

# CILIP Information Literacy Group

## Annual Report 2016/2017



### **Message from the Chair**

Welcome to the 2017 Annual Report of the CILIP Information Literacy Group (ILG). It's been an incredibly busy year for the group. We are particularly delighted to launch our new brand, which has been kept under wraps until LILAC 2017, but brings together the identity of the parent group, ILG, with LILAC our annual conference and the Journal of Information Literacy, our open access journal.

I'm indebted to the committee and our working groups for all their hard work this year and providing me with so much support and inspiration. In 2017 we hope to build on the advocacy work that is forming an increasingly important part of ILG, but also strengthen the research base, through funding high quality research. We have continued to organise and fund engaging and practical events for librarians and practitioners in the information literacy field. To all our members, I thank you for your support this year and look forward to working with you in 2017.

Dr Jane Secker

Chair of the Information Literacy Group

### **Changes to the ILG Committee**

During the year we have had a number of changes to the Committee membership.

Rowena Macrae-Gibson has taken over from Rebecca Mogg as Deputy Chair. Rebecca has stepped down from the committee after many years of excellent service. Laura Woods has taken over Rowena's position as Secretary and we have welcomed Colin Sawers onto the Committee to take up Laura's Membership secretary role.

Marc Forster has stepped down as Health Sector representative and Nancy Graham has stepped down as OER officer. Emma Burnett has stepped down as Marketing officer, and has taken a role as part of the Website Group. We have welcomed Kate Grigsby in an expanded role as Marketing and Communications officer.

Full membership of the current Committee can be found in Appendix One.

## **A new look for ILG**

ILG doesn't stand still. During the past year we have looked at our identity, our branding, our priorities and the definition of information literacy. We want to ensure that we are advocating as much as possible for members and for information literacy in the wider society. We are also continuing to run events, sponsor teachmeets, provide research bursaries, develop our website in addition to running our flagship conference, LILAC, and publish the Journal of Information Literacy.

## **Our Priorities**

We have had the same set of priorities for a few years, whilst it is always good to review, the committee decided that we should more fully reflect those of CILIP's 2020 action plan, which focuses heavily on information literacy. In December 2016 we held a lively brainstorming session with both the ILG and LILAC committees looking at advocacy, member services, workforce development and standards and innovation. We are excited by the new possibilities which will enable us to build on past successes and to continue to offer a range of activities and opportunities for members.

## **Branding**

As part of examining what we do and what our priorities are, we have developed a stronger branding so that it is clear that LILAC and JIL and our website are all part of the ILG family. We are pleased to launch our new branding at LILAC 2017.

## **IL definition**

The CILIP IL definition dates from 2004 and is due for review. We are in the process of updating the definition, so that it reflects more the concept of information literacy as a human right.

## **2016/2017 highlights**

### **Advocacy**

A key part of our work is to raise awareness of information literacy both within and beyond the LIS sector. The committee has sector representatives who work to spread the message in their respective areas and we aim to actively participate in relevant groups, respond to calls for consultation, respond to reports and give presentations at appropriate events. This section highlights some of the activities in which we have been involved during the past year.

- We have continued our collaboration with Good Things Foundation (formerly the Tinder Foundation). There was a joint ILG/GTF/InformAll panel presentation reporting from the teachmeets at the European Conference on Information Literacy (ECIL) in October. We took part in GTF's 'Libraries delivering digital inclusion' conference in Sheffield, in September.

- We established a dialogue with Department of Media, Culture and Sports (DCMS), particularly with their digital skills team, with a view to developing their awareness of IL. Preliminary discussions took place during 2016, now awaiting more formal meeting with head of digital skills team.
- We contacted Ofcom in August to explore with them how their approach to critical evaluation dovetails with IL. Subsequently advised them on the formulation of their annual survey.
- We are currently working with Demos on defining an ambitious research and policy project looking at the political consequences of social media echo chambers, and how IL could help address some of the challenges associated with 'post-truth' social media discourse.
- We have established initial contacts with Doteveryone (the successor body to Go ON UK) and are looking to explore collaborative possibilities with them.
- We produced a leaflet on why IL is important to the health sector, distributed at the CILIP Health Libraries Group in September.
- Relevant blogs on the ILG website, with a focus on outreach, included pieces on 'How can we be information literate about health?' (July), 'The EU referendum campaign: a case of fateful information illiteracy?' (June) and 'Young people and political information' (June).
- A piece on IL in the e-newsletter of the the British Computer Society's Information Retrieval Special Interest Group, in February 2017.
- We developed an advocacy and outreach map, to track relevant developments with different stakeholders.

