



CILIP Information Literacy Group

Annual Report 2021/22



Message from the Chair

I have continued to chair the Information Literacy Group for another year, guided by our 2021-2025 strategy and kept in line by two fantastic Deputy Chairs Laura Woods and Anne-Lise Harding. Anne-Lise stepped up for 6 months into the Deputy Chair role and I hope will be appointed on an ongoing basis at our AGM.

We have once again completed an immense amount of work during challenging times, with most face to face events yet to resume. However, our work has continued, largely online with a successful new online event, FestivIL held in July 2021 and the launch of the Media and Information Literacy Alliance (MILA) in October 2021, which ILG are playing a key role in shaping and leading. MILA is the main vehicle by which we hope to 'mainstream' information literacy and we hope the creation of a new framework provides a practical tool for librarians and teachers.

We continue to support our members and we are looking forward to resuming our LILAC conference in person in April in 2022 for the first time in more than 2 years. It's a testament to the hard work of the LILAC Committee, led by Claire Packham for managing to put together such a fantastic event, which will be a chance for us to come together for the first time in two years. I hope this also ends our period of financial uncertainty for the group, and we are now well aware of the need to diversify and become less reliant on income from a single event. I would particularly like to thank our Treasurer Jonas Heriot during this time for his wise counsel and caution when it comes to spending.

I am grateful to the dedicated and hardworking (and fun) ILG, LILAC and JIL committees for all their efforts during these challenging times. I am also delighted to see the enthusiasm of the New Professionals Committee created in July 2021 and look forward to their ongoing work. I would like to thank all our members for your ongoing support at a time when the need for highly developed media and information literacy skills continues to be vital to cope with today's wider societal issues, and the ongoing challenges related to global health and political events.

Dr Jane Secker, Chair of CILIP Information Literacy Group

Changes to the ILG Committee

Rosie Jones stepped down as Deputy Chair, and Anne-Lise Harding will be formally standing for election at the AGM. Anne-Lise was acting Deputy Chair to cover Laura Woods' role for the 6 months previously. Rosie plans to continue to act as a strategic advisor to the group and champion information literacy at the highest levels in libraries in the UK.

Full membership of the current Committee can be found in Appendix One as well as a list of our sub-committees and their members.

Advocacy / Media and Information Literacy Alliance (MILA)

ILG wrote a [response to the government's media literacy strategy](#), published August 2021. However, much of ILG's advocacy and outreach activities are now taking place under the banner of the MILA ([Media and Information Literacy Alliance](#)) set up in the summer of 2021 and formally launched in October the same year by CILIP and the CILIP Information Literacy Group. Our Advocacy and Outreach Officer, Stéphane Goldstein, is acting as a Secretary for MILA and coordinating much of the communications, meetings and activities through a newly established MILA Board, which met for the first time in January 2022.

MILA aims to bring together players from different sectors, including beyond the library world, interested in working collectively to promote media and information literacy in the UK as a fundamental building block for a healthy, inclusive, democratic society.

Key milestones to date include the launch of a dedicated website, the creation of a media and information literacy framework, a first stakeholder meeting attended by nearly 40 participants representing a wide range of professional backgrounds and areas of expertise and the scoping of a comprehensive review of information literacy research and impact which MILA plans to launch in early Summer 2022.

Our Priorities

The ILG launched a strategic plan taking us up to 2025 at our [AGM](#) in April 2021. Our priorities as set out in our strategic plan are:

- Bringing information literacy into the mainstream.
- Making information literacy inclusive and accessible to all.
- Building our capacity as a Group.
- Supporting our members.

Our planned activities for 2022 will include:

- Rescheduled LILAC conference, to be held in Manchester over three days, 11-13 April 2022.
- Formalise MILA through an established board, a comprehensive review and further consultancy work on its framework. Regular communication through Information Professional.
- JIL special issue on information literacy and COVID-19 due for publication in June 2022.
- Online event on game-based learning for Information Literacy planned for February 2022.
- The New Professionals committee is planning to host new professional networking events (including a "randomised coffee trial"), case studies of innovative practice, and to launch a podcast.
- Running income-generating events and a number of free events to support workforce development in conjunction with other CILIP networks.
- In planning stages for potential Icepops in-person event later in the year.

