, she shouted at it. Nothing worked. It persisted, it expanded, and it would not relent. Lucy found herself distracted and unfocused. Her former companion now felt more like a house guest overstaying their welcome, encroaching on her personal space. Her pretty little tabby cat, Apollo, meowed more loudly at feeding time, lest she forget him, her friends stopped inviting her to lunch, since her daydreaming unsettled them. Lucy felt like the light in her head was one great big luminous ball of yarn, unravelling her life and eventually she could take no more, she needed to pull on the thread.

One evening Lucy sat down with quiet determination at her dusty old typewriter. How long had it been since she sat here like this? Didn't she write, once upon a time? And slowly, like an old engine cranking up after decades of neglect, she began to type. She watched in fascination as the light yarn travelled in twinkling strands from her head down through her fingers and onto the page. The feeling was overwhelming, and her eyes welled up with tears as the light travelled through her, animating her fingertips, as they danced nimbly over the keys of her typewriter, until the light finally resolved into glittering words on the page. She put aside her typical concerns (except for meowing ones like Apollo) and focused hours, days and weeks on her task, becoming a dedicated vessel for the expression of light. One evening, tired and spent, she watched as the last of the light left her mind and travelled to the page. She finally typed "The end". Lucy had just enough energy to scratch Apollo behind the ears before heading upstairs to fall exhausted into bed.

The next morning Lucy awoke surprisingly refreshed. She stretched and sat up in bed. Her mind was clear, peaceful and free of light. A calmness washed over her that she had not felt in some time. She jumped out of bed, dressed quickly, and ran downstairs. Apollo seemed relieved too, as he wound himself, purring, between her legs. Lucy didn't know where to start now that she had her mind back. As she sat on the couch, Apollo on her lap, contemplating what to do with her restored freedom, she became aware of a brightness dancing out of the corner of her eye. She turned and noticed her manuscript sitting next to her typewriter and to her horror, she saw that it was starting to glow, not too brightly at first, but the longer she looked the brighter it shone. "No. No more" she thought. Lucy grabbed the manuscript and shoved it into her handbag. After a stop at the bookbinders Lucy found herself standing in front of the steps of the local library. It had been some time since she

Fiction Competition 2023 Winner

The Book of Light

Ann Byrne

stood before the small red brick building and warm memories flooded her mind of quiet, peaceful hours spent here as child reading, getting lost in bright, shining, magical worlds, full of adventure, wonder and possibility. She was distracted from her reverie by the pulsating light from her handbag and she hurriedly opened the door and walked swiftly to the counter. The librarian smiled as she approached. Lucy hastily took her manuscript from the bag and placed it on the counter. "I'd like to make a donation please" Lucy said to the librarian. The librarian looked at Lucy and looked at the book. She picked it up carefully, holding it gently in her hands and scanned its cover. Reverentially, she opened the book and the contents glittered and gleamed before her. "I know just what to do with this" she said and looked up at Lucy with a beaming smile. But Lucy was gone.

When Lucy arrived home, she plopped down on the couch and waited for relief to come. She waited and she waited. But there was nothing, except emptiness where the light had been. A feeling much like regret swept over her. Tears came hotly to her eyes as she remembered her luminous friend. She realised too late that it had never meant to hurt her, it only needed space to shine. Lucy ran back to the library to see if she could undo her hasty decision. The librarian was not at the desk when she returned, and she looked around wildly to see where her *Book of Light* might be. As she looked about her, Lucy noticed a gleaming reflection in the library window. Her heart pounded as she turned to locate her light companion. But instead, what she saw was a little girl, reading quietly. The little girl's frame was still but her eyes danced and glittered as she took in the words of the book in front of her. Lucy watched and a warm smile spread across her face as she realised the little girl was reading *The Book of Light*.

Lucy left the library and stood outside in the daylight. The sun shone down happily upon her as she began her walk home. Anyone passing her might have noticed the appearance of a little twinkle, reflecting in the corner of her eye. But it was probably just the sun.

Thoughts on locally managed library marketing activities

Liis Cotter, Librarian, Adult Mental Health Service, Cork

In April 2023, LA Hackett and TM Kline published an article on sustaining library marketing activities with an annual schedule (<https://doi.org/10.1080/15323269.2023.2194806>) and it got me thinking about what I am doing to advertise the library services to my current patrons and to any HSE staff member within my service remit who does not yet engage with the library.

While a lot of the activities Hackett and Kline mention in their work, such as development of a marketing plan based on an academic schedule, start with creating a marketing committee and identifying and developing specific roles and tasks for specific staff members, this does not necessarily suit my library setting. Obviously, as a solo librarian for an Adult Mental Health Service in Cork, these wonderful team-based initiatives are out of my reach locally. However, I did take note of some of their marketing activities and tried to develop locally acceptable versions of these, be they outreach related or involve more effective communication with current patrons.

So what did I come up with and what are we talking about when we think of 'marketing activity'?

"A marketing activity is defined as any activity or service provided by a library staff member to a group or groups outside the library with the intent to raise awareness of library services and resources. A marketing activity may be as simple as submitting a paragraph about a new library resource to the monthly physicians' newsletter or as complex as participating in the hospital's annual safety fair." (Hackett & Kline, 2023).

Firstly, I realised that I am already doing a fair bit of outreach work. Well, I am going to call this the "out outreach", which in this case refers to doing outreach and liaising with organisations outside of my own. For example, I am keeping up to date with the needs and requirements of educational institutions, such as with University College Cork (UCC), for their nursing student population, This is achieved through regular Practice Development Team Meetings. With local public libraries: Cork City Libraries and Cork County Library, this happens via co-production of advertisement campaigns of resources they have that are available to our patients.

Email updates

Creation of monthly marketing pieces is not something I could rely on having time for, but I think that regular reminders are necessary and looking back at email trails, I see that I tend to send out an update or other communication via heads of disciplines every 3-4 months. These could be related to ongoing national work Health Library Ireland is doing, such as locally promoting the QI research bulletin on the Patient Safety Day using emails and posters, or, regular emails go out in relation to Health Library Ireland's Infoskills training sessions. Offering free training is always a good reason to send an email and every now and again I see a patron who does not have a library account but has decided to avail of the training session. Something much more local and simple can be an eye-catching email introducing our newest printed or e-books on a certain topic.

Online LibGuides and printed introductory booklets

Earlier this year, we published an updated version of HLI's Mental Health LibGuide

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(and I am forever grateful to our most wonderful colleague from Midland Regional Hospital in Mullingar, Margaret Morgan, for all the advice and help she has given to get this across the line).

