

EAHIL President's Report for 2016

This report for 2016 summarises the events and developments of the year and lists the members holding an official or representative role.

1. EAHIL Executive Board

Meetings of the Board took place in Amsterdam on 29 February - 1 March 2016, and in Seville on 6 June 2016.

Board members, showing role in 2016 and current term.

Marshall Dozier	President (2015-2016 2nd term)
Peter Morgan	Past President (2013-2016)
Karen Johanne Buset	Honorary Secretary, Co-opted Board member (2015-2016)
Ghislaine Declève	Treasurer (2013-2016 1st term)
Lotta Haglund	Vice President (2015-2018 1st term)
Maurella Della Seta	Board member (2013-2016 1st term)
Anna Kågedal	Board member (2013-2016 1st term)
Tuulevi Ovaska	Board member (2013-2016 1st term)
Francesca Gualtieri	Co-opted Board member (2015-2016)
Suzanne Bakker	Supervisor of the EAHIL Secretariat
Federica Napolitani	Chief Editor, Journal of EAHIL

2. EAHIL Council

The EAHIL Council members in 2015 were:

Country	Council member	Term of office
Austria	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Belgium	Ann De Meulemeester	2013-16 (1st term)
	Inge Discart	2015-18 (1st term)
	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Croatia	Lea Škorić	2013-16 (2nd term)
Czech Republic	Helena Bouzková	2013-16 (1st term)
Denmark	Jette Frost Jepsen	2015-18 (1st term)
	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Estonia	Sigrid Prank	2013-16 (2nd term)
Finland	Tiina Heino	2015-18 (1st term)
	Elise Johansson	2015-18 (1st term)
	Minna Liikala	2015-18 (2nd term)
France	Gaetan Kerdelhue	2015-18 (1st term)
	<i>Vacancy</i>	
	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Germany	Sabine Buroh	2015-18 (1st term)
	Ulrich Korwitz	2015-18 (1st term)



Greece	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Hungary	Gyöngyi Karácsony	2013-16 (1st term)
Iceland	Anna Sigrídur Guðnadóttir	2013-16 (1st term)
Ireland	Niamh Lucey	2013-16 (2nd term)
	<i>Vacancy</i>	
	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Italy	Gaetana Cognetti	2013-16 (2nd term)
	Federica Napolitani Cheyne	2013-16 (2nd term)
	Valeria Scotti	2015-18 (1st term)
Latvia	Margarita Želve	2013-16 (2nd term)
Lithuania	Daiva Jurksaitiene	2015-18 (1st term)
Moldova	Liubovi Karnaeva	2013-16 (1st term)
	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Netherlands	Ingeborg van Dusseldorp	2015-18 (1st term)
	Gerdien de Jonge	2013-16 (2nd term)
	Jacqueline Limpens	2013-16 (2nd term)
Norway	Hanne Dybvik	2015-18 (2nd term)
	Regina Küfner Lein	2015-18 (2nd term)
	Jannicke Rusnes Lie	2015-18 (1st term)
Poland	Witold Kozakiewicz	2013-16 (1st term)
Portugal	Susana Henriques	2013-16 (1st term)
	Margarida Meira	2013-16 (2nd term)
Romania	Octavia-Luciana Madge	2015-18 (1st term)
Russian Federation	Larisa Zhmykhova	2015-18 (2nd term)
Slovenia	Vesna Cafuta	2015-18 (1st term)
Spain	Mar González-Cantalejo	2013-16 (1st term)
	Alicia F Gómez	2015-18 (1st term)
	Verónica Juan-Quilis	2015-18 (2nd term)
Sweden	Helen Sjöblom	2015-18 (1st term)
	Margareta Sundin	2015-18 (1st term)
	Linda Thorn	2015-18 (1st term)
Switzerland	Isabelle de Kaenel	2013-16 (1st term)
	<i>Vacancy</i>	



Turkey	Mesra Sendir	2015-18 (1st term)
United Kingdom	Isla Kuhn	2015-18 (1st term)
	Helen Buckley Woods	2015-18 (1st term)
	Vacancy	2015-18 (1st term)

3. Journal of EAHIL

The editorial team of the Journal of EAHIL in 2015 were:

Federica Napolitani Cheyne, Rome, Italy (Editor in Chief)
 Gerhard Bissels, Bern, Switzerland
 Fiona Brown, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
 Katri Larmo, Helsinki, Finland
 Oliver Obst, Muenster, Germany
 Letizia Sampaolo, Rome, Italy
 Michelle Wake, London, United Kingdom
 Petra Wallgren-Björk, Stockholm, Sweden

Warm thanks to Oliver Obst, who stepped down from the editorial team at the end of 2016 after many active years.

There were four issues of JEAHIL in 2016, three of which were themed: *Open Science: Open Access; Memories from the Seville Conference; Education and training for medical librarians with supplementary material*. Special thanks are due to Fiona Brown and Katri Larmo who took on the role of guest-editing the *Open Science: Open Access* theme issue, and to Gerhard Bissels, who took on the role of guest-editing the *Education and training for medical librarians with supplementary material* issue.

