

Editorial

Diane Rasmussen Pennington

Hello and Welcome!

Welcome to my inaugural issue as Editor-in-Chief of *Library and Information Research*! Speaking as someone who has loved editing in its various forms since childhood, when I used to correct my teachers' spelling on the chalkboard, I am so flattered and excited about this new opportunity. I am grateful for the support I have received through this transition from our experienced Editorial Board members – especially Dr Simon Wakeling, who has accepted a new role as our Editor of Refereed Research Articles, and my predecessor, Dr Angharad Roberts. I am also thankful for the support of the previous and current Chairs of CILIP's Library and Information Research Group: Dr Carolynn Rankin and Prof Alison Brettle, respectively.

As one might imagine, 2017 has been a transitional period for the journal. The Editorial Board and I have updated many policies and practices, including:

- A new “look and feel” for contributions, such as streamlined style and referencing;
- Revised submission types: “Refereed Research Articles” will now be double-blind peer-reviewed by at least two reviewers, and the new “Case Studies” will only undergo editorial review;

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- Changes to the structure of the Editorial Board and a few of its members;
- A transition to a default CC-BY-NC copyright licence, with the option for authors to opt for CC-BY-ND.

Read more about these and other changes in the “About” section of the journal’s web site at <http://www.lirjournal.org.uk/lir/ojs/index.php/lir/about>.

Looking forward to 2018, we will feature a substantial special issue on research methods in LIS, guest edited by Prof Judith Broady-Preston.

In This Issue

Conference Report: Firstly, this issue highlights new developments in Scottish library and information practice through a report about the CILIP Scotland Annual Conference 2017: “Strategies for Success.” The three authors – Laura Cagnazzo, Luca Fois, and Katie Rowley – were all MSc ILS students (now graduates) of our programme at Strathclyde who were attending their first professional conference. Their perspectives on the event provide emerging and unique insight that is valuable to all of us.

Refereed Research Articles: We feature three refereed articles. “Research support for academics: Case studies of two Vietnamese Universities” by Tom Denison, Hue Thi Pham, and Thoa Ninh Thi Kim demonstrate how librarians might be able to improve their services to academic staff. “The development and use of a research self-efficacy scale to assess the effectiveness of a research training program for academic librarians” by Kristine R. Brancolini and Marie R. Kennedy demonstrate potential ways to measure and increase confidence and original research productivity of librarians. Finally, Kwasi Darko-Ampem’s paper

“Implementing Koha at Regent University College, Ghana: A case study of options, opportunities and challenges” invites readers to consider the advantages and disadvantages of implementing open source integrated library systems in organisations with varied amounts of IT support and/or funding.

Book Reviews: Fiona Watkins, our Book Reviews Editor, has selected three useful reviews for inclusion in this issue. These are (1) *Crowdsourcing our cultural heritage* by M. Ridge (reviewer: Anna James), *Essential classification* by V. Broughton (reviewer: Jennifer May), and *BIALL handbook of legal information management* by L. Worley and S. Spells (reviewer: Tina Reynolds).

I do hope readers enjoy and learn from my first issue. Please contact me at diane.pennington@strath.ac.uk or on Twitter at @infogamerist if you have ideas or suggestions for future issues. All the best for 2018!