Still, in this digital era, I believe that it is easy to forget how important and effective little printed pieces are, be they posters or booklets. Earlier this year, I put together an introductory booklet that promotes Health Library Ireland services and explains our local library facilities. The idea for this came from our Executive Clinical Director who was looking to have something at hand to take to the heads-of-disciplines meetings when discussing updates to our library services. As some staff, i.e. the non-consultant hospital doctors (NCHDs) change more regularly, it is important to have something to refer to, whether the material is digital or printed. And yes, digital resources are wonderful, snazzy and colourful, but we tend to find them when we look for them. A printed booklet or a poster, however, can be spotted randomly, as someone walks into the room and notices the information stand or glances at posters on a display board while waiting for the kettle to boil in a staff tearoom. It is passive communication, but it works.

Introductory talks

As mentioned before, this type of activity is usually referred to as outreach (Clark, 2021), but as I work within the clinical setting, it does not feel much like that for me. If we are talking about library induction sessions, we usually think about the new NCHDs starting and a session that can be given as part of their overall induction. While this is perfectly fine, and indeed absolutely necessary, it leaves out all other disciplines. So in order to offer something to other disciplines (in my case they would be nurses, OTs, social workers, psychologists, and admin) I contact the heads of disciplines and offer a brief session (max 10 min) that can take place at the beginning of their team meeting, for example. This method of marketing has proven very efficient, as it allows the staff to see you, even for that 10 minutes, and perhaps ask a question or two. Meeting face to face also breaks down communication barriers and I feel that people are then more likely to get in touch and ask for help with their projects.

Email signatures

This is by no means a big campaign, but since I have added important sites as hyperlinks to my email signature, I've been told that this is how someone found out about nursing journal club or about the Mental Health LibGuide. So if you have not done so yet, add a link and let it do its work.

Library Advisory Committee

Of all the marketing activities listed here, creating a Library Advisory Committee (LAC) is possibly the most important one, as it allows for an interactive promotional approach and seamless opportunities for feedback, as noted by Thaha & Purnamasari (2021). In my previous job in Marine Institute, I used to have a LAC made up of representatives of all of the institute's departments and it worked really well, so I was keen to start one in Adult Mental Health Service, Cork also.

I agreed a plan for this with my line manager and contacted heads of disciplines so they could advertise this role within their teams. It was important to me that the representatives were voluntary, as this is the only way to achieve the best results.

Thoughts on locally managed library marketing activities

Liis Cotter, Librarian, Adult Mental Health Service, Cork

The role of LAC members is twofold:

- to enhance their own discipline's awareness of the available library resources by helping me disseminate library-related information
- to advocate for any library-related resources their teams might need - engaging with the library in order to guide purchases to support any projects you might be undertaking

Talking about library resources in a medical setting can be difficult due to urgent competing priorities. It is only right that our staff want to focus on patient care and as the service is very busy, it can be difficult to find time to engage with the library services unless they are doing a specific project that needs library input. I was ready to expect difficulties in finding my LAC members, but to my surprise, hands went up quickly in most departments, so I am very hopeful that this is a good sign and our first communication will be the annual library quiz.

Library Ireland Week quiz

Since 2019, I have been running a library quiz as a small fun way to remind all staff that we have a library and to encourage them to find out more by going on our website. There are typically only 10 questions and the topics vary in different years (so far we have covered librarians, famous libraries, must-know authors, and this year the questions will test the participants' knowledge of different fantastical literary worlds). The prize is mostly bragging rights and I encourage participation by keeping a score between different disciplines. Every year, I also include a question or two about our library collection, the answer to which can only be found by visiting the HLI online catalogue.

All of the aforementioned activities make up my local library marketing strategy. Although I have not tried to maintain it using an Excel type document (as described by Hackett & Kline), I have started looking for suitable apps, not only to help keep track but also to plan better and to make sure I evaluate each activity for both possible improvement and overall efficiency. The benefit of using an app is that it generates email reminders for activities, tasks, automated workflow options, and a whole campaign can possibly be set up with just a few clicks. Of course, generally, apps are more suited to marketing teams, allowing team members to work together and allocate tasks and develop shared calendars for projects but I am looking forward to identifying and piloting some to see how I can make them work for me as a solo librarian.

To sum up, here are my marketing activities that perhaps could be suitable for other solo librarians:

- Quartely(ish) library update emails (covering updates, HLI Infoskills training calendar)
- Library introductory booklet
- Online library guide
- Library Advisory Committee
- Links to library website (and suitable current library campaigns) in email signatures
- collaborations between libraries and other institutions.

Thoughts on locally managed library marketing activities

Liis Cotter, Librarian, Adult Mental Health Service, Cork

- Embrace outreach. This may be conventional, by offering introductory talks within your institution, or it may involve looking further and joining relevant teams and committees that allow you to engage with potential library patrons to enable potential future collaborations between libraries and other institutions.

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Irish Medical Families

Ailish Farragher

They say that the traditional professions, such as medicine and the law, are closed shops – well, this was true in medieval Ireland. The Gaelic Order, a complex social system, dictated that noble families had their own personal physicians and that these physicians passed on their books, skills, and knowledge to their children, creating a hereditary profession. This tradition was extant between roughly 1100 and 1700 A.D [1]. Student doctors went to Irish medical schools regulated by these families, schools such as Aghmacart, Co. Laois, governed by the “Ó Conchubhair in the Mac Giolla Phádraig lordship of Upper Ossory.” [2]. The families designed curricula, trained students, translated and taught texts, and enjoyed tenure on hereditary lands of the noble families. [3]

Students spent years of study in the medium of Irish, translating core texts from the Latin, “texts compiled by doctors at the medical schools of Montpellier and Salerno and other English and continental universities, from the twelfth to the seventeenth century” [2].

From commentary regarding the learned physician, Donnchadh Óg Ó Conchubhair (*fl.* 1586-1610), physician to Fínghean Mac Giolla Pádraig, the third Lord Baron of Upper Ossory, it can be inferred that an Irish medical education and a continental education were considered on a par. [3] This excellence in scholarship led to the production of many derivative texts, books whose contents are following on from an Irish translation of an original Latin text. According to *Nic Dhonnchadha*, “Derivative treatises such as these testify to the complete assimilation by Irish learned physicians of contemporary European medical doctrine.” [3]

Family physicians would curate books of medicine particular to ailments of the family, including standard treatment and bespoke remedies [4]. It has recently been discovered that a standard medical text, the 11th Century Arabic Ibn Sīnā’s *Canon of Medicine*, was translated into Irish from the Latin in the 15th Century. [5]

More than one hundred medical manuscripts survive (from 1400-1700 A.D.) and are housed in libraries throughout Ireland, most notably in the Royal Irish Academy (RIA) and the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies (DIAS). Offering more than just medical observations and translations, these manuscripts contain rich commentary on travel, weather, patients, and personal events. Notable translations of standard Latin texts (e.g. *Ó Cuinn’s Herbal*) often contain marginalia describing specific body parts, which related to which herb, and recipes for compound medicines etc. Through translating astronomical and astrological Arabic treatises [6] and translating leading Portuguese, Italian, and Latin medical science into Irish, Gaelic scholarship maintained an international reputation and a high standard, passed down from generation to generation and supported by the patronage of noble families.

