

## Memories from EBSCO Scholarship recipients 2015 Edinburgh Workshop



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I was very fortunate to receive one of the EAHIL/EBSCO scholarships to attend the recent Workshop in Edinburgh. I would like to say a special thank you to EAHIL and EBSCO for this opportunity, and also to the Norwegian SMH-group who supported my travel to the Workshop. It was my first time attending an EAHIL conference, and I also became an EAHIL Council member this year, so I got to attend my first Council meeting as well. Attending the Council meeting gave me the opportunity to meet the Board as well as other Council members. Afterwards I attended the first-timers event which was a great laid back event that gave us the chance to mingle with other first-timers and share expectations for the Workshop. The keynote speaker for the opening of the Workshop, Hazel Hall, did a great job welcoming us to Edinburgh. She presented ideas around how to stay research minded and shared some of her own experiences from projects such as LISResearch.

I had especially been looking forward to my first breakout session. The session was on mobile apps and ways to keep up to date led by Guus van den Brekel. I regularly teach a short session on ways to keep up to date for different groups of staff at the hospital and was keen to explore some new tools. I was introduced to a number of new apps and we discussed and compared them in groups. We looked at the apps Browzine, DocNews, Docphin og Real QXMD, all apps where you can keep up to date with journal content in different ways. Browzine was the overall favourite. One of its strengths is that you connect it to the library's journal collection and it can help promote the collection and make the journals more visible to the end user. It was very helpful to discuss in groups what we thought worked well and what didn't work so well. I ended up bringing a lot of new ideas back home that I will incorporate into the session I teach.

The second day I attended several interesting sessions. The first one was on how to reduce systematic review workload and held by Prof. James Thomas and Claire Stansfield from EPPI-Centre. The session introduced text mining tools and showcased some of the ways they work with text mining at the EPPI-Centre. The session gave a good overview of some of the tools that exist and the session holders were interested in finding out what support tools or guides would be helpful for libraries that wished to use text mining methods.

One of my favourite memories from the Workshop was talking to other professionals from countries all over Europe, hearing all about their workplace and the focus of their libraries. There were perhaps not so surprisingly a number of similarities, but equally interesting was learning about the differences. The gala dinner was held in the wonderful National Museum of Scotland where everyone got to show off their dancing skills and have a go at Scottish Ceilidh.

One of my aims for the Workshop was to meet and connect with other professionals and I feel I have gained a lot of new connections from across all of Europe. It was a wonderful Workshop with a great atmosphere and I look forward to next year's conference in Sevilla.



**Vesna Cafuta**

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The first announcement of the 2015 EAHIL Workshop “Research-Minded: understanding, supporting, conducting research” immediately aroused my attention and a wish to participate in the event started to grow in me. I was so grateful when I was awarded EAHIL/EBSCO scholarship! It enabled me to participate at the wonderful Workshop with highly experienced session leaders and a great organisation.

There was a big diversity of appealing sessions to choose from and I must admit I had some difficulties with deciding which sessions to attend. However, since my library is planning to offer our users a systematic review (SR) service in the future, I attended sessions that covered everything connected to SRs: project and data management, efficient searching and text mining. I was impressed by the lecturers’ knowledge and the fact that they were so opened and willing to share the valuable experience they gained through time. They also showed us some innovative approaches, which will have a great impact on my future work. Wichor M. Bramer showed us how to speed-up the process of search strategy formation and translation to other databases, which usually takes too much time. He also let us know that you can use a different and better approach to search strategy design instead of PICO, which can be quite restrictive and may compromise the important part of literature searching for SRs - sensitivity! That was really an eye-opener. He emphasized the importance of first steps, determining and evaluating every element you use in a strategy. Margaret J. Foster shared with us her comprehensive RIGOR Excel document that contains everything you need for project and data management when doing SRs. She presented her SR service with lots of useful details for every stage of the SR process and explained what it takes to become a project leader. James Thomas introduced a sophisticated software called EPPI Reviewer, which among other things uses text mining technologies that help to reduce workload during citation screening for SRs. It is really useful since it constantly re-orders articles from more relevant to less relevant, based on manual screening choices. Text mining can also be used in developing search strategies and in mapping research literature. All sessions were so inspiring and I could listen to session leaders for much longer! I hope similar topics will be also available in future EAHIL events.

I would like to congratulate the Organizing Committee for organizing an excellent Workshop and express my thanks for the kind support before, during and after it.

To sum up, EAHIL Edinburgh Workshop has exceeded my expectations. Opportunity to learn new things and to network with other EAHIL members, the Ceilidh dance and the magical sounds of the pipes will always remind me of this EAHIL event and beautiful Edinburgh.

