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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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HSLG Annual Conference 2024

HSLG Committee

The HSLG Annual Conference 2024 took place on March 7th. Over 50 librarians from health, academic and other sectors gathered once more in the Ashling Hotel to learn, network, chat with publishers, and generally catch up with one another.

Entitled, *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf*, this year's theme focused on the challenges facing librarians now and in the future. In her welcome address, Niamh Lucey, HSLG Chair, reflected on the enduring themes of challenges and change in health librarianship which have featured heavily in HSLG conferences of the past. From the earliest event in 2001 to today, we have consistently proved our profession's resilience in the face of change, to not only survive these shifts in working practice, but also to thrive and flourish, as our speakers so ably demonstrated throughout the day.



Keynote speaker: Dr Lollie Mancey — [Howling innovation: unleashing the spirit of change in libraries](#)



Dr Lollie Mancey, UCD Innovation Academy

Our keynote speaker, Lollie Mancey, UCD Innovation Academy, captivated delegates for more than 90 minutes with a deep dive into the challenges and opportunities presented by artificial intelligence (AI) with a particular focus on the emergence of Large Language Models in recent years. As these tools continue to gain momentum, the workforce of tomorrow must confront a range of issues which are already part of the librarian landscape: automation; information overload; digital literacy; and rapidly changing skillsets, to name but a few. In her provocative and high engaging presentation, Lollie challenged us to think about the profound impact of digitisation on both our working and personal lives and to remember that, despite the remarkable capabilities of ChatGPT and others, uniquely human skills such as empathy, creativity and ethical decision-making, are irreplaceable. The take home message: it will always be Humans + Technology.

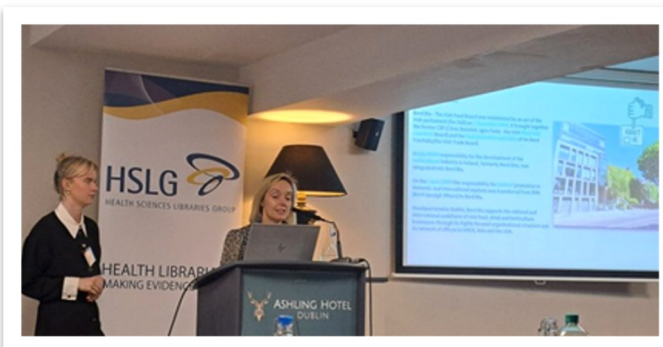
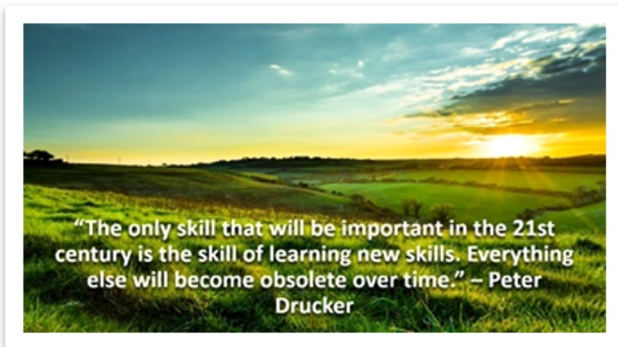
After a short break to meet our sponsors over coffee, we were back in the room to hear two presentations which built on the issues raised during the keynote talk.

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Mairéad McKeown & Lauren Sneyd — [How the Bord Bia Library is helping its users learn, know and sustainably grow with AI](#)

First up Mairéad McKeown & Lauren Sneyd from Bord Bia Library, outlined how their world class library service has pivoted to carefully integrate AI technologies to meet the changing need of its user base. Aligning their library collections with their organisation's digital training programme and creating a glossary of AI terms are just two examples of impactful changes the team has made. Mairead and Lauren finished their impressive presentation with 10 Tips in 10 minutes which went down particularly well with our delegates, always hungry for practical tidbits.



Mairéad McKeown & Lauren Sneyd, Bord Bia

Caitríona Lee — [Literature searches and AI in health libraries](#)

Our next speaker was Caitríona Lee from the Health Research Board, who explored the role of AI tools in literature searching and posed some questions for librarians to consider before engaging in or promoting these tools. Catriona presented the results from search strategies which she had run through some of the current big-hitter generative AI tools with some interesting – and sometimes concerning - results. As we were mid Seachtain na Gaeilge, she also represented our native language beautifully by teaching us all cúpla focail nua on these new concepts.

Intleacht shaorga & Seachtain na Gaeilge	
English	Gaeilge
Artificial intelligence	Intleacht shaorga (IS)
Chatbot	Bota comhrá
Generative AI	IS ghiniúnach
Machine learning	Meaisínfhoghlaim
Search strategy	Straitéis chuardaigh
Systematic review	Athbhreithniú córasach
Hospital/medical librarian	Leabharlannaí ospidéal/leighis

HRB Health Research Board <https://www.tearma.ie/> hrb.ie

After lunch it was time to launch the **HSLG Mentorship Programme** by way of an informal fireside chat between committee member Jean McMahon and Eimear Carney. Jean, in addition to her role in the library, is also a coach and mentor in her workplace, Tallaght University Hospital, and Eimear is an accredited coach, mentor and leadership professional who has been contracted by the HSLG to provide training and support for the programme.

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Jean and Eimear outlined the roles of mentor and mentee, what HSLG mentor training will involve, and how the mentorship relationship works. The conversation was then opened up to the floor with great participation from delegates. You can learn more about the HSLG Mentorship Programme on our website www.hslg.ie.



Eimear Carney and Jean McMahon

Breeda Herlihy — [First year of the HSLG literature search peer review buddy scheme](#)



Keeping it within the parish, HSLG committee member Breeda Herlihy was up next to report back on the first year of the Literature Search Peer Review Buddy Scheme. The scheme has had two rounds to date, each following a different process, with 36 participants in total (some took part in both rounds). Breeda presented on the rounds and on feedback which has been extremely positive. Suggestions for improvement will be considered for Round 3 which will be running later this

year. Keep an eye on our website and all our communication channels for further update.