The Journal was published in print in the Netherlands, made possible with the generous support of EBSCO Information Services, and Thieme Verlag. The Journal was also made available online as an open access journal via the EAHIL website at www.eahil.eu. Thanks are due to Suzanne Bakker for managing printing and distribution in the Netherlands.

4. EAHIL Secretariat

The EAHIL Secretariat, provided by Nicole Regoort and her staff in the offices of Leijte & Regoort in Maarsse, The Netherlands, continued to manage the Association's administrative affairs and commercial contacts efficiently under the supervision of Suzanne Bakker and in close cooperation with Ghislaine Declève as Treasurer and Federica Napolitani as JEAHIL Editor.

5. EAHIL website

In 2016 we have continued to develop and expand the website on the Wordpress platform launched in 2015. In August, the website was moved from its development site onto server space hosted in the Netherlands. The site was managed by Anna Kågedal and a team of helpers.

6. Membership database and communication platforms

The EAHIL membership database is hosted in the Netherlands in Formdesk at <https://fd8.formdesk.com/EAHIL/membership>. FormDesk is also being used to handle voting in elections, and submission of conference abstracts and scholarship applications. The membership database and its functions were managed by Suzanne Bakker, Secretariat Supervisor.



The EAHIL email discussion lists are running using the LISTSERV platform at <http://list.ecompass.nl>. The platform hosts lists for communication of the general membership, Board, Council, Secretariat, Special Interest Groups, and International Programme and Local Organising Committees. The email discussion lists were managed by Suzanne Bakker, Maurella Della Seta and Francesca Gualtieri.

EAHIL continues also to have a presence on several social media platforms to foster communication between members. Below are listed the principal sites, managed in 2016 by some of our most active members, Guus van den Brekel, Anna Kågedal, Ronald van Dieen, Tuulevi Ovaska and Benoit Thirion.

- EAHIL Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/40166010960/>
- EAHIL Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/eahil/>
- EAHIL Twitter account <https://twitter.com/EAHIL>
- EAHIL LinkedIn group <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/129357>

Separate Facebook event pages, Twitter accounts and Flickr groups are also used to support the communication of Conferences and Workshops as adjuncts to the events' websites.

7. Committees

We are grateful to the following members taking active roles to support EAHIL essential processes:

Audit committee 2015-2016

- Ulrich Korwitz (2015)
- Witold Kozakiewicz
- Oliver Obst (2016)

Nominations committee 2015-2016

- Tiina Heino
- Ann de Meulemeester
- Ioana Robu
- Ivana Truccolo (2016)

Elections Committee 2015-2016

- Helena Bouzková (2015)
- Rosanna Cammarano (2016)
- Katri Larmo
- Linda Lisgarten

8. EAHIL membership

As of 9 January 2017, there were 1682 members from 64 different countries registered in the membership database. Of these, 1596 members were from 37 Council of Europe countries, and 86 members were from 27 other countries.

The Affiliated members were: American Association for Cancer Research, EBSCO, Faculty of 1000 Ltd, IOS Press b.v., Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., Nature Publishing Group, Portland Press Ltd, SAGE publications Ltd, Springer SBM B.V., Thieme Verlag KG.

The break-down of members by country was:



Country	Members
Austria	11
Belarus	2
Belgium	57
Bosnia-Herzegovina	5
Bulgaria	4
Croatia	13
Cyprus	3
Czech Republic	24
Denmark	45
Estonia	13
Finland	65
France	23
Germany	44
Greece	14
Hungary	27
Iceland	7
Ireland	78
Italy	111
Latvia	25
Lithuania	26
Macedonia	2
Moldova	33
Netherlands	85
Norway	112
Poland	31
Portugal	50
Romania	22
Russian Federation	24
Serbia	3
Slovak Republic	2
Slovenia	14
Spain	151
Sweden	126
Switzerland	38

Turkey	26
Ukraine	3
United Kingdom	277
Council of Europe total	1596

Country	Members
Argentina	1
Australia	7
Brazil	3
Canada	9
Chile	2
Cuba	1
Egypt	2
Ethiopia	3
Israel	1
Jordan	1
Lebanon	1
Nigeria	6
Philippines	1
Qatar	1
Saudi Arabia	1
Singapore	1
South Africa	1
St. Kitts and Nevis	1
St. Maarten	1
Tajikistan	1
Tanzania	6
Tunisia	1
UAE	1
Uganda	2
USA	29
Uzbekistan	1
Zimbabwe	1
Non-C-O-E Total	86
Grand Total	1682

9. EAHIL meetings

The 2016 Conference was held in Seville, Spain, on 6-10 June 2016, and hosted by the Health Ministry of Andalusia. By perfect coincidence, 2016 was also the 10th Anniversary of the Andalusian eHealth Library – so the conference was also a way of celebrating that significant milestone.

The theme of the conference was *Knowledge, Research, Innovation... eHealth!*

The conference was well-organised, well-attended, and very well received. There were 360 delegates from 37 countries world-wide; there were 10 Continuing Education Courses in the days before the



conference; there were 10 parallel sessions on the various conference themes, with 57 oral presentations; there were 45 poster presentations across the various themes. In addition, there were 16 sponsor presentations, and 26 exhibitors.