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**Valeria Scotti**

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First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the EAHIL Board for awarding me one of the EBSCO scholarships. The conference was an important moment for me to meet colleagues from other countries, share my experience and learn more about 'research minded' librarians. This was my first participation to the EAHIL Council meetings, held on the morning before the conference start. I arrived to the meeting with Italian Board members and they introduced me to the Council rules. Let me say that I was very proud and excited to be there with other Council representatives from all Europe. At the EAHIL we truly are a "great family".

After the main conference session and keynotes speakers, the workshop sessions began. I attended a full-block session on Systematic Reviews provided by Margaret J. Foster, with the title Introduction to Systematic Reviews and the role of the librarian. It was a very interesting session and Margaret gave us a lot of strategic tips to improve our skill set for this important part of our daily work. The second day Louise Cooke introduced us to the world of social media, with Social Network Analysis – what, why and how? I was very inspired by this presentation, and I also found that these themes were applicable to my study about Alternative and new Metrics based on the use of social media networks. Then we relaxed with a delicious dinner and very funny Ceilidh dance.

The last day I also very much enjoyed the session with the theme Create a great poster by Witold Kozakiewicz and Federica Napolitani. The participants were divided into groups and we created some posters with newspapers and magazines that the session leaders gave to us and then we voted the great one. Librarian creativity power!

A very special thanks also to the organizers for having put together such an interesting session schedule, and also for choosing such a wonderful location. Edinburgh indeed is a lovely place for a conference! I hope that we will meet all again to the next EAHIL Conference 2016 at Seville.



**Josip Šimić**

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It was a great honor and pleasure to participate in EAHIL 2015 in Edinburgh. I should stress that without the scholarship, which I was assigned by EBSCO EAHIL I would not be able to attend this conference. Besides the financial support, I got a strong sense of belonging to this association and this profession.

The main conference sessions opened with a keynote from Prof Hazel Hall, Director of the Centre for Social Informatics within the Institute for Informatics and Digital Innovation at Edinburgh Napier University, UK.

The full program of the conference was interesting for all who deal with medical information. The first workshop that I attended was *Measuring impact in health library services*. The leader was Alison Brettle who

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provided a brief overview of theories relating to measuring impact and presented a large scale evaluation of clinical librarian services to illustrate how impact can be measured in practice.

Next workshop that I attended was *Social network Analysis what, way and how?* The leader was Louise Cooke. She introduced the SNA to us, which is often poorly understood research technique and can be used for much more than analysis of our Facebook, Twitter or Instagram activities. At the workshop we learned about this method and what we might be able to use it for in our professional life.

Very useful workshop *Data management plans for application: what are they and why are they important?* was presented by Stuart Macdonald. He talked to us about the growing importance of use of data management plans for research and we learned what is data management plan and how to make one for grant applications.

As for social program, we had the first day of socializing with colleagues who for the first time attended the conference. The second day a Workshop dinner&dance was organized in the beautiful surroundings of the National Museum of Scotland. Learning Scottish dances with dear colleagues who I've just met is something that I will remember for a lifetime. The third day we went on a tour to the National Library of Scotland, a major research centre in Europe, where we met the infrastructure and organization of library materials of this unique institution.

Although I was the only one from Bosnia and Herzegovina, I felt like I was in my Mostar. Finally, I would once again like to thank the hosts, they did everything to facilitate my arrival and stay in Edinburgh.

Since I had a chance to meet wonderful colleagues from Spain who are organizing a conference next year, and after the experience of Edinburgh, I want to tell everyone: Sevilla must not be missed!



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### **A tribe called #researchminded**

“Conferences are tribal gatherings” was a part of the tweet that Saga Pohjola-Ahlin (@SagaViveka) posted on Twitter. Well that is the best description of this year’s Workshop – tribal gathering. A tribe consisted of amazing information professionals working in the health environment. Well, how was it? I have been at a quite few conferences and workshops by now, but in Edinburgh I felt very welcomed and equal. From the first timers’ cocktail to the end of the workshop and the (few) beer(s) at pub(s) there was incredible and positive vibe. All sessions, especially those that we were focused on active problem solving I found them very inspiring, influential and applicable to my work and my PhD research.

My opinion was that the conference’s focal point was directed towards young professionals, from the librarian’s point of view. Why? I have not seen so much of senior colleagues that are full of the energy striving to improve young ones to dig into this kind of specific librarianship. For that, thank you all! Organization of the workshop was flawless. Local organization team, you were wonderful hosts and because of all of you I will return to Edinburgh.

My highlights of the workshop were: gained motivation through this amazing experience and new colleagues that I met (or should I say new tribe members). So many amazing people ready to discuss, to exchange experiences, and ready for potentially collaboration on some future project(s).

All and all, I have not enjoyed a conference, I had a blast!! At the end, I want to say in my name, and in the name of all EAHIL and EBSCO scholarships winners thank you for this opportunity and great experience for attending Workshop.

And see you soon at the next EAHIL event!