With the fall of the Gaelic Order came the destruction of this regulated hereditary knowledge economy. Dublin, London, and the continent became the locus of study and prestige for medical families. By the end of the 1700s, Ireland saw the nascent Church and State programmes of public health, a system still with us to this day. [7]

Irish Medical Families

Ailish Farragher

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A librarian's contribution in establishing a successful multidisciplinary journal club

Fiona Lawler, Librarian, Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services

I manage a specialised library at Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services (OLH&CS). The library is available to all staff, volunteers and students on placement working in the areas of palliative care, rheumatic and musculoskeletal disease, and care of the older person. The library is located in the Education and Research Centre and I also support academic and research staff who work within the Department.

The following is a brief summary regarding my contribution to establishing a multidisciplinary journal club in a residential care setting, which was set up in April 2022 in OLH&CS.

The impetus for the introduction of a multidisciplinary journal club within our residential care setting emerged from a quality improvement initiative aimed at engaging clinical staff with academic literature. The journal club was considered to be an informal platform for staff working with older people to discuss the emerging issues they experienced daily, in a safe environment, with support from an education team. The journal club also offered an avenue for education that did not require the extensive time commitment typically associated with completing education programmes or modules.

One of the first steps taken to facilitate the setting up of a journal club was to establish an education team. I was invited to join, along with the nurse tutor and Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) for Older Person Services. Once the team was formed, other steps were taken and included: determining the frequency and duration of the club's meetings; setting objectives; assigning roles to the team members; establishing ground rules; choosing relevant articles to discuss, and evaluating journal club meetings.

In relation to roles assigned to team members, I assisted staff who were interested in presenting to find relevant articles from sources such as the CINAHL database. I also supported the team with scheduling of room bookings, publicising the journal club, for example, displaying posters on ward and department notice boards, ordering refreshments and taking attendance.

Since the process began, 11 journal clubs have been held. Following the first two journal clubs, which were led by the nurse tutor and ANP for older person services, some staff members volunteered to select and present at a journal club themselves. Some examples of peer-review articles discussed included: pain management in dementia care; cognitive stimulation therapy; falls in residential care settings, and transition to nursing-home care. For one of the sessions, I presented a paper written by Grainger, A. (2022), which focused on understanding evidence-based care. It provided attendees with an opportunity to explore the principles of evidence-based practice in more detail and discuss its importance in the delivery of healthcare.

In order to ensure achievement of the journal club objectives, we decided to evaluate the sessions periodically (the fourth - cognitive stimulation therapy, and ninth - transition to nursing home care). Attendees were asked to anonymously complete an evaluation form that involved listing some elements of the journal club they liked and some elements they would consider changing. Overall, the feedback was highly positive and attendees felt that the topics being discussed were relevant to their practice and that the journal club

**A librarian's contribution in establishing a
successful multidisciplinary journal club**
Fiona Lawler, Librarian, Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services

represented a safe forum. One of the suggestions made for improvement was to extend the session from 45 minutes to an hour to enable more time for discussion.

In June 2023, the nurse tutor, the ANP for Older Persons Services, and I, decided to write an article describing the process of establishing a multidisciplinary journal club. Recently, we were successful in getting the paper published in the journal 'Nursing Older People' – see full reference below

We continue to run a multidisciplinary journal club on a monthly basis and plan to formally evaluate this intervention in the next year to see how it impacts on clinical practice.

My contribution to the development of this educational initiative has afforded me the opportunity to collaborate and work with colleagues from other disciplines across OLH&CS. Furthermore, my involvement has been really helpful in raising the profile of the library and I believe this experience has also enhanced my professional development. Finally, this summary piece demonstrates the valuable role librarians can play in establishing a journal club in order to support healthcare professionals to maintain their knowledge and improve patient care.

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The HSLG Mentoring Programme

Jean McMahon

At the recent HSLG AGM, the Committee announced a Mentoring programme for all members, which will have its official launch at the Conference in March. Mentoring already happens in an unofficial way for many in the LIS world. This project will create a formal structure for Mentoring, whereby experienced Librarians and Library Assistants can register to be Mentors, and members will also be able to request a Mentor.

A two-hour, online training programme will be provided by HSLG. This will be facilitated by Executive Coach, Eimear Carney, and the first session will take place on the 1st of February. We will circulate information on how you can register nearer the time. Anyone who wishes to sign up as a Mentor will be required to undertake this training.

Once the programme is up and running, potential Mentees will be able to select a Mentor from a list on the HSLG website. The commitment will be for six one-hour sessions, one per month. At the end of that time, Mentees will be asked to complete an evaluation of the Mentoring experience.

The Mentee

New to the organisation or profession or interested in joining.
Wishes to be guided and advised by a more experienced person

- Wishes to acquire in-depth knowledge of an organisation/role
- Seeks a safe space to ask questions
- Needs a sounding board for potential challenges
- Looking for guidance outside line management/own organisation
- Wants to seek advice from someone highly regarded
- Trying to grow their network
- Needs to learn strategy and how to navigate the organisation/profession
- Hoping to develop the right skills to further career/change career
- Wishes to build confidence and competence
- Will take ownership of own learning and progress
- Open to being challenged and receiving feedback and recommendations
- Committed to the Process



At the HSLG Conference in March, there will be a session on Mentoring where you will have the opportunity to hear Eimear engage in a 'fireside chat' with Jean McMahon, HSLG Committee Member, who is also a Coach and Mentor. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and raise any concerns you might have about becoming a HSLG Mentor. You will also be able to find out about the advantages of having a Mentor if you are a Mentee.

The HSLG Mentoring Programme

Jean McMahon

Benefits to the Profession

Mentoring already happens in an unofficial way for many in the LIS world. This project will create a formal Mentoring programme under the umbrella of the Health Sciences Libraries Group - LAI

- Promotes health librarianship
- Involves engagement with others in Library and Information roles
- Encourages innovation
- Facilitates succession planning
- Enhances competence and confidence
- Helps with attraction and retention of staff
- Faster development of new leaders
- Supports change management
- Strengthens and reinforces leadership skills of current managers
- Reverse mentoring can prove a useful source of information
- Promotes knowledge transfer
- Cost neutral (with the possible exception of training)



Mentoring is not training. As a Mentor, you are not expected to train your Mentee in the skills required for the job. While there are areas of overlap, Mentoring is also quite different to Coaching.