Aoife Lawton — [Facing the future without fear: a strategy for the HSE Library Service](#)

For the next presentation, delegates were given a preview of the latest HSE library strategy presented by Aoife Lawton, HSE National Health Librarian. Aoife spoke of the fear culture that pervades society in these times of great uncertainty, and she outlined how planning for the future can mitigate against such fear. Building on the many achievements of the HSE Library since its first strategy, Aoife walked us through the main elements of the new plan which, step-by-step, will deliver on the overall aim to provide an integrated service delivering high quality information by health librarians to all. The strategy, which was formally launched later in March, is available online and you can read more about it in Aoife's article which appears in this issue of HINT.



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It was worth the long wait to hear our final two speakers of the day. Both talks delivered valuable information on emerging technologies to address the challenges of evidence synthesis and scoping reviews and were both practical and highly informative.

Louise Farragher — [Mind the Gap: mapping reviews and evidence gap maps](#)



Louise Farragher, Health Research Board

Louise Farragher, Health Research Board, delivered a succinct and educational overview of Evidence Gap Maps, emerging evidence tools that provide a big picture overview of a topic and identify gaps in knowledge. These are particularly relevant to the work carried out by the Evidence Centre team in the HRB. Louise presented some examples of these tools, as well as currently available guidance, and discussed the role that information specialists might play in their use.

Marie Carrigan — [Using citation-based literature mapping tools for scoping reviews](#)

Wrapping up the presentations, Marie Carrigan, Health Information and Quality Authority, focused on AI citation mapping tools which use visualisation maps to allow searchers to find papers relating to 'seed' publications. As the volume of publications increases exponentially, these tools can be combined with more traditional searching techniques to find the most relevant literature effectively. Marie finished with a live demonstration of Research Rabbit, showcasing its ability to search across multiple sources and present visual results in real time.



Marie Carrigan, Health Information and Quality Authority

What are Literature Citation Mapping Tools?

Taking one or more seed papers and using various techniques (e.g. open citation data), they find relevant papers



HSLG Annual Conference 2024
HSLG Committee

And so, a long and busy day finally ended. Those delegates not dashing for a bus or train were able to enjoy the drinks reception which followed, and the committee members were able to heave a massive sigh of relief at another conference successfully concluded.

The HSLG Committee sincerely thanks every speaker who gave their time to the conference and every delegate for their kind attention. We gratefully acknowledge and appreciate the support of our sponsors, without whom we couldn't run this event every year.

All presentations are available to view on our website and the report of the feedback survey is available to read in this issue of HINT.



WILEY



SPRINGER NATURE

HSLG Conference 2024: feedback from attendees

Mary Dunne, Research Officer, HSLG Committee

The HSLG Committee aims to organise events that meet the needs of our members and all others who attend. We were delighted, therefore, that the vast majority of those who responded to our feedback survey found our recent conference to be extremely relevant, interesting and useful (Figure 1).

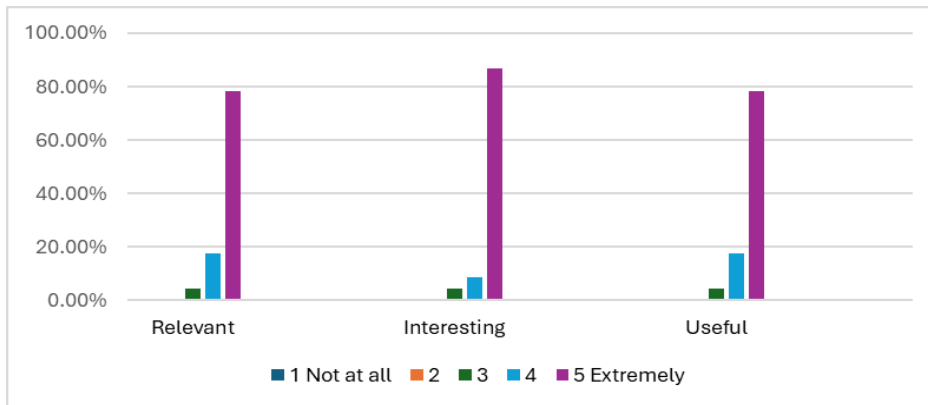


Figure 1. Overall views of the 2024 HSLG conference (n=23, 45%)

Opinions about the location, facilities and practical features of the day were similarly positive.

“Location, timings and food was all good and worked well.”

“Love the location and think you have the day down to a fine art.”

“Presentations were relevant, interesting and diverse in nature.”

Though the committee will be considering extra time for breaks and networking next year, so we can better keep to our schedule.

Inclusion is a priority, and we aim to keep fees as low as possible to enable attendance. Organisational costs continue to increase, however, so we are mindful of balancing income and expenditure. We asked survey participants if their organisation would pay for attendance at our conference. Interestingly, all but one said that they would cover the cost. We will endeavour to keep fees as low as possible and continue to provide the Bernard Barrett HSLG Conference Bursary for members.

Library and information professionals are expected to have a comprehensive understanding of an ever-growing number of competencies. We asked for topics or themes that would be suitable for future events. A very interesting range of options were provided, perhaps demonstrating the diverse nature of our roles. Some predominant themes include more on the practical application of artificial intelligence (AI), systematic reviews and searching, and marketing (Box 1).

HSLG Conference 2024: feedback from attendees

Mary Dunne, Research Officer, HSLG Committee

The committee are investigating possible online and in-person events on these topics. As always, recommendations for speakers or CPD providers are welcome at contacthslg@gmail.com. We also we have a large number of CPD resources on our website at <https://hslg.ie/cpd-support/>

Box 1. Suggestions for future CPD events based on IFLA LIS Foundational Knowledge Areas (FKAs) Model headings*.

Row	Information resources management	Information and communication
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systematic review searching approaches Literature review buddy scheme (I'd love to join the next one!) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical Applications of AI in Libraries (Teachmeet) New technologies More about AI More material on AI Artificial intelligence
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More about Literature Searching. Systematic Reviews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AI again! Especially the practical stuff as it develops. How to train your users in AI (Teachmeet). AI and how EBSCO are incorporating it.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copyright and collection development topics, including database reviews etc. Literature searching. Evidence synthesis for health librarians. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marketing and promoting your library in an AI World (future conference theme).

