



News/Announcements

News from the Library and Information Science Research Coalition (U.K.)

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EBLIP6

The Library and Information Science (LIS) Research Coalition will be very much in evidence at EBLIP6. Professor Hazel Hall, Director of the Centre for Social Informatics at Edinburgh Napier University and Executive Secretary of the LIS Research Coalition, is presenting the keynote paper on Thursday, 30 June while, later the same day, the Coalition is sponsoring a panel session entitled "Meet the editors". The LIS Research Coalition will also be offering four sponsored places at the conference: two for practitioners, and two for PhD students based in the U.K. Further details of how to apply for a sponsored place will soon be available on the LIS Research Coalition web site at <http://lisresearch.org/>

DREaM: Developing Research Methods and Excellence

In November 2010, the LIS Research Coalition was awarded a grant of £45,000 from the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) to support the DREaM project.

Principal investigator Professor Hazel Hall and her co-investigator Professor Charles Oppenheim are working with representatives of the LIS Research Coalition member organizations to develop a series of training events and resources for LIS researchers. A

key goal of the project is to build capacity and capability in the development and implementation of innovative methods and techniques in undertaking LIS research. The project started in January 2011 and runs until August 2012.

The first DREaM project event will be a one-day conference at the British Library in London on 19 July 2011. The programme will include an opening keynote presentation by Dr Blaise Cronin (Rudy Professor of Information Science in the School of Library and Information Science at Indiana University, US), a closing keynote presentation, a one minute madness session and a choice of themed workshops, as well as a session on the DREaM project itself.

Four further DREaM project events will take place:

- 25 October 2011 – workshop Craighouse campus, Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh (places for 30 participants)
- 30 January 2012 – workshop, British Library London (places for 30 participants)
- April 2012 – workshop in Edinburgh (exact date and location to be confirmed, places for 30 participants)

- 9 July 2012 – concluding event, British Library London (places for 40 participants)

These events will explore the scope of LIS and related research, and the range of methods appropriate to research in the domain. Experts in a variety of techniques will present method overviews, covering their strengths and weaknesses. A wide range of techniques will be evaluated beyond the standard qualitative and quantitative methods commonly deployed in LIS research. It is hoped that a number of the participants will be able to attend all events (along with others who will elect to come to one or more). To register interest in these events, please e-mail hazel.hall@lisresearch.org.

Further information about the project will be added to the DREaM project web page at: <http://lisresearch.org/dream-project/>. For regular updates, please follow the DREaM project on Twitter at @LIS_DREAM.

RiLIES: Research in Librarianship – Impact Evaluation Study

RiLIES (pronounced “realize”) is a study led by Professor Hazel Hall and supported by the LIS Research Coalition. Running from February until the end of July 2011, the project explores the extent to which funded librarianship research projects influence

library practice in the U.K. Of particular interest are the factors that increase or hinder the impact of project outcomes on practice. Currently little is known of the impact of particular research projects on the day-to-day work carried out by librarians. This makes it difficult to assess an important aspect of research undertaken. Equally, although it is possible to cite reasons why a particular project may have a greater influence than another – such as the means by which it is conceived and implemented, how output is disseminated, what is disseminated, the profile of the research team or the target audience – knowledge of the relative value of these factors is low. Already 200 LIS practitioners and researchers have contributed to the project by completing the RiLIES poll. There will be further opportunities for participation in the later stages of the project. Further information about the project will be added to the RiLIES project web page at: <http://lisresearch.org/rilies-project/>. For regular updates, please follow the RiLIES project on Twitter at @LIS_RiLIES