Mentoring and Coaching

Mentoring

May be Directive
Usually Successful in Same Career
Not a formal qualification
Work/Career-Focused
Can Give Expert Advice
May be Ongoing
Held in high regard

Trust
Respect
Listening
Empowerment
Confidential
Rapport
Empathy
Communication
Challenging
Support
Safe

Coaching

Always Non-Directive
May Have Different Career
Formal Qualification
Focus can be on any area
Based on Powerful Questioning
Short Duration - Timebound
Coach usually not known to Coachee



The training facilitated by Eimear Carney will give potential Mentors an excellent overview of what Mentoring is. Eimear will discuss both the positives and pitfalls and she will highlight the importance of boundaries in a Mentoring relationship and issues around contracting.

Keep an eye on the HSLG mailing list for further information and make sure to book your place at the HSLG Conference taking place in Dublin on Thursday 7th March 2024.

Librarians in Interesting Roles

Technology Enhanced Learning Manager, Tallaght University Hospital

Manon van Alphen

When asked to write for HINT about my role, I wondered what could be interesting. In the previous issue you read Tom's story, who is my colleague here in Tallaght University Hospital (TUH), so by now you have an idea what we do up here in the Centre for Learning and Development.

Our routes in professional lives to get where we are now have been slightly different, although we both have a library background.

After finishing my Library and Information Studies in Amsterdam, I worked for a number of years in a municipal public library outside the Dutch capital, and weaved my way from children's librarian to digital librarian. I had actually started to work in that library during my studies and so I setup a programme to teach patrons how to use the internet, which at just that moment was becoming publicly available. The programme was actually quite a success (especially as there was no other programme anywhere available at the time), so much so that I was asked to lead and instruct a group of fellow senior librarians to expand the teaching to other groups as well: migrant women, the elderly and students at a number of local secondary schools (the Dutch equivalent of DES-schools).

I loved the teaching but also the IT related aspects and was involved in this kind of librarianship for quite a number of years. I have to admit that I took a few side-steps: from being a programmer/trainer for a quite specific programming-tool, to being a senior global marketing consultant, who travelled all over Europe to visit various offices. I then landed for half a year here in Dublin and am still here after 18 years (and not planning to leave any time soon).

Still, the library environment was something I missed, and so, after being made redundant after 13 years, I decided not only to enrol in UCD to (finally!) do my Masters in Library and Information Science, but, as I had just missed the January enrolment for that, I enrolled in a one-year honours Bachelor Degree in Digital Technology, Design and Innovation at TU Dublin.

After receiving my MLIS diploma, I found a job in a private, third-level college in Dublin as Head of Library, Information Systems and Enhancement. I loved all aspects of the role: looking after the library (OK a miniscule library, but still a library), everything IT related in the college, and also teaching students a number of research related subjects. I thought I would stay there for a long time, until Jean (Head of Library and Information Services in TUH) sent around an email to HSLG about the Technology Enhanced Learning Manager (TEL Manager) position in TUH. That role had to be for me: it really ticked all the boxes: education, technology and yes, there is a lot of library specific knowledge which comes in really handy to this role.

I noticed this connection too when this year, I did the diploma course in Technology Enhanced Learning at the University of Galway (previously NUIG). It's not just the specific

Technology Enhanced Learning Manager, Tallaght University Hospital
Manon van Alphen

activities which we as librarians have done/are doing in our library roles, which are broad and many, but mainly our way of being able to think or tackle a problem. A good example is how at the info desk, questions might be asked, and many times the request results in a completely different answer at the end, as the person didn't ask what they were really looking for, but we – the Sherlocks of this world- have a nose for these things!

My daily tasks can vary from creating metrics reports in relation to employee educational data, to leading the day-to-day management and strategic development of our LMS (HSeLanD), as well as finding ways in which colleagues can improve the quality of education through the use of technology. There are a lot of projects which involve creating new online training modules: some short, and others longer. Most of all, key to the job is that it is really client-facing. In that sense too: once a librarian, always a librarian. And if you are interested in a combination of education, technology and librarianship: keep an eye on positions in Technology Enhanced Learning. It's a fabulous environment and certainly never dull.

Research and Information Intersection

Bernard Barrett, TUSLA

I must confess that sometimes I'm nervous to admit, perhaps to my shame, that I'm a professionally qualified and accredited librarian because, when I do, the type of response I get (at least from the uninitiated) is, "Oh, you must like books then!" which is when it gets tempting to start throwing things at the person (metaphorically speaking of course!).

I am a professionally qualified and accredited librarian, like all of us here and, by virtue of my professional as well as academic qualifications, I also consider myself to be an experienced researcher. One of the advantages I've always felt of being a librarian is that you don't necessarily have to be a subject specialist to be a researcher. Even if we don't know anything about the subject, we possess the searching and reading skills which enable us to search or mine information and knowledge, organize it, and come up to speed on a subject quite quickly.

A good recent example of this was when the Research Office I work in was approached by our National Operations Management Team, to see if we could provide information on the policies and practices of all 27 EU member states regarding the reception and management of unaccompanied minors. Given the still huge number arriving here in Ireland, we needed to review our own policy and practice to be able to still work effectively with these huge numbers, considering the capacity that exists within the organisation.s

The Research Manager came to me and said, "It looks like this is one for you as we don't know where to start". Having agreed to take it on, the next step was to sit down together and formulate a precise set of questions around what National Operations needed to know. From there, I carried out several literature searches and reviews or appraisals across not just scholarly literature, but EU government department websites, human rights reports, and others, with the result being a document which profiles the policies and practices of all the EU states regarding the questions asked. The icing on the cake was when, having written to several government departments in frontier states such as Italy (and I admit I cheated here and used Google Translate), I received a precise response back yesterday from the relevant government ministry.

National Operations, to my surprise, were delighted with the research. So, for my sins, I must now make a trip up to Dublin on December 7th to present on my findings and anything else that arrives before then to a National Consultative Group which is tasked with making decisions on this.

My point in writing all this is not to boast about what I've done, but to highlight that there is a real intersection between information and research, something which many researchers – and even, in some cases, librarians – seem unwilling to admit. I was in communication recently with a fellow librarian concerning a piece of work and, in response, I received a list of the things that librarians don't do, such as providing an annotated bibliography (which involves reading and interacting with the literature) or providing a literature review (as we are not subject experts, and this process is completed by researchers).

Why not, was and is my reaction. Granted, exercises such as the above take time

Research and Information Intersection

Bernard Barrett, TUSLA

and, depending on staffing and library situation, may not always be possible. However, when librarians often undertake systematic reviews, critical appraisal, peer review and much more, why limit ourselves?

From a personal as well as professional perspective, even if it can be challenging with the daily routine, the imperative must always be to grow and develop and our professional skills and knowledge ideally equip us for all this.