Row	Information needs and user services	Foundations of LIS profession
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marketing/promotion Marketing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability Cross sector topics
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-X social media opportunities for libraries Promotion/Marketing of library resources Outreach User engagement Design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embedded librarianship Not a theme but maybe something the academic library side for colleges that offer courses in health science disciplines.
3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing sustainability into libraries.

HSLG Conference 2024: feedback from attendees

Mary Dunne, HSLG Committee, Research Officer

Box 1. Suggestions for future CPD events based on IFLA LIS Foundational Knowledge Areas (FKAs) Model headings*.

Row	Management for information professionals	Research and innovation	Literacies and learning
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small library management or general management principles and also work and time management skills • Leadership • Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publishing in Libraries • Impact of library service to organisation/staff • Supporting research and open access and OERs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing online training modules/ courses using free tools
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaching skills • Strategic planning 		
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More about library budgets and joint journal subscriptions 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Literacy

Note: participants could provide up to three options. Row one represents their top priority.

* LIS Education Framework Development Group of the IFLA Building Strong LIS Education Working Group (2022) [IFLA Guidelines for Professional Library and Information Science \(LIS\) Education Programmes](#), The Hague: IFLA

As always, the HSLG Committee is very grateful to everyone who provided feedback to us. We appreciate all comments and suggestions and will incorporate them into our decisions about future events.

HINT Fiction Competition 2nd Place Winner

Reminiscence

Lisa O'Leary

The door closed behind Éabha with a heavy thud, filling the empty space with an eery echo. She gave a shiver that had more to do with the deserted building than the chill winter air. With tentative movements she made her way through the entrance hall, her footsteps the only sound.

She entered the main room and paused on the threshold. The space looked so much bigger than it had before. It felt unnatural too, so devoid of life. The room should be filled with people talking in quiet voices, children laughing, and the babble of everyday life. But now, there was no one but her.

She moved into the room and over to the shelves on the lefthand side, running her hand along the empty metal surface, her mind wandering.

So many people had passed through this building, spent hours and hours of their lives there, as she had, and now it had all come to an end. The finality of it felt so disheartening. It had been a part of so many people's lives, a part of the community, for decades and now that was over.

To her right were the tables and desks that had once held the computers. That was where old Mrs Collins had sent her first email. She had been a tech shy woman but had built up the courage to try the unknown. The smile on her face when she received her first email from her daughter could have lit up the whole town. It was a memory that Éabha cherished. She had remembered it at the funeral, and she remembered it still.

In the far corner of the room was where Mr Murray had read his newspapers, all of them, including the international ones. He was fond of saying that he learned more from them than he would from living in any, or all, of the countries.

Over there, at the back of the room and down a short corridor was where the craft circle had been held. It had started forty years ago as a knitting and sewing circle and had grown over the years to include all manner of crafts. And in the room opposite had been the men's shed. That had only started fifteen years earlier, but it had been a huge hit. Now both of those spaces were gone. She was sure the groups would be reprised in some form, in someone's living room or garden shed, but the community's space had gone, leaving a void.

A colourful room to her right was where story time for the young kids used to be. She had vague recollections of her own childhood story time. It had been exciting to leave school for a few hours, but the joy of the stories and the adventures they would go on was something she would always treasure.

Reminiscence

Lisa O'Leary

She remembered, too, the big storm of '04, when the whole town had gathered there in the building. The power had gone out for half the county and this building was the only one, besides the medical centre, that had a backup generator. For a child, it had been a thrilling night. The adventure of being roused from bed late at night and venturing out into the dark and wet as the wind howled all around. Many thermal flasks, blankets and torches had been gathered and once safe inside, tables had been set up with food and drinks of tea and coffee. Parents stood around in groups talking in hushed voices, and the children, herself included, had ignored the blowup mattresses, and sleeping bags and had begun a game of chase. There had only been a few half-hearted attempts to get the children to settle down. What a night it had been. There had been no school for two days as the clean-up got underway and power was restored to the area.

Éabha's musings continued as she made her way around the room, mentally ticking off the various spaces and activities that had once been held there.

At last, she came to a stop at the top of the room where she had first entered. She gave a final look around. All these memories were now just that, memories. There would no longer be a place to anchor those times to, or somewhere to make new ones.

With a resigned set to her shoulders, she turned and made her way back out to the main door. She closed it with a heavy heart, glancing up at the sign over the doors, her hand still on the handle. The once proud sign that said Community Library, was now more faded and worn than ever.

It wasn't just the books that the town was losing, they were losing a part of their community, a place where there was something for everyone.

Éabha sighed, turning, and pulled her coat more securely around herself. She made her way across the carpark and over to Aidan, the old caretaker, to let him know that he could lock up the building for the last time.

HSE Library launches its new strategy 2024 – 2029

Aoife Lawton, HSE National Health Service Librarian

A sneak preview of the HSE Library Strategy 2024-2029 was shared at the HSLG Annual Conference in March this year. The formal launch took place as a hybrid event in Dr. Steevens' Library on 21st March 2024. A hybrid launch is not something that would have been possible just a few years ago and it is interesting to reflect on just how much the world has changed and the impact that has on the work health libraries do. Equally how important it is to invest in physical libraries so that suitable space, software and screens are available to host events. The strategy is the culmination of extensive engagement with HSE Library staff, users, non-users, external and internal partners. It was informed by research and aligns with the priorities of the HSE going forward.

The strategy was launched by the Chief Clinical Officer (CCO) of the HSE, Dr. Colm Henry. The HSE is undergoing major reform and HSE Library will be aligned under the CCO in the coming months, so it was timely and welcome to have his support. The strategy itself and recording of the launch is available at the links below. A strong message from HSE Library staff was that a roadmap for each year was required so staff have a clear picture of where the service is going, how they can help achieve milestones mapped out and celebrate those along the way.



It is an ambitious strategy, tackling four key domains aligned with the overall vision: “an integrated library service, providing instant access to quality health information, through a network of library experts, for the benefit of all”. The milestones are mapped out for each year and its implementation will be supported by an annual operational plan. Work has already commenced with its implementation and it is full steam ahead for the remainder of 2024. I look forward to continuing to work with library staff and others throughout the whole health sector in Ireland to achieve a more integrated health library service.

