

Editorial

Welcome to a newly reborn *Library and Information Research*, the journal of the Library and Information Research Special Interest Group of CILIP. The journal is now available online with open access to all those with an interest in research that informs and enhances practice in the broad field of library and information services worldwide. In addition to a new format and business model, the journal has a new editorial team in Louise Cooke (Lecturer in the Department of Information Science at Loughborough University) and Miggie Pickton (Research Support Specialist in the Department of Information Services at the University of Northampton). The editors hope to continue and build on the excellent work of the previous editor, Stella Thebridge. In addition, we are grateful to all the members of the Editorial Board, who are continuing to support the journal by reviewing and offering comment on papers, advising on future content and themes, and giving their time and ideas to help the editors in getting the journal to virtual 'press'.

The mission, editorial vision and objectives of the 'new' journal remain substantively unchanged from its earlier incarnation. Thus we aim to:

- Publish research in such a way that it is accessible to, and usable by, the LIS community;
- Encourage reporting of research (including informal and in-house research) by practitioners;
- Encourage reflective and evidence-based practice;
- Publish papers resulting from LIRG annual awards and prizes;
- Promote the use and understanding of quality research methods;
- Raise awareness of new tools, books and funding opportunities for research;
- Provide an overview of research activity and developments in the UK and Ireland;
- Comment, and provide a forum for comment, on the state of LIS research.

These objectives are certainly reflected in the papers appearing in this issue, which combine a focus on users, and meeting their information needs, with the exchange of practice and experience to date of academic librarians in using the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) Higher Education Trial Scanning Licence.

Thus, Andrew Shenton's paper draws our attention to the insights into users' information needs to be gained by researchers from mining library user suggestions as a rich data source. He suggests, quite rightly, that such data have tended not to be subject to systematic scrutiny in terms of helping us to explore information needs, despite their ready availability. In this section also, Jenny Delasalle offers a useful overview of current practice and experience with regard to the implementation of the Higher Education Trial Scanning Licence. The

timing of her paper is apposite, coming at a point at which many institutions are considering how best to approach implementation of the Licence.

Catherine Parkinson was awarded the LIRG Postgraduate Student Prize for her MA dissertation evaluating website accessibility statements. Her comprehensive analysis compares accessibility statements from a wide range of local authority and commercial organisations. Her work provides some useful pointers for those who are writing such statements, as well as helping to raise awareness of the importance of following good practice in this area. Wendy Olphert and Leela Damodaran also investigated the websites of local authorities, this time with a focus on assessing how well their content meets the information needs of users. In conducting this evaluation, they used a range of citizen-based scenarios and alternative search strategies. Their findings indicate that even those websites that perform well in terms of accessibility, interactivity and usability will not necessarily meet citizens' information needs, unless users are involved in content decisions from an early stage.

In future issues of *Library and Information Research* we are planning to focus on topical issues of relevance to practitioners, such as the potential of Web 2.0 technologies to engage users and to offer new approaches to service delivery. We would very much welcome feedback from our readers, both with regard to potential themes that you would like to see covered, and with regard to your views on the new format and delivery mode. Please do get in touch and let us know what you think!

Louise Cooke

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