Report from HSLG Bursary Award Winner

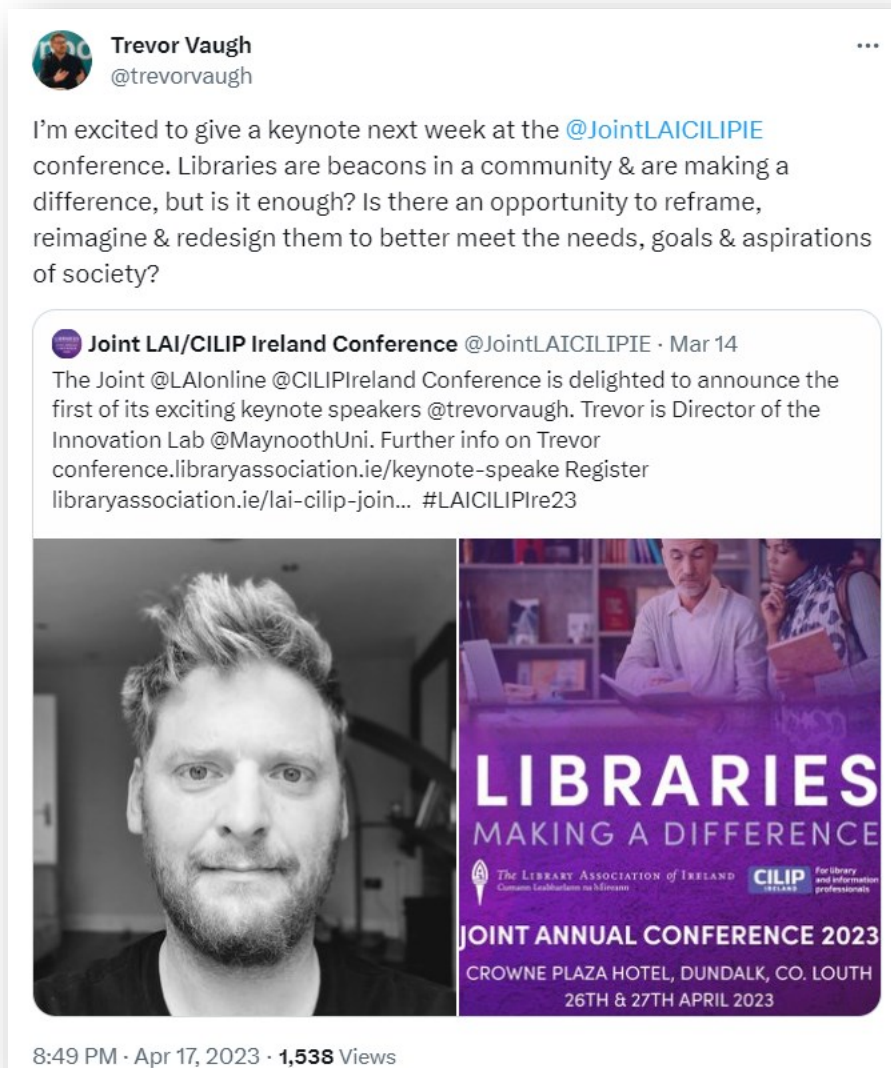
LAI/CILIP Ireland Annual Joint Conference 2023 VS Adventure 2023

Mingli Gong

I was very grateful to be able to attend this year's LAI/CILIP Ireland Annual Joint Conference with a bursary from HSLG. There are so many things I would like to share as a newbie poster presenter and an international student of librarianship.

The Joint Conference 2023 explored the theme of 'Libraries: A World of Possibilities' and what that means in all library contexts. There were talks by librarians based in school libraries, public libraries, prison libraries and other specialist libraries.

Sparkles in "Libraries: making a difference" Keynote Speaker: Trevor Vaughn, Director of the Innovation Lab at Maynooth University. Before the conference, Trevor posted a Tweet on X (formerly Twitter)



<https://twitter.com/trevorvaughn/status/1648051144743178263>

LAI/CILIP Ireland Annual Joint Conference 2023 VS Adventure 2023

Mingli Gong

‘Libraries are beacons in a community & are making a difference, but is it enough? Is there an opportunity to reframe, reimagine & redesign them to better meet the needs, goals & aspirations of society?’. He posed the question: The year is 2043. You have just walked into your library. What do you see that excites you? The world as we know it is changing. ‘To make better, imagine what better might be’. To change, he believed that we must have a vision of what better might look like and what the journey entails. This will provide the energy, motivation and inspiration to make it real. He quoted Peter Drucker: ‘The greatest danger in times of turbulence is not the turbulence; it is to act with yesterday’s logic’.

Vanessa Buckley and Catherine Bodey: End Period Poverty Initiative at UCD Library

talked about the UCD library strategy for 2020-2024. Their priority is to try to change the culture of the library of the future to create an inclusive library that treats everyone with dignity and respect.

They discussed the evolution of period advertising, and how the #PeopleHavePeriods campaign was born, harnessing social media to amplify the message, They outlined the key elements in designing a poster and all the channels that can be used for engagement.

David Hughes, Robert Alfis: A Digital Library for the Irish Further Education and Training Sector

David and Robert work as the Digital Systems Librarian and Library Development Officer at Education and Training Boards Ireland (ETBI) Further Education and Training (FET) digital library service. <https://library.etbi.ie/home> I must highlight how effective their website is, a clear layout giving detailed information with a green theme. One of the things they highlighted is how the ETBI FET digital library resource makes a difference, one recent example being resources made available for Ukrainians in Ireland.

More?

There were so many excellent talks at the conference. Martina Chapman, Media Literacy Consultant, gave an inspiring talk and called on libraries to be key actors in countering disinformation.

Dr Mary Delaney told the conference that she was delighted to be taking on the role as Editor of *An Leabharlann*, and that she looks forward to working with library colleagues and the Library Association of Ireland in continuing the long rich tradition of *An Leabharlann*.

Ann Byrne, digital librarian, and library assistant, Emberly Dave, from Hibernia College, spoke about ‘Establishing an Institutional Repository: The story of IASC’. This is a link to Ann’s presentation slides: <https://iasc.hiberniacollege.com/handle/20.500.13012/150>

LAI/CILIP Ireland Annual Joint Conference 2023 VS Adventure 2023

Mingli Gong

Laura Rooney Ferris talked about ‘In their own words: Librarians Aloud! A podcast about librarians making a difference’. See more at <https://soundcloud.com/librariansaloud> This is by librarians for library and information professionals or anyone interested in what it is information professionals do. Each episode features a guest telling their origin story, sharing insight into their career path and discussing the future of information and knowledge sharing and discovery. I was like a time traveller and amazed to hear the audio clip from those 36 tracks.

Thank-you Note and Reflection on My Adventure 2023

This was a really exciting conference, full of inspiring talks and ideas. I believe there are few opportunities to meet so many librarians in one place and learn so much about their different roles in just one day. Every speaker shared their contact information at the end of the presentations. That means that in true librarian fashion, they are open to us all to reach out and to ask questions and share information.