Several Group members presented at various conferences or published papers, thus helping to raise awareness of information literacy within the library profession. These included:

- Jane Secker presented the keynote address at ALT-C, The Association for Learning Technology Conference, in September 2016.
- ECIL on copyright literacy (Jane Secker), employability (Stéphane Goldstein) and gaming (Andrew Walsh); Stéphane Goldstein was also the rapporteur at ECIL.
- CILIP conference TeenTech: integrating research and information literacy in our future (Jane Secker and Rebecca Jones)
- Emma Coonan presented at the LISDIS conference in November 2016 and keynoted at the Cambridge Libraries conference in January 2017
- Stéphane Goldstein presented at the Business Librarians Association conference in July 2016.
- An article on Digital Literacy in the Workplace by Stéphane Goldstein in the CILIP Government Information Group journal
- Submission on fake news and IL to the Select Committee on Culture, Media and Sport (Stéphane Goldstein, Jane Secker, Emma Coonan, Geoff Walton, Rosie Jones)
- Jane Secker contributed a chapter and Emma Coonan the foreword to the ACRL

White Paper *Global Perspectives on Information Literacy*

- Stéphane Goldstein and Drew Whitworth contributed a chapter to *Information Literacy in the Workplace*, edited by Marc Forster and due for publication in April 2017; Jane Secker also wrote the foreword for this.
- Emma Coonan published a guest blog post on 'The problem with peer review' which was excerpted in the University of York's MOOC, 'Becoming a digital citizen'

## **TeenTech**

We have continued to work closely with TeenTech, including sponsoring a TeenTech Award for Research and Information Literacy and developing a network of HE libraries to provide access for schools. ILG and TeenTech jointly elaborated a research support information pack, consisting of a set of flyers explaining the relevance and importance of research skills and related information skills, disseminated throughout 2016. We have presented at conferences to promote our work supporting TeenTech, including the Annual International Conference of the International Association of School Librarianship in Japan, the CILIP conference, and attended the TeenTech awards at Buckingham Palace. We continue to provide research skills sheets, which are free to download from our website.

## **Research**

Another key strand of our work is supporting research into the development of information literacy and related literacies. This is a key member benefit as any member can apply for a bursary.

We awarded bursaries to several research projects:

- Prof Hazel Hall (Edinburgh Napier University): Information Literacy for Democratic Engagement (IL-DEM)
- Emily Hurt (Library Services, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust): Facilitating research amongst radiographers through Information Literacy workshops
- Dr Geoff Walton (Manchester Metropolitan University, Assoc Prof Jamie Barker, Dr Martin Turner (Staffordshire University) and Matt Pointon (Northumbria University) Information discernment and psychophysiological well-being in response to misinformed stigmatization
- Dr Dina Martzoukou and Prof Simon Burnett (Robert Gordon University) Lost in information? New Syrian Scots' information way-finding practices.
- Dr Morgan Harvey (Northumbria University) and Dr Geoff Walton (Manchester Metropolitan University): Investigating the IL of Scotland's teenagers to inform teaching practice.
- Clare Langman (Aston University), Kerstin Treder (Aston University), Lynette Rendell (Aston University Engineering Academy) and Cathy Bedney (Aston University Engineering Academy): Improving transition for engineering students through IL training.

We also support research via development awards. This year we have sponsored two learning through gaming projects presented at the LILAC Lagadothon: Andrew Walsh on using the locked room approach to support student induction with Escape Rooms for Learning, and Jane Secker and Chris Morrison on using The Publishing Trap game to develop academics and early career researchers' understanding of copyright and scholarly communication.

### **Journal of Information Literacy**

We continue to publish the [Journal of Information Literacy](#), the diamond<sup>1</sup> open access peer reviewed journal, twice yearly to promote high quality research in the field.

The journal is now a decade old, and to mark this anniversary we plan to publish a special issue in June (volume 11:1) featuring invited contributions from researchers and scholars of international repute in IL. The issue will be dedicated to the memory of Mark Hepworth, long-standing Editorial Board member and contributor to JIL, who died in December 2016.

The Editor-in-Chief is working with the editor of *Communications in Information Literacy* on a content analysis of the two journals over their respective ten-year publishing histories, as the basis of a joint paper for ECIL 2017.