The recording of the HSE Library Strategy launch is available at <https://youtu.be/AFCJ4mnRR0s>

The HSE Library Strategy 2024-2029 is available at <https://my.visme.co/view/ojod8m79-strategy>

Librarians and Irish-language resources

Caitríona Lee, Health Research Board

Librarianship: a complex, multifaceted profession, with a complex terminology to back it. The public will be familiar with terms such as cataloguing, shelving, bibliographies, and maybe even document delivery. In-house, our terminologies include more complex, less-commonly known words and phrases, 'obscure' to the public, essential to us: authority control, MARC, taxonomies, field tags. Indeed, there is a very useful online dictionary for library work: ODLIS, or the Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science, compiled by Joan M. Reitz and available from this URL: <https://odlis.abc-clio.com/>

This librarianship lexicon is very helpful for English-language terminology, but you also have at your fingertips some really useful resources for writing about library work in Irish. This could be valuable to you with the greater emphasis on the use of the Irish language since the signing into law of the Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021. There are several useful online dictionaries that you can use, such as Fócloir.ie (<https://www.focloir.ie>) Teanglann.ie (<https://www.teanglann.ie>), Pota Focal (<http://www.potafocal.com/>) and even Dineen's dictionary of 1904 (<https://celt.ucc.ie/Dinneen1.pdf>). The archived version of Acmhainn.ie's library terminology list is available here: <https://web.archive.org/web/20090226024846/http://www.acmhainn.ie/tearmai/Leabhar.htm>

But for the tricky technical terms that don't come up every day, Téarma.ie (<https://www.tearma.ie>) the National Terminology Database for Irish, is your best bet for accurate Irish terminology. This dictionary has a top-level domain specifically for librarianship: <https://www.tearma.ie/dom/3116909/ga/>. It includes the specific terms we use in our work, for example: MARC format is 'formáid catalóige meaisín-inléite', and authority control is 'rialú údaráis'.

Téarma.ie is a living dictionary, it adds new terms every year. We are the folk best placed to know where gaps in the dictionary exist for our profession. If you look for a term and don't find it, you have the option to request the addition of your term to the dictionary here: <https://www.tearma.ie/ceist/> The minimum information required is the term in English, the context, its definition and your contact details, but you can add context and suggested Irish terms if you have that information. Terms such as systematic review, meta-analysis and search strategy were added to the technical dictionary on the request of HSLG members in recent times. There are surely more health/medical librarianship terms not included in this dictionary as yet that we could use – so, librarians, any suggestions?

Reflections on developing a digital literacy OER

Ann Byrne, Digital Librarian, Hibernia College

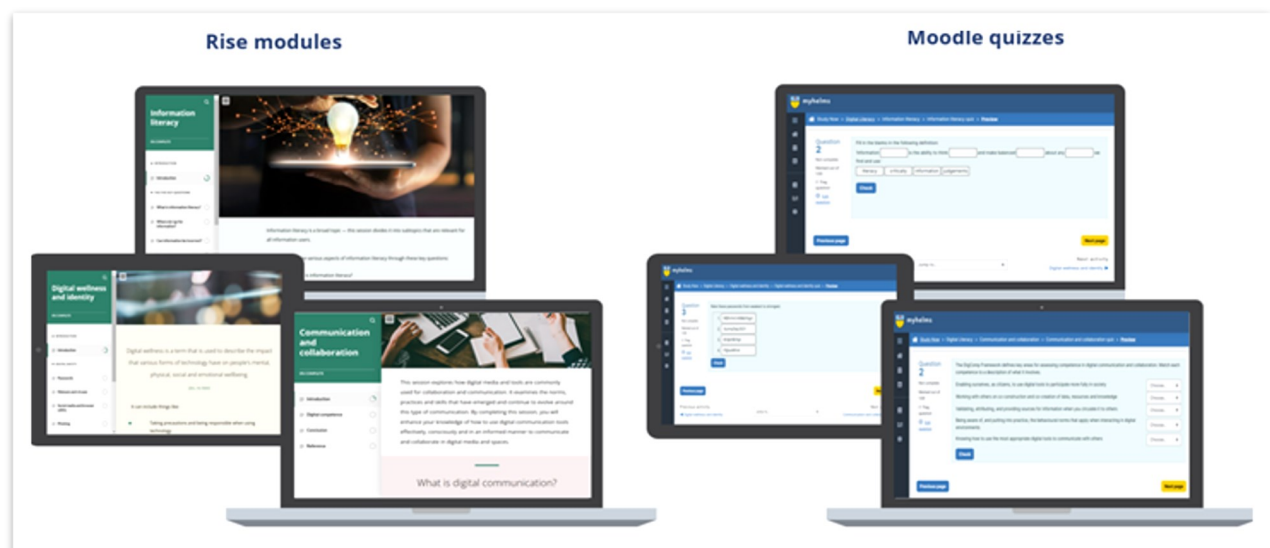
In January 2023, a working group was established within Hibernia College's Digital Learning Department (DLD) to create an online digital literacy course. The working group consisted of the digital librarian, Ann Byrne, the library assistant, Emberly Davey, and the DLD researcher, Irene O'Dowd. There was an obvious need for digital literacy instruction at Hibernia College, where students rely heavily on digital technology within an online learning environment. However, the working group decided to extend the course beyond the college community, making it available as an open educational resource (OER).

Why an OER in digital literacy?

Digital technology is central to modern life. As such, a digital literacy course is relevant to all and is an obvious choice for an OER. Furthermore, the working group was able to draw on open resources when creating the course so making it an OER seemed like a nice way to pay that forward by sharing it with the wider community. OER creation and dissemination are also supportive of digital citizenship and the sustainable development goals (SDGs), relating directly to at least three SDGs: SDG 4, Quality Education, where digital literacy skills are explicitly addressed, SDG 3, good health and well-being and SDG 8, decent work and economic growth (UN, 2015).

Developing the course

One of the biggest concerns for the working group was deciding what to cover. Digital literacy is a vast area and the working group needed to consider what would be most useful for students and relevant to a wider audience. The working group consulted several frameworks, including *DigComp 2.2*. (2022), JISC's *Digital Capabilities Framework* (2017) and *CAUL Digital Dexterity Framework* (2020). The frameworks displayed significant crossover, covering five or six key domains. The working group settled on three



Reflections on developing a digital literacy OER

Ann Byrne, Digital Librarian, Hibernia College

core lessons within the digital literacy course, reflecting three of these domains: information literacy, digital communication and collaboration, and digital identity and wellbeing.