Here are some of the posters, shared by Jessica Bates:

https://twitter.com/Jessica_Bates/status/1651604195571539970

Best poster:

<https://twitter.com/AliceMorrissey/status/1651600217144283139>

Thank you so much for taking the time to read my piece of work. We all did a great job in 2023. Here's to a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

LAI/CILIP Ireland Annual Joint Conference 2023: 'Libraries: A World of Possibilities'		Programme
Wednesday April 26th 2023		
09:00	Registration, Refreshments, Sponsor Visits, Poster Viewing	
10:30	Plenary 1: Welcome: Cathal McCauley, President of the Library Association of Ireland (LAI), Lorna Dodd, Chair of the LAUCIP Joint Conference 2023	
10:45	Keynote: Trevor Vaughn, Maynooth University	
11:30	Sponsor Talks: Surfbar, Homecare Medical	
11:40	Breakout Sessions 1: Louth Library Service as a Library of Sanctuary Lorna Burgess	Cork City Libraries as a play partner- the role of the public library service in supporting access to play for all Eithin Cassidy
12:00	Studio Saturdays at d/r Leixcon Susan Lynch	Poetry as Commemoration: Community outreach, building collections and collaboration Evelyn Flanagan
12:20	End Period Poverty Initiative at UCD Library Vanessa Buckley and Catherine Boddy	UK and Irish Legal Deposit: A Transnational Endeavour Dr Linda Arnold Stratford
12:40	Question & Answer Session	Question & Answer Session
12:50	Lunch & Sponsor Visits	
13:50	Breakout Sessions 2: Weathering the storm- creating resilient partnerships. The Fence Close Project. Elizabeth Keane and Dr. Lucy Ellis	Who is a Librarian? Reflections in the Changing Environment and the Challenges to maintain Professional Identities Jane Burns
14:10	'Partnering up' delivering projects through collaborative partnerships in an academic university Aine Canny	Inspiring the Librarians of tomorrow Librarians of the future Emma McKague and Graham Montgomery
14:30	Why do we collaborate? Reflections on the benefits of partnerships, and trying different things, at UCC Library Martin O'Connor	Circulating a place for community, culture and conversation Angela Harmon
14:50	Question & Answer Session	Question & Answer Session
15:00	Meeting of the County & City Librarians Section of the LAI	
15:00	Refreshments, Poster Viewing, Sponsor Visits	
15:20	Plenary 2: Sponsor Talks: EBSICO, Better World Books	
15:30	In their own words: Librarians Aloud! A podcast record of librarians making a difference. Laura Rooney Ferris	
15:55	An Irishman's: The Irish Library Dr. Mary Delaney	
16:15	Question & Answer Session	
16:30	Library Visit	
18:00	Drinks Reception	
20:00	Conference Dinner	

LAI/CILIP Ireland Annual Joint Conference 2023: 'Libraries: A World of Possibilities'		Programme
Thursday April 27th 2023		
08:30	Registration and Poster Viewing	
09:00	Plenary 3: Welcome: Chair CILIP Ireland	
09:30	Keynote: Martina Chapman Media Literacy Consultant	
10:00	Sponsor Talks: Social Ability, Cubbie, Design Concept	
10:15	Plenary: Prison Library Research in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland Dr Jessica Bates (Ipswich), Dr Joyce Enley and Dr Susannah Hanlon	
10:50	Refreshments, Sponsor Visits & Poster Viewing	
11:20	Breakout Sessions 3: Assessment Friendly Libraries: A EBSICO Assessment Network and Kildare Libraries collaboration (supported by Irish Hospice Foundation) Dr Amanda Roberts, Suzanne Bronan, Deartha Ni Mhaolagáin	The Global reach of the H2LENDUS Institutional repository in delivering COVID-19 Evidence Summaries Niamh Walter-Heason
11:40	Pride in Louth Library Service Ray Condon and Cara Brogan	Establishing an Institutional Repository: The story of AIC Aine Byrne, Embury Davey
12:00	Cork City Library and the Development of ICLIP e-Policy for the Local Authority Thomas Talbot	The Exploring Your Digital Identity Module Dr. Marta Brodzka
12:20	Question & Answer Session	Question & Answer Session
12:30	Lunch & Sponsor Visits	
13:30	Breakout Sessions 4: IS78 Room: Blowing up our approach to Social Media: Public Libraries and TikTok Laila Moriarty	Knowledge and Skills for Life: School Libraries in disadvantaged areas in Northern Ireland Cathal Cryle, PhD Researcher
13:50	Towarilla Library-Friendly County Carlow Irish Helix	School Libraries in Ireland: Navigating the Future Kathleen Moran
14:10	Being creative in making your (special) collections available through innovative tools and technology Stephanie Chen	A Digital Library for the Irish Further Education and Training Sector David Hughes, Robert Allis
14:30	Question & Answer Session	Question & Answer Session
14:40	Sponsor Talks: All Vision Media, Newmag, Bolinda	
14:55	Keynote: Spotlight on Public Libraries	
15:30	Conference Close & Best Poster Prize: Vice President of the LAI and Lorna Dodd, Chair of the LAUCIP Joint Conference 2023	

LITE Reading (Library, Information, Technology & Evidence)

Mary Dunne, Health Research Board



Vol. 111 No. 4 (2023): October 2023

<https://jmla.mlanet.org/ojs/jmla>

Editorial - Introducing the journal of the medical library association's policy on the use of generative artificial intelligence in submissions. Jill T. Boruff, Michelle Kraft, Alexander J. Carrol, JMLA (2023) 111(4) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2023.1826>

With the arrival of ChatGPT, the academic community has expressed concerns about how generative artificial intelligence will be used by students and researchers alike. After consulting policies from other journals and discussing among the editorial team, we have created a policy on the use of AI on submissions to JMLA. This editorial provides a brief background on these concerns and introduces our journal policy.

LGBTQ+ health research guides: a multi-institutional analysis of usage patterns and user information needs. Gregg A. Stevens, Martin Morris, Robin M. N. Parker, Francisco J. Fajardo, Erica R. Brody, Katie McLean. JMLA (2023) 111(4) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2023.1661>

LGBTQ+ health research guides can connect people to quality health services and information, and previous studies have recommended that health sciences libraries create and maintain these guides. Five North American academic health sciences libraries contributed select usage data from their LGBTQ+ health research guides, covering a three-year period. This study shows that people are accessing LGBTQ+ consumer health information through academic library research guides, with a preference for local information. Guide usage appears to be positively driven by outreach within one's institution and to the greater community. Locating external partners may increase guide impact and provide important links to local resources and services.

How do search systems impact systematic searching? A qualitative study. Andy Hickner, JMLA (2023) 111(4) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2023.1647>

Systematic reviews and other evidence synthesis projects require systematic search methods. Search systems require several essential attributes to support systematic searching; however, many systems used in evidence synthesis fail to meet one or more of these requirements. The author used thematic analysis from 12 interviews to identify two key themes relating to search systems: systems shape search processes, and systematic searching occurs within the information market. Many systems required for systematic reviews, in particular sources of unpublished studies, are not designed for systematic searching. Participants described various workarounds for the limitations they encounter in these systems. Economic factors influence searchers' selection of sources to search, as well as the degree to which vendors prioritize these users. Vendors must understand the unique requirements of systematic searching and recognize systematic searchers as a distinct group of users. Better interfaces and improved functionality will result in more efficient evidence synthesis.