### **LILAC**

LILAC 2016 was held at University College Dublin and attracted over 325 delegates, 148 of whom were international. There was a playful theme to the conference with the introduction of the LILAC Lagadothon as well as a conference game running throughout. We sponsored 4 bursary places and two student places at LILAC to encourage attendance from across the sectors. The keynote speakers were:

- **Nicola Whitton** (Education and Social Research Institute, Manchester Metropolitan University) & **Alex Moseley** (University of Leicester) - [What can play do for you?](#)
- **Char Booth** (California State University San Marcos) - [Why reflect? The holistic practice of stepping back](#)
- **James Clay** (Jisc) - [Building digital capability in the library](#)

Copies of the presentations are available from the LILAC website <http://www.lilacconference.com/lilac-archive/lilac-2016> and a conference report written interviews with the busary winners written by our student award winners Amy O'Donohoe and Anna Theis were published in June 2016 in the Journal of Information Literacy <http://dx.doi.org/10.11645/10.1.2099>

LILAC 2017 is being held in Swansea University this will see the launch of the new Information Literacy Group branding. This year we have seen an expected reduction

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<sup>1</sup> Diamond open access signifies a fully open access journal that charges no Article Processing Fees and is free to publish and free to read.

in delegate numbers due to financial constraints in the sector but the conference is still shaping up to be a fantastic event. This year we are trialling a new conference app and LILAC extras (innovative conference ideas). Our keynotes for 2017 are:

- Barabara Allan (Independent Consultant)
- Josie Fraser (Social and Educational Technologist)
- Alan Carbery (Associate Library Director in Champlain College)

### **Website and social media**

The web team has been working hard to improve and develop the Group's web site [www.informationliteracy.org.uk](http://www.informationliteracy.org.uk) including more resources on using Open Educational Resources and on Developing your Teaching. The health information pages were also updated. We also ran the #whyinfolit campaign with practitioners submitting short videos on the importance of information literacy.

We provide regular and sustained activity via Twitter, LinkedIn and the blog on the Information Literacy web site.

A fresh look and feel for the website, reflecting the ILG's new branding, is planned for summer 2017.

### **Training events and sponsorship**

We continue to support the development of library and information professionals' information literacy and related literacies and teaching skills via events, webinars and by sponsoring teachmeets. Activity this year has included:

- Scoping development to support an online course on copyright literacy for librarians
- Sponsored a place at ECIL for an ILG member for the first time
- Subsidised a week long residential course "Pedagogy for Librarians" 12/2016
- Organised several training events which were aligned with different aspects of the CILIP PKSB:
  - Digital Literacy in Libraries. Joint event with the Multimedia, Information and Technology Group 05/08/2016 at the University of Liverpool
- Organised webinars, enabling greater access for members
  - Several LILAC webinars including How to write and deliver a good workshop, Getting the Most out of LILAC, What I learnt at LILAC and Reflections on LILAC
  - Publication without Tears
- Sponsored training events and teachmeets:
- Teachmeets
  - Aber LibTeachmeet at 09/06/2016 University of Aberystwyth
  - Employability Teachmeet 28/11/2016 at Swansea University
  - Accessibility in libraries TeachMeet 14/12/2016 at Staffordshire University
- Events
  - Copyright Colloquium 20/07/2016 at the University of Greenwich

- o Health Libraries Group Conference 15-16/09/2016 at Scarborough
- o Supporting young people in the digital age – in collaboration with CILIP Information Services Group 30/11/2016 at CILIP

### **Information Literacy Awards**

We offer an annual award for achievement in Information Literacy in the UK. The IL Award recognises an outstanding contribution made by a researcher or practitioner working in the IL field in any sector.

The winner in 2016 was Yin Min Tun. Yin instigated and leads eTekkatho (eUniversity), a project that is building digital libraries in Myanmar. This project is a collaboration of UK and Burmese universities, run by Yin from the University of Manchester.

The runner-up for 2016 was Elizabeth Hutchinson (Head of Schools Library Service, Guille-Alles Library, St Peter Port).

The Credo Digital Award for Information Literacy rewards an innovative/high impact digital resource developed by a UK-based individual or group.

The winner in 2016 was [Study Skills for 6th Form](#) (Sara Bird, Stephen Harding and Gillian Johnston, Newcastle University Library). This colourful and innovative suite of online resources is aimed at A-level students with the purpose of raising the profile of IL within this sector.

### **Appendix One: Committee Membership**

#### **Officers:**

Chair: Jane Secker

Deputy Chair: Rowena Macrae-Gibson

Treasurer: Elaine Sykes

Secretary: Laura Woods

#### **Members:**

Jacqueline Geekie, Stephane Goldstein, Kate Grigsby, Anne-Lise Harding, Lisa Jeskins, Rebecca Jones, Rosie Jones, Catherine McManamon, Dan Pullinger, Colin Sawers, Andrew Walsh, Geoff Walton

**Co-opted member:** Emma Coonan (JIL Editor)

**Appendix two – Financial report** See separate paper