The course was built using content creation software already available within the DLD. The lessons were built using Rise and the quizzes were created in Moodle. The course was developed with significant input and assistance from other members of the DLD team, including content editors, learning designers, and digital designers. The final product consists of three lessons and three quizzes and the course takes approximately two hours to complete.

How to access the OER

The Digital Literacy OER is licensed under Creative Commons [Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International](#). It is free to reuse and adapt with attribution. It is freely available on Hibernia College's digital repository, IASC. The course is uploaded to IASC as a zipped folder including usage instructions. It can be accessed on IASC using the QR code below:



The resource is also listed on OER Commons: <https://oercommons.org/courses/digital-literacy-oer>

References

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Research and Information Intersection

Leveraging our professional and intellectual skills

Bernard Barrett, National Research & Information Specialist, Tusla

Within the world of academia, research provides an opportunity to develop expertise and specialism in a particular subject area. Such expertise can range from becoming an 'expert' in a specific subject, area of practice or methodological approach to also becoming a passionate advocate for any or all of the above. Although not always apparent, hand in hand with such expertise and advocacy is the need for objectivity – the requirement to be able to view or constructively critique any piece of work to observe both strengths and weaknesses.

One of the requests that has been made of me over the course of the last eighteen months has been to join a stakeholder group, formed as the result of a collaboration between one of Tusla's regions and an academic institution. The purpose was to investigate how Trauma Informed Care (TIC) can be embedded into service provision, largely through participation in a degree level course by Tusla staff in the region concerned.

I've been reading the report from phase one of the project and have to (a) provide a report of any national recommendations made which may or may not be relevant for Tusla to implement and (b) follow up with both the staff and the academic institution about possible funding for a second phase of the project.

Trauma Informed Care is described as an emerging subject, or concept, and almost everywhere you look (or read) there seem to be mentions of 'trauma'. To be fair, within the spheres of social work, social care and education, one could argue that a huge amount of trauma exists with regard to the poverty and the lack of stability which so many children and young people face in today's society.

Reading the report has been interesting and, in some ways, frustrating. While the report speaks about the proposed need for a nationally coordinated approach to TIC, nowhere was there any attempt to define what TIC means. Granted, one can argue it is an emerging subject but, even so, there should be some attempt to define what was understood by TIC at that time.

While the report contains an extensive bibliography and mentions that literature searches and reviews underpin the findings and recommendations of the report, nowhere can one find any reference to what databases or journals have been searched, by whom, what questions and parameters they were given, or when the searches were undertaken.

Research and Information Intersection

Leveraging our professional and intellectual skills

Bernard Barrett, National Research & Information Specialist, Tusla

As health science librarians and information specialists, we work within a subject specialism or within a specific subject area. As part of being embedded, we can help to help define the research question itself, including inclusion and exclusion criteria, and we are capable of evaluating the relevance, objectivity and level of authority that underpins the evidence we uncover, both within a report, as well as the result of any searches undertaken. Undertaking this work leverages both our professional and intellectual skills and gives us confidence to function as an essential partner and team member of the research process.

Additionally, it's one more way in which research always intersects with information.

Latest News from the HSLG Mentoring Programme

Jean McMahon and Eimear Carney held a 'Fireside Chat' about the art of mentoring at the HSLG conference. Jean also participated in a 'CPD and Coffee' with HSE librarians on April 25th to tell them more about HSLG mentoring. So far, over 20 people working in libraries all over Ireland have completed the two-hour online training sessions.

In the coming weeks, we will put out a call for those who would like to sign up to be HSLG mentors and those who are thinking of seeking a mentor. If you wish to be a mentor, you will be asked to supply a short bio and that will be available to view on the HSLG website. If you are seeking a mentor, you will be able to email a specially set up email address and your request will be passed on to your chosen mentor, who will contact you. You might even wish to be a mentor and a mentee.

The next online training session with Eimear Carney will be on October 3rd from 11am to 1pm. Places are already filling up so contact Jean McMahon via jean.mcmahon@tuh.ie if you would like to attend. This training is obligatory for anyone wishing to be a HSLG mentor. We will also be setting up a mentoring peer group, where we can exchange ideas and support each other. A supervision session, with an accredited coaching and mentoring supervisor, Isolde Norris, will be available in late autumn. This will give mentors the opportunity to bring any issues or concerns to a safe and confidential space.

We will put the call out soon for both mentors and mentees so watch out for the email from the committee. In the meantime, if you have any questions, you can email Jean McMahon jean.mcmahon@tuh.ie

Book Recommendation

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

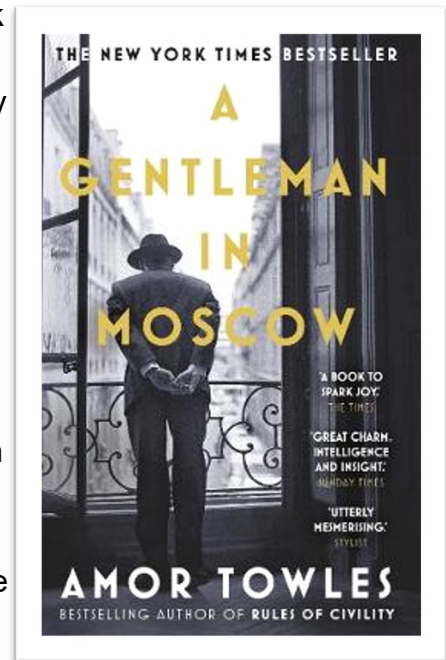
Jean McMahon, Tallaght University Hospital

'A Gentleman in Moscow' by Amor Towles is a book that stays with you. It is atmospheric and beautifully written. Count Rostov is a Russian aristocrat, who narrowly escapes execution just after the Russian Revolution. Instead, he is sentenced to house arrest in the hotel in which he had been living as a paying guest. As he is now a guest of the Kremlin, his circumstances become ever more straitened. His world is reduced to the walls of the hotel because if he were to set foot outside the door, he would be shot on sight. His previously opulent surroundings are reduced to a small attic space, into which he can fit few of his beautiful possessions.