LITE Reading (Library, Information, Technology & Evidence)

Mary Dunne, Health Research Board

Mapping the pathways to health sciences librarianship: reflections and future implications from an immersion session. Gregory Laynor, Natalie Tagge, Juliana Magro, Megan De Armond, Renée A. Rau, Emily Vardell. JMLA (2023) 111(4) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2023.1645>

Many health sciences librarians enter the profession without specific health sciences training. The following emerged as key pathways in a conference immersion session: library school education; internships and practica; the Library and Information Science (LIS) pipeline; on-the-job training; mentoring; self-teaching/hands-on learning; and continuing education. Themes of equity, diversity, and inclusion arose throughout the session, especially in the concluding whole group discussion. The authors conclude that small group discussions showed the value of community building in a profession that has multiple pathways for entrance, highlighting the importance of unearthing hidden knowledge about avenues for exploring and enhancing career pathways. The article seeks to address barriers to entry into the profession and adds to the literature on strengthening the field of health sciences librarianship.

Journals accepting case reports. Terri Gotschall, Angela Spencer, Margaret A. Hoogland, Elisa Cortez, Elizabeth Irish. JMLA (2023) 111(4) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2023.1747>

Few resources exist to support finding journals that accept case reports by specialty. The authors identified journal titles that accept case reports. Additional inclusion factors included being indexed in MEDLINE, accessible on the internet, and accepting and publishing English language submissions. The new journal list includes 1,028 journals covering 129 specialties and is available on the Open Science Framework public page.

Initial efforts to improve medical student information-seeking behavior with embedded library instruction. Angela Barr. JMLA (2023) 111(4) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2023.1771>

Medical students must develop self-directed information-seeking skills while they are learning vast amounts skills. Information literacy training provided to students will be more impactful when it is embedded into courses or assignments that mimic real-world scenarios. Retention of these skills is also improved by early and frequent instruction sessions, paired with formative feedback from librarian-educators. In the real-world application of back-to-back Georgetown University's Grand Rounds exercises, librarian-led instruction on clinical-specific resources appears to be correlated with an improvement in medical students' searching behavior. This trend supports the argument that introducing students early to librarian-led education on clinical-specific resources, and providing feedback on their searches, improves students' information-seeking behavior.

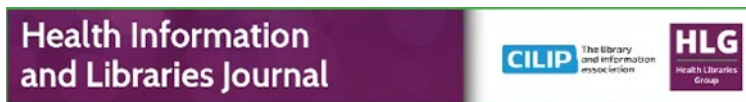
Continuing to evolve: opportunities to share technology enhancements with health sciences library peers through the virtual projects section. Emily Hurst, JMLA (2023) 111(4) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2023.1824>

The Virtual Projects section of JMLA provides an opportunity for library leaders and

LITE Reading (Library, Information, Technology & Evidence)

Mary Dunne, Health Research Board

and technology experts to share how new technologies are being adopted by health sciences libraries. From educational purposes to online tools that enhance library services or access to resources, the Virtual Projects section brings technology use examples to the forefront. Virtual Projects highlighted in this year's section include new ways to use [virtual reality for library instruction](#), [podcasting](#) to share important health care messages with the Latino Community, [enhancing findability](#) by using options in a library management system, and developing a [research profiling system](#). The publication issue for this section will be January and the call for submissions and Virtual Projects deadline will now take place in June and July.



Information technology and changing role models in German libraries: The example of OPEN-CAM. Christa K. Raak, Sebastian Unger, David D Martin, Thomas Ostermann, HILJ, 2023, 40(4) 436-439 <https://doi.org/10.1111/hir.12514>

Germany has a long tradition of health libraries. In modern times, this tradition has been continued by the Central Library of Medicine. In addition, special collection areas and special libraries that focus on one topic were established. Those services were transformed to specialized information services and portals as part of the digital transformation process. One of such projects is OPEN-CAM, which provides literature on integrative medicine in a specialist library and hosts the literature database CAMbase. Based on this example, we show how digital transformation has influenced the library landscape and its structures in Germany.



JoHILA 2023 4(2)

Tech showdown – Citation mapping tools special issue, Cassandra Gorton, JoHILA (2023) 4(2), 5-7 <https://doi.org/10.55999/johila.v4i2.153>

Tech Showdown is a regular feature of JoHILA. Novel products, software, and technologies will be compared against each other to determine who is the winner, based on available features, ease of use, and price. The tools selected for rating were: Inciteful, Litmaps, Open Knowledge Maps, Research Rabbit, Connected Papers, Local Citation Network, VOSviewer, Citation Chaser, and CiteSpace.

A universal keyboard shortcuts reminder (and two bonus tips), Rob Penfold, JoHILA (2023) 4(2), 27-33 <https://doi.org/10.55999/johila.v4i2.156>

This short article will describe an approach that requires remembering just one single solitary keyboard shortcut, and that will display a custom list of keyboard shortcuts specific to the program or website being used at the time. The program involved is AutoHotkey (version 1.1).

LITE Reading (Library, Information, Technology & Evidence)

Mary Dunne, Health Research Board

ChatGPT and AI Hysteria: why machine learning will change everything, and change nothing, Gina Velli, JoHILA (2023) 4(2), 8-18 <https://doi.org/10.55999/johila.v4i2.154>

The author focuses on the current landscape of machine learning and basic themes about this emerging technology. He discusses some difference between specialized clinical ML examples and more generalized LLM and touches on the risks associated with generalized large language models such as ChatGPT, while highlighting their numerous benefits.

New Zealand Medical Library faces the challenges of a cyberattack, Lyn Wood & Angela Broring, JoHILA (2023) 4(2), 19-26, <https://doi.org/10.55999/johila.v4i2.155>

In 2021 the Waikato District Health Board library team faced a new challenge – a cyberattack. The authors have put together an account of how they managed their library services during a challenging nine weeks.

Collaborating on Critically Appraised Topic (CAT) groups: librarians, clinicians and researchers integrating research into practice, Loretta Atkinson, Natalie Barker & Lars Eriksson, JoHILA (2023) 4(2), 34-37, <https://doi.org/10.55999/johila.v4i2.157>

A Critically Appraised Topic (CAT) is a summary of the best available evidence to answer a clinical question and presents a clinical 'bottom line', which is then shared, and the implications taken forward into clinical practice and research. CATs can be used to answer questions about diagnosis, prognosis, causation, treatments, patient pathways, or adverse reactions. CATs can also be used to appraise evidence about health service processes. The purpose of the CAT groups is to bring together experts in their field to work on a clinical question. The Library welcomed an opportunity to partner with STARS to contribute to making informed evidence-based decisions.