LILAC

FestivIL by LILAC: a 3-day online only event took place 6-8 July, 2021. This was a substitute for the usual LILAC conference, which was again postponed due to ongoing pandemic restrictions.

The programme included 35 sessions, 3 mainstage speakers, and 6 “campfire conversations” - breakout discussion and networking spaces. The campfire conversations were particularly well received - feedback indicated that for many participants, this was the first online conference they’d attended with a networking opportunity/social event that worked well. Most talks were recorded and shared through the ILG [Youtube channel](#) to support our strategic goal of inclusivity and outreach.

Attendance (which was capped at 200 per day) was as follows:

- 65 tickets for half day attendance
- 197 tickets for full attendance
- 262 total tickets sold

Attendees were mainly from the UK, but we did have attendees from approximately 10 other countries. The event made £6810 profit.

The LILAC conference in 2022 will be held in Manchester over three days, 11-13 April 2022.

Journal of Information Literacy

JIL published three issues in 2021, including a special LILAC issue, featuring articles written by people who would have presented at the postponed LILAC 2020 conference. JIL also appointed a new managing editor, Dr Meg Westbury, in February 2021.

Website and social media

Information Literacy website: As of 1st December 2021: 95 blog items, a total of 76,308 views, a 12.32% increase on last year and 39,081 website users, 19.7 % increase. Our top 3 pages were:

- Developing your teaching - pedagogic theory: 9,629 (12.62%),
- Homepage: 8,463 (11.09%)
- Definitions & Models: 5,379 (7.05%).

The ILG Twitter is followed by 7,207 accounts, LinkedIn by 1192 users.

Training events and sponsorship

“I can’t believe it’s not Icepops” event, 25 June 2021 held online with over 100 attendees. The presentation and recordings are [available online](#).

Online writing retreat for colleagues in Further or Higher Education working on applications for Advance HE Fellowships, hosted November 2021. This event has 12 attendees and generated £139.01.

UNESCO Global Media and Information Literacy week: hosted three events:

- The paths, nodes and edges of information literacy research- Speakers: Dr Alison Hicks, Dr Charlie Inskip, Prof. Annemaree Lloyd, Dr Pam McKinney, Dr Geoff Walton, Sheila Webber, Dr Drew Whitworth.

- FOIL Masters: Emerging Voices in Media & Information Literacy Research - Maud Cooper (UCL), Jo Lapham (University of Sheffield), Antony Njuguna (UCL)
- Celebrating UNESCO Global MIL Week 2021 in Scotland: A look at the Media and Information Literacy Alliance (MILA) and the 'Maddie is Online' Digital Literacy project - Jacqueline Geekie and Dr Dina Martzoukou.

Information Literacy Awards

Leading Light award, an award for a member of the IL community who has been a local hero supporting, leading or inspiring colleagues or library users in information literacy, was awarded to Hazel Roome, University of Derby, at FestivIL in July 2021. Hazel's project was rewarded for her work on "The Night of the Hungry Hungry Robot", a collaborative effort between the library and our University of Derby Online (UDOL) department to promote information literacy and online resources".

Appendix One: Main ILG Committee Membership

Officers:

- Chair: Jane Secker
- Deputy Chairs: Anne-Lise Harding and Laura Woods
- Treasurer: Jonas Herriot
- Secretary: Catherine McManamon

Members:

Pip Divall, Jacqueline Geekie, Stephane Goldstein, Kate Grigsby, Katherine Halliday, Padma Inala, Rebecca Jones, Claire Packham, Sarah Pavey, Dan Pullinger, Geoff Walton.

Co-opted member: Alison Hicks (JIL Editor).

Communications team: Emma Burnett, Emily Selvidge, Louise Minta, Clarissa St Yves, Matt Bryan

Training sub-team: Allison Jones

ILG New Professionals sub-committee:

Frances Marsh, David Smith, Adrian Vaughan, Katie Wise.

Appendix Two: Financial report

See separate document