I read the book during lockdown – an apt read at the time given so many were confined within their own four walls. Count Rostov accepts his fate with grace and equanimity, clearly feeling he must be true to the values of his background. He is gracious to all, regardless of their rank or role, and creates a rich life for himself within his confinement. His interactions with others are his microcosm and the outside world filters in so we learn much about Russian history in the first half of the 20th century: such incidental education being one of the reasons I love the historical novel genre. While there can be no comparison in terms of human suffering, for me, the book had a resonance of Frankl's 'Man's Search for Meaning' in terms of the power of human mental resilience in the face of drastically changed circumstances.

I will readily admit it took me three attempts to really get past the first few chapters but from then on I was enthralled so if you do take this recommendation and start it, stick with it. Others have told me the same. I have gifted it a number of times and have made sure we have a copy in the fiction section in our Library. This reading suggestion is coming just as the book has been adapted for TV with Ewan McGregor in the leading role, and episode one did not disappoint.

This is not a literary review – just a recommendation. If you would like to recommend a book you have read in an upcoming edition of HINT, please do!



LITE Reading (Library, Information, Technology & Evidence)

Mary Dunne, Health Research Board



Vol. 112 No. 1 (2024): January 2024 <https://jmla.mlanet.org/ojs/jmla>

One leg at a time: medical librarians and fake news, Kraft M (2024) JMLA 112(1) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2024.1858>

While there has been recent media attention to the issue of “fake news,” misinformation and disinformation has been a lasting part of human history. The Janet Doe Lecture presents the history of fake news, how it is spread and accepted, its impact on medical and health information, and medical librarian roles in limiting its spread and promoting correct health information.

The impact of libraries and informationists on patient and population care: a mixed-methods study, Shannon C et al (2024) JMLA 112(1) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2024.1520>

The goal of this study was to investigate the library’s impact on both patient and population care. Using a sequential exploratory mixed-methods design, we first interviewed a small set of clinicians and researchers active in patient and population care. We then created a survey that was sent to faculty in the health sciences and the health system. We discovered that all respondents value the library and informationists, using our services most for teaching, publishing, presenting, and professional development. We now have data to support our value to our population and to show where we can do more work to improve the use of our services. Our study shows the value of doing a mixed-methods sequential exploration in which themes that are important to our user community were identified prior to launching a large-scale survey.

Straight to the point: evaluation of a Point of Care Information (POCI) resource in answering disease-related questions, Wasserman RL (2024) JMLA 112(1) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2024.1770>

This study evaluated the ability of DynaMedex, an evidence-based drug and disease Point of Care Information (POCI) resource, in answering clinical queries using keyword searches. DynaMedex search query data of real-world disease-related questions, and medical board review resources were categorized into five clinical categories and six specialties. An answer was found for 259/265 questions (98%). Both reviewers found an answer for 241 questions (91%), neither found the answer for 6 questions (2%), and only one reviewer found an answer for 18 questions (7%). Both reviewers found a relevant answer 97% of the time when an answer was found. Of all relevant answers found, 68% were easy to find, 97% cited best quality of evidence available, 72% included clinical guidelines, and 95% were detailed. The resource enabled reviewers to answer most questions easily with the best quality of evidence available, providing detailed answers and clinical guidelines, with a high level of replication of results across users. Recommendations for resource improvement were identified.

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Meeting a need: development and validation of Pubmed search filters for immigrant populations, Wafford QE (2024) JMLA 112(1) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2024.1716>

We accomplished our goal of developing PubMed search filters to help researchers retrieve studies about immigrants. Both search filters generated strong performance measurements and can be used as-is, to capture a subset of immigrant-related literature, or adapted and revised to fit the unique research needs of specific project teams (e.g. remove US-centric language, add location-specific terminology, or expand the search strategy to include terms for the topic/s being investigated in the immigrant population identified by the filter). There is also a potential for teams to employ the search filter development process described here for their own topics and use.

Validation of an interprofessional education search strategy in pubmed to optimize ipe literature searching, Carlson R (2024) JMLA 112(1) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2024.1742>

We developed, evaluated, and validated search strategies for interprofessional education (IPE) research studies in PubMed. These search strategies, or search hedges, provide comprehensive, validated sets of search terms for IPE publications. The search strategies were created for PubMed using relative recall methodology. Methods followed the guidance of previous search hedge and search filter validation studies in creating a gold standard set of relevant references using systematic reviews, having expert searchers identify and test search terms, and using relative recall calculations to validate the searches' performance against the standard set. The three recommended search hedges for IPE studies presented had recall of 71.5%, 82.7%, and 95.1%; the first more focused for efficient literature searching, the last with high recall for comprehensive literature searching, and the remaining hedge as a middle ground between the other two options. These validated search hedges can be used in PubMed to expedite finding relevant scholarships, staying up to date with IPE research, and conducting literature reviews and evidence syntheses.

Searches as data: archiving and sharing search strategies using an institutional data repository, Rod AB & Boruff JT (2024) JMLA 112(1) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2024.1791>

By defining search strategies and related database exports as code/scripts and data, librarians and information professionals can expand the mandate of research data management (RDM) infrastructure to include this work. This new initiative aimed to create a space in McGill University's institutional data repository for our librarians to deposit and share their search strategies for knowledge syntheses (KS). A health sciences librarian and an RDM specialist, created a repository collection of librarian-authored knowledge synthesis (KS) searches in McGill's Borealis Dataverse collection. We hosted a half-day

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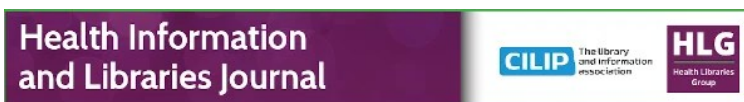


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“Dataverse-a-thon” to develop a standardized KS data management plan (DMP), search reporting documentation, Dataverse software training, and how-to guidance for the repository. In addition to better documentation and tracking of KS searches at our institution, the KS Dataverse collection enables sharing of searches among colleagues with discoverable metadata fields for searching within deposited searches. While the creation of the DMP and documentation took about six hours, the subsequent deposit of search strategies into the institutional data repository requires minimal effort (e.g., 5-10 minutes on average per deposit). The Dataverse collection also empowers librarians to retain intellectual ownership over search strategies as valuable stand-alone research outputs and raise the visibility of their labor. Institutional data repositories provide specific benefits in facilitating compliance both with PRISMA-S guidance and with RDM best practices.

