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# Editorial

The late summer issue of *Library and Information Research* heralds another eclectic mix of papers from around the world.

Celebrating the talent of new professionals, we start with a fascinating paper from the winner of the 2010 Library and Information Group Student Prize, Johanna Anderson.  Anderson's discussion of the success and suitability of a Western-donated school library in Malawi reminds us that well-meaning donations from better endowed libraries are not always the most useful in sub-Saharan Africa. What is required, she suggests, are not only resources matched to need, but also joint action by donors, government, information professionals and education experts to facilitate reader development.

*Library and Information Research* prides itself on publishing research that is of practical benefit to LIS professionals, so it is unusual for us to publish a paper that is overtly philosophical in stance.  However, Katelyn Angell offers a convincing argument that phenomenologist Edith Stein's research on empathy can, through mechanisms such as consciousness-raising groups, help librarians and library users to have a greater understanding of each other and each other's needs. If, having read Angell's paper, you feel moved to join the discussion on this topic then feel free to add your comments to the article on the journal website.

Bartlett and Casselden's work is much closer to the usual *Library and Information Research* fare.  The authors tackle the thorny issue of internet plagiarism by means of a Delphi study involving ten academic librarians. For those who have not previously undertaken a Delphi study, the methodology section of this paper will be particularly useful.

Two further papers focus on different aspects of internet use in libraries.  Sarah McNicol looks at the state of gaming provision in UK public and school libraries while Vivienne Waller examines the subjects of search queries in Google, Wikipedia and the Australian State Library of Victoria catalogue.  In both cases the authors seek to combat negative perceptions among librarians. McNicol demonstrates that gaming *can* benefit libraries (by attracting new users, promoting social interaction, developing mathematical and literacy skils and so forth); Waller provides evidence from transaction logs to show that even though far more people use Google and Wikipedia than the library catalogue, the latter is still valuable because the subject matter of catalogue searches is completely different from the internet searches.

In the final full paper, from Hall, Kenna and Oppenheim, we read about the background, aims and benefits of the ongoing DREaM project.  Of major importance to the future of LIS research, the DREaM project hopes not only to expand the skills base of UK LIS researchers, but also to develop a network of active researchers from both academic and practitioner environments.  A series of events are planned and I urge you to consider attending these.

Our four book reviews cover topics as diverse as storytelling, student information literacy, preparing collections for digitization and being an information innovator.

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Several of these books have obvious relevance to LIS practice and I commend them to you.  The significance of one, though, is less clear.  Not all of us will wish to become storytellers, but the willingness of colleagues to look for inspiration beyond the conventional LIS literature is to be applauded.

Before I finish I'd like to offer my thanks to Alison Jane Pickard, co-editor of *Library and Information Research* for the last 18 months.  Finally conceding to the ever increasing demands of her day job, Ali has reluctantly decided to resign her editorship. I am grateful to you Ali for all your hard work and I wish you well.

Miggie Pickton

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