

Editorial

In reflecting on this issue, my last as Editor, I am humbled by the variety and quality of papers that over the years have been submitted for publication in the journal. *Library and Information Research* has always aspired to publish research that is accessible to and usable by the LIS community. In doing this, not only do we hope to facilitate evidence based practice, but also we hope that others may be encouraged to both undertake research projects themselves and share their results through publication.

Practitioners, especially, are often guilty of conducting interesting and valuable in-house research, using it to inform their own practice but then failing to disseminate it so that others may benefit from it. Although regrettable, this is entirely understandable – the day job gets in the way; something else takes priority; life goes on. So I am particularly pleased to include a number of papers from practising librarians in this issue.

From the National Library of Scotland we have Hunter and Hambelton's report of a project which sought to measure the impact of the library using a bibliometric approach. The methodology that the authors developed could profitably be used by other national libraries. Equally, Anderson and Andrews' paper on the use of portable digital devices, McCluskey's research into information literacy partnerships in Higher Education, and Montgomery's use of both quantitative and qualitative methods in examining library users' space needs might also inspire others to undertake similar work in academic libraries. In all four projects, the authors had a need for evidence to either justify their service or to inform future service developments. Their projects were all highly successful in meeting this need.

Lest we get too complacent about the primacy of research evidence in evidence based practice, Koufogiannakis contends that other forms of evidence are equally valuable in informing professional decision making. In a thought-provoking paper, Koufogiannakis adds local evidence and professional knowledge into the conventional evidence based practice model. Her set of key questions will be useful to any practitioner making a professional decision.

Also of value to the practising researcher are Buckley Owen's practical tips on interviewing the great and the good. Based on her own experience of interviewing senior civil servants, advisers and academics, Buckley Owen has put together a checklist of 42 tips for anyone facing a similar challenge.

The final paper addresses the issue of users' trust in web based information resources. In developing their 'i-Trust' model, Pickard, Gannon-Leary and Coventry conducted an extensive literature review and in this paper they focus on the elements of particular relevance to information providers and practitioners.

So after five years as Joint Editor I am handing over the reins to the new Editorial Team of Olga Borymchuk, Jan Conway, Jason Eyre, Angharad Roberts and Chris

Walton. The new team bring a wealth of experience and a range of perspectives to the journal and I look forward to watching it develop over the forthcoming months.

In my term as Editor I have had reason to be grateful to a number of colleagues. Both the *Library and Information Research* Editorial Board and the LIRG Committee have provided guidance and direction. My fellow Editors, Louise Cooke and Ali Pickard, have offered much needed help of a practical nature as well as valuable advice from an academic perspective to a practitioner. Our book reviews Editors, first Colin Johnston and now Pauline Rafferty, have helped enormously by taking full responsibility for that section. Lastly, Alan Cooper and, latterly, Dianne Butterworth of CILIP have maintained the journal website. I am particularly grateful to Dianne for her recent hard work in upgrading the journal software and moving it to a more spacious server.

For the opportunity to edit *Library and Information Research* I must say a big thank you to the LIRG Committee. It has been a privilege to read all the submitted papers and to work with authors in preparing them for publication. I leave reluctantly but with the firm view that somebody else deserves a turn as Editor. I wish the new team every success.

Miggie Pickton

Open access and copyright

Library and Information Research is an open access journal. A freely available copy of this paper may be downloaded from the journal's website:

<http://www.cilipjournals.org.uk/lir>

Copyright and associated moral rights in works published in *Library and Information Research* are retained by the author(s) but this paper may be used freely, with proper attribution, in educational and other non-commercial settings.