Developing and conducting a language inclusivity assessment on a health science library’s website, libguides, and signage, Morgan-Daniel J (2024) JMLA 112(1) <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2024.1691>

A Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Team at a university health science library created a checklist for inclusive language and conducted an assessment of their library’s website, LibGuides, and physical and digital signage. Inclusive language was defined as “language that is free from words, phrases or tones that reflect prejudiced, stereotyped or discriminatory views of particular people or groups”. The 32-item checklist facilitated the identification of gendered language, stereotypes, ableist language, racist language, stigmatizing language, slang, acronyms, and out-of-date terminology regarding physical and mental health conditions.



<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/14711842>

How developing a point of need training tool for evidence synthesis can improve librarian support for researchers, Chiang B & McClurg C (2024) HILJ <https://doi.org/10.1111/hir.12524>

As expert searchers, librarians are often identified as personnel to conduct the database searching portion and/or are approached as experts in the methodology to guide research teams through the lifecycle of the project. This research method has surged in popularity at our campus and demand for librarian participation is unsustainable. As a response, the library created self-directed learning objects in the form of roadmap to assist researchers in learning about the knowledge synthesis methodology in an expedient, self-directed manner. This paper will discuss the creation, implementation and feedback around our educational offering: Systematic & scoping reviews: your roadmap to conducting an evidence synthesis.

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Health Information
and Libraries Journal

CILIP The Library
and Information
Association

HLG
Health Libraries
Group

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/14711842>

Facilitating knowledge transfer to policy makers and front-line workers during a pandemic: Implementation, impact and lessons learned, Pearce-Smith N (2024) HILJ <https://doi.org/10.1111/hir.12523>

Stakeholders on the COVID-19 pandemic response needed access to evidence, requiring a systematic approach to identify and disseminate relevant research. This article outlines the development of a COVID-19 Literature Digest; and demonstrates the impact the Digest had on decision-making and knowledge gain. 40–60 papers were summarised each week. 211 Digests were produced from March 2020 to March 2022, with around 10,000 papers. Lessons identified: learn from failure, communication is key, measure your impact, work collaboratively, reflect and be flexible. Learning will inform evidence monitoring, selection and dissemination for future health crises.

JOHILA

Journal of Health Information and Libraries Australasia

Vol 4 No 3 (2023)

Current issues and status of mis/disinformation in the health library context: a rapid literature review, Dehghani M & Harris L (2024) JOHILA, 4(3) 9-25 <https://doi.org/10.55999/johila.v4i3.173>

The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has caused not only a pandemic and global health crisis but also widespread misinformation in social media and published literature. Healthcare providers have an important role in informing patients and the public with relevant knowledge and to suppress misinformation at all information access points. Workers are also vulnerable to misinformation. Health sciences librarians have a responsibility to dispel this mis/disinformation via providing accurate resources and health information literacy.

Using DSpace to create a repository for the communication of clinical trials and research with consumers, Obst HL (2024) JOHILA, 4(3) 26-30 <https://doi.org/10.55999/johila.v4i3.174>

The Library, with support from the Research Office, created a digital repository using the DSpace platform. A digital repository provides staff with an effective means of disseminating their research findings, including open access publications. DSpace is an open-source digital repository that provides users with the ability to capture, store, and share a wide variety of digital content.

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“We need to talk about PICO”: Approaching the move from question formulation to search strategy, Hateley E JOHILA, 4(3) 31-38 <https://doi.org/10.55999/johila.v4i3.175>

This paper begins with PICO and its place in health librarianship, before moving to discuss a model of teaching knowledge that may offer some new ways of thinking about PICO (or, perhaps, leaving PICO behind). My two main points of contention with the ubiquity of PICO in health librarianship are:

- That it is only one among many approaches to question formulation; and
- That question formulation strategies are treated ‘as’ search formulation strategies.

Lessons learnt from developing support services for systematic and scoping reviews in a regional university library, Roga E & Pruis K JOHILA, 4(3) 45-53 <https://doi.org/10.55999/johila.v4i3.177>

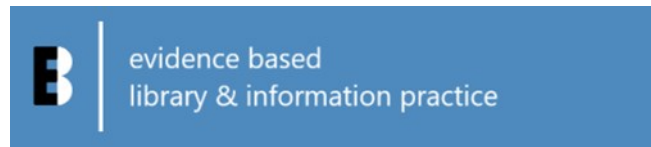
At Federation University Australia, the number of queries received by the library about conducting scoping and systematic reviews from academics and students has increased. In response, Liaison Librarians developed an online subject guide and ran a series of webinars. The webinars were then adapted to a series of longer workshops with more hands-on activities. Currently, an online open textbook with interactive elements is being written to allow people to work through content at their own pace. A further series of activity based digital workshops in an online flipped classroom model is being planned, along with other initiatives such as a Community of Practice. To be successful, this project required librarians to develop their own digital skills and knowledge, as well as the participants’. The digital content and workshops have increased equity for participants as they can access it no matter their location or other commitments. Cross-campus collaboration has increased and the library is continuing to evolve and adapt to meet the needs of academics and students.

What’s in the research toolbox for a team of academic Liaison Librarians, Castellano J et al JOHILA, 4(3) 54-58 <https://doi.org/1055999/johila.v4i3.178>

This paper highlights how the library uses technology and information to connect with people in the University Library. Multimedia content production, webinars, self-guided webpages, and cross-team collaboration have all enabled the Academic Liaison team to reach new audiences and provide accessible and targeted research support. From one-on-one consultations to workshops with over 400 attendees – the team combines online and in-person services to be the conduit between key research stakeholders and the library.