JEAHIL 2023 19(3)

<http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/index>

How to develop a focused research question for a rapid evidence review. Mann M. JEAHIL (2023) 19(3):9-13. <http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/article/view/575>

Rapid reviews are emerging as an alternative to systematic reviews, and they are now widely used to inform decision-making in healthcare. Some teams prepare reviews in a matter of days, instead of several weeks using streamlined systematic review methods. There are multiple roles for librarians within the evidence review process. As an expert searcher, the librarian must interact with the researchers, clinicians, and decision makers. A well-defined research question needs extreme specificity and preciseness which guides rest of the review. Developing a focused question workshop provided an overview of

LITE Reading (Library, Information, Technology & Evidence)

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rapid review methods. Discussion and activities on developing a focused research question. How to start with broad topic and narrow it down to a question that is clear, relevant and answerable.

BISON: we're in this together: building a Norwegian community of practice for librarians involved in work related to review articles. Johnsen KE, Gundersen M. JEAHIL (2023) 19(3):14-16. <http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/article/view/577>

Librarians involved in assisting researchers with planning, execution and documentation of systematic literature searches are well aware of the considerable amount of practice required to conduct reliable, transparent, and reproducible literature searches. In addition to building the necessary skills and knowledge, factors such as changes in databases, updates in standards or methodologies, and development of new tools makes it difficult to keep up to date. In response an online community of practice has been established in Norway to serve as a platform for facilitating knowledge sharing in these areas. This article describes the development, the activities, the challenges, and the possible future for the community.

Same search, different results: algorithm bias in various Discovery Tools in library search. Gualtieri F. JEAHIL (2023) 19(3):21-3. <http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/article/view/578>

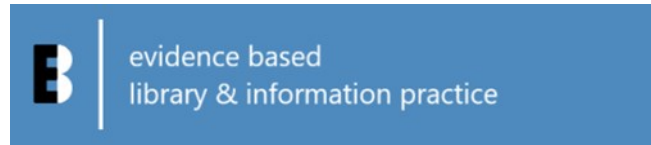
GIDIF-RBM (Italian Association of Health Librarians) in collaboration with TDNet Group performed a trial to test different discovery tools (DTs) functionalities. The aim was to test two search queries: “cystic fibrosis”, “osteoarthritis AND “chondrocyte” AND “cell therapy” using PubMed, Google Scholar, Ebsco EDS, Ex Libris Summon, and TDNet Discover tools. The working group examined the first 25 results for each query to determine the quality of the results in each tool, using PubMed as a benchmark. The search analysis included an evaluation of quality of the journals ranking via Shimago SJR, the number of citations for each paper, the years of publication, and how many of the first 25 results were open access. Findings indicate that DTs are powerful tools when managed consistently and holistically under team supervision. To make the best use of them, students and teachers must have information literacy skills, such as the ability to identify, evaluate, organize, use, and communicate information.

Competency building in a busy working day for librarians and for libraries. Lein R, Hunskaar I, Skagen T. JEAHIL (2023) 19(3):17-0. <http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/article/view/580>

Medical librarians know very well that they must build new competencies to offer relevant services and develop new library services. In a workshop at the EAHIL conference 2023, suggestions for competency building, and how libraries can build competency, were discussed. Positive and enthusiastic participants came up with many ideas: different types of clubs, webinars and courses, knowledge sharing with colleagues, regularly block out time, or just solve your tasks in a new way. The experiences showed that competency building in a busy work schedule is possible. The initiatives have in common that they portray an attitude to learn more, but also the willingness to organise activities and share competency with colleagues.

LITE Reading (Library, Information, Technology & Evidence)

Mary Dunne, Health Research Board



EBLIP 2023 18(3)

<https://journals.library.ualberta.ca/ebliip/index.php/EBLIP>

Continuing education and data training initiatives are needed to positively impact academic librarians providing data services. Prince, N (2023). Evidence Based Library and Information Practice, 18(3), 81–83. <https://doi.org/10.18438/ebliip30382>

A review of: Fuhr J (2022). Developing data services skills in academic libraries. College & Research Libraries, 83(3), 474. <https://doi.org/10.5860/crl.83.3.474>

The author provides an overview of the issues pertaining to the emerging field of data librarianship and established the significance of the study to the profession. His survey advances knowledge in this emerging field and brings attention to uncertainties surrounding the role of academic librarians rendering and supporting new data services for researchers. This study will help librarians of all experience levels to better understand the work of data librarianship. Administrators who are planning on expanding data services to their research community may use this study to identify core competencies needed by librarian staff as the author outlines specific skill sets needed. The insights gained are particularly useful because they are the perceptions of current practitioners performing diverse work in this emerging field.

Upcoming Events

Courtesy of the HSLG Events calendar <https://hslg.ie/calendar/>

Cochrane webinar: Evidence synthesis and certainty of evidence ratings in rapid reviews. January 25, 2024 @ 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm <https://training.cochrane.org/zoom/meeting/8RbakNoQR2SYXaH%252BoocbzA%253D%253D/signup>

Get to know health libraries with NHS Scotland. February 2, 2024 @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. <https://www.cilips.org.uk/events/health-libraries/>

Cochrane webinar: How to do a rapid qualitative review. February 28, 2024 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm. <https://training.cochrane.org/zoom/meeting/m7yOb5rsSoKs3UL4A35t5q%253D%253D/signup>

HSLG conference 2024: Who's afraid of the big bad wolf? March 7, 2024 @ 9:00 am - 4:30 pm. Ashling Hotel Dublin 10 - 13 Parkgate St, Stoneybatter, Dublin 8, Ireland <https://hslg.ie/>

A&SL conference 2024: Fair for all: creating equitable and universal access to information. March 21, 2024. Ashling Hotel Dublin 10 - 13 Parkgate St, Stoneybatter, Dublin 8, Ireland <https://aslibraries.ie/conference/>

CILIP Ireland/LAI annual joint conference 2024: Building for the future. April 24, 2024 @ 10:00 am - April 25, 2024 @ 5:00 pm. Canal Court Hotel and Spa Merchants Quay, Newry, Co. Down BT35 8HF Northern Ireland <https://www.cilip.org.uk/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1765612&group=>

EAHIL 2024: Small Step and a Giant Leap: Reorienting Towards a New Environment. June 11, 2024 - June 14, 2024. Riga , Latvia <https://eahil2024.rsu.lv/>

This is your HINT!

HINT is the newsletter of the Health Sciences Libraries Group of the Library Association of Ireland. It is compiled and produced by the HINT Editorial Team.

Suggestions for content are always welcome so please send your ideas and submissions to: contacthslg@gmail.com

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