For their excellent work in organising this conference, we owe thanks to Veronica Juan Quilis, Chair of the Local Organising Committee as well as Laura Muñoz Gonzalez and all members of the LOC team; as well as to Pilar Roque Castella, Chair, and Pilar Toro Sánchez-Blanco, Co-Chair, of the International Programme Committee, and all members of the IPC team.

Prize winners:

Best oral presentation: Catherine Williams with co-author B. McLeish (*Alt*) *Metrics in practice: effective analysis and application of modern research metrics*

Best First Time attendee oral presentation: Shelley de Kock with co-authors K. Misso, L. Stirk, M. Westwood, S. Deshpande, J. Kleijnen, D. Clayton and J. Kleijnen *Finding systematic reviews on pain: building the KSR Pain Evidence database*

Best poster: Giuse Ardita with co-authors E. Poltronieri and F. Toni *Tag your research and enhance your citation rate: last call for author ambiguity problems*

Best First Time attendee poster: Deirdre Andre with co-authors S. Dalton and P. Spoor *New directions: health librarians in the changing research landscape*

The full text of the prize-winning papers and posters, and reports and memories from conference participants may be seen in the Journal of EAHIL 12(3) <http://eahil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/journal-3-2016-web.pdf>

The 2017 Workshop will be in Dublin, Ireland, combined with International Congress of Medical Librarianship (ICML). The 2018 Conference will be in Cardiff, Wales.

10. Awards

EAHIL Scholarships, jointly sponsored by EBSCO, to attend the 2016 Conference were awarded by the EAHIL Board to:

Anna Brown (United Kingdom)
 Amber Dunlop (United Kingdom)
 Krisztina Egri (Hungary)
 Anna Gasparello (Italy)
 Sarah Hagström (Finland)
 Martina Kocbek Gajšt (Slovenia)

JEAHIL Scholarships, given by the Journal Editors to two best papers published in 2015, were awarded to:

Maria Toro-Troconis and co-authors C. Morton, T. Bennie, C. Leppington, A. Hemani, M. Lupton *Design, development and implementation of a mobile learning strategy for undergraduate medical education* JEAHIL 2015,11(2):14-20.

Margaret Foster *An overview of the role of librarians in systematic reviews: from expert search to project manager* JEAHIL 2015,11(3):3-7.

In 2016, for the first time, EAHIL collaborated with our sister organization, Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA), to offer a scholarship to attend the EAHIL conference. The winner of the EAHIL-AHILA scholarship 2016 was:

Hussein Haruna (Tanzania)



The EAHIL Award 2015 was presented to Arne Jakobsson in recognition of his leadership of EAHIL as it matured as an association, and for his long-time support of colleagues' professional development. His beneficial influence was demonstrated by, for example, his encouragement of new entrants into the profession to attend our international conferences, and by leading the policy change of free membership, thereby lowering of barriers to membership of EAHIL and to access to our professional network.

The EAHIL Award 2016 was presented to Suzanne Bakker in recognition of her immense dedication to EAHIL over the decades – not only has she held various formal positions essential to the development of our association, but she has also been crucial to the running of many operational and infrastructural matters that are usually invisible.

The rare award of Honorary Member was presented to Sally Wood-Lamont, in recognition of and gratitude for the extraordinary contribution made to EAHIL, in particular through her leadership in developing the Journal of EAHIL from a newsletter into a journal, but also for her valuable efforts to improve communication and connect members – we miss having the EAHIL Echo at our conferences and workshops!

11. Special Interest Groups

In 2016 the following SIGs were available and active, each with its own email discussion list:

- Complementary & Alternative Medicine (CAM) – Chair: Caroline Vandeschoor
- European Veterinary Libraries (EVLG) – Chair: Michael Eklund; Secretary: Derek Halling
- MeSH Information – Chair: Maurella Della Seta
- Pharmaceutical Information (PHING) – Chair: Francesca Gualtieri; Secretary: Peter Field
- Public Health Information (PHIG) – Co-Chairs: Tomas Allen, Susan Thomas; Secretary: Katri Larmo

12. Representatives

We are grateful to all the following individuals for their contributions as representatives in the following roles:

Medical Library Association

- Carol Lefebvre was the MLA representative to EAHIL.

National Library of Medicine

- Diane Babski was the NLM representative to EAHIL.

International Federation of Library Associations

- *In 2016, there was a vacancy for the EAHIL representative on the IFLA HBS Committee*

Health Information and Libraries Journal

- Michelle Wake was the EAHIL representative on the HILJ International Editorial Advisory Board. Suzanne Bakker was also a member of the HILJ Board.

EU Civil Society Platform on Multilingualism

- Maurella Della Seta represented EAHIL on this group with Suzanne Bakker as deputy.

13. Piloting online continuing professional development

Following a suggestion for webinars made at the 2015 Council meeting, during 2016 a working group was established to run a pilot programme of webinars between EAHIL's annual events. The aim of the pilot was to evaluate acceptability of online webinars to our members, and to evaluate processes and



mechanisms of organising and delivering webinars. The working group was