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EBLIP 2024 19 (1)

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

Assessment of the institute for research design in librarianship, phase 2: impact on the research productivity and careers of academic librarians. Albarillo F, Kennedy M & Brancolini K (2024). EBLIP, 19(1), 4–34. <https://doi.org/10.18438/ebliip30461>

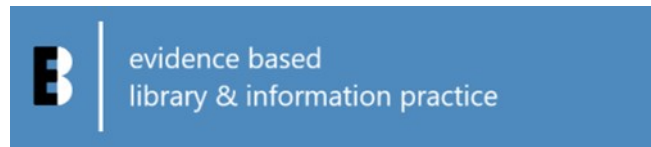
This article reports on the qualitative phase of a two-phase sequential mixed-methods study to assess the first six years of the Institute for Research Design in Librarianship (IRDL), a continuing education program for academic and research librarians. The majority of the conversations in both the 37 in-depth individual interviews and the focus group interviews centered around research productivity. Participants also discussed the impact of IRDL on their job performance and their identity as researchers. Gaining research confidence had a notable positive impact on job performance related to classroom teaching and supporting researchers. Within these areas of conversation, all sources of self-efficacy were evident, but the most frequently noted were influences related to mastery learning and social persuasion, through mentorship and becoming part of a peer research community. A supportive environment focused on helping librarians gain needed research skills, practice those skills, and become part of a research community contributes to research confidence and productivity, improved job performance, and identity as a researcher.

Plan S and open access (OA) in Quebec: what does the revised FRQ OA policy mean for researchers? Harris R, Lange J & Lasou P (2024) EBLIP, 19(1), 35–57. <https://doi.org/10.18438/ebliip30413>

This article examines the effects of Quebec’s provincial funding agency (FRQ)’s revised 2022 OA policy on researchers. Following FRQ’s participation as a cOAlition S funding agency, which involves endorsing Plan S principles, it provides an overview of the OA options for researchers. The researchers extracted a list of FRQ-funded publications from years 2020 to 2022 and quantitatively analyzed OA options under the previous policy and the revised one, comparing the two. To determine the effect of transformative agreements (TAs), they reviewed current agreements offered through Canada’s national licensing agency. They found that the self-archiving method for open access (OA) is reduced under the revised 2022 policy. The current publishing patterns of FRQ-funded researchers are primarily concentrated in hybrid journals not covered by transformative agreements. As such, researchers will face additional financial costs should these publishing patterns continue. Concerted efforts among all stakeholders (researchers, universities, libraries, and funders) are needed to sustainably transition to immediate OA.

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EBLIP 2024 19 (1)

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

Evaluating an instructional intervention for research data management training. Rod A, Hervieux S, & Lee N (2024) EBLIP, 19(1), 114–131. <https://doi.org/10.18438/eblip30439>

At a large research university in Canada, a research data management (RDM) specialist and two liaison librarians evaluated the effectiveness of an active learning component of their newly developed RDM training program. The intervention consists of instruction on best practices related to file-naming conventions. Comparing the overall average scores for each participant pre- and post-instruction intervention, workshop participants, in general, improved in proficiency. A comparison of changes in pre- and post-test scores for each rubric element showed that participants grasped specific elements more easily (i.e., implementing an international standard for a date format) than others (i.e., applying information related to sequential versioning of files). Results indicate that developing short and targeted interventions in the context of RDM training is worthwhile. The findings also demonstrate how quantitative evaluations of instructional interventions can pinpoint specific topics or activities requiring improvement or further investigation. Overall, RDM learning outcomes grounded in practical competencies may be achieved through applied exercises that demonstrate immediate improvement directly to participants.



JEAHIL, 2024, 20(1)

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

Supporting systematic, scoping and other types of reviews: Workshops and services offered by the Medical Library at Charité. Dressler C, Forrest M. JEAHIL; 20 (1):4-1. Available from: <http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/article/view/605>

Medical Libraries have become central in evidence synthesis conduct – an evolving field. The Medical Library at Charité initiated Systematic/Scoping Reviews, an eight-part workshop series designed to provide comprehensive education and guidance on systematic and scoping review methods. Each session covers a specific step of the review process and offers participants who are conducting a review active engagement in these methodological steps using their own review question. This article provides a summary of each workshop session, outlining preparation requirements, workshop content, and challenges faced by both learners and the teaching team. The course has been well received by participants and has proven to be a valuable complement to the other health information literacy trainings offered by the Medical Library.

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JEAHIL, 2024, 20(1)

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

High precision but variable recall – comparing the performance of five deduplication tools. Janka H, Metzendorf M-I. JEAHIL; 20(1):12-7. Available from: <http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/article/view/607>

Deduplication methods for multiple database searches conducted for evidence syntheses differ in terms of time invested, accuracy, and comprehensiveness of identified duplicates. Deduplication tools can significantly contribute to a more efficient conduct of the search task in evidence syntheses. Widely-used tools for deduplication include reference management software (e.g. EndNote), built-in deduplication features in systematic review software (e.g. Covidence, Rayyan), and automated deduplication tools (e.g. Deduklick, SRA Deduplicator). Newer tools leverage machine learning algorithms crafted by information specialists, that encompass natural language normalization and rule-based approaches. We investigated five frequently used automated and semi-automated deduplication tools regarding their performance, core features and time efficiency in comparison to manual deduplication in EndNote using six datasets.

Brief Communication – concerning algorithmic indexing in MEDLINE. Amar-Zifkin A, Ekmekjian T, Paquet V, Landry T. JEAHIL; 20(1):18-1. Available from: <http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/article/view/604>

As of early 2022, indexing in the National Library of Medicine MEDLINE database is performed by an algorithm, MTIA [Medical Text Indexer-Auto], with human curation as appropriate. Deployment of a machine learning classifier, MTIX [Medical Text Indexer-next generation] is planned for mid-2024. This brief communication outlines the processes of MTIA and raises concerns about the MeSH [Medical Subject Headings] applied by algorithm. Implications for searchers and educators are briefly discussed.

EAHIL Mentoring program started in the beginning November 2023. Heino T, Lawton A, Gómez AF. JEAHIL; 20(1):32. Available from: <http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/article/view/609>

EAHIL introduced a mentoring program for all members. The areas of interest were: new members of EAHIL or new to the profession; leadership and management; job/role related challenges; help with resumes, cover letters, job interviews; specific skills in RDM/open science; specific skills in AI; specific skills in library spaces; specific skills in systematic reviews; Teaching IL and LIS students interested in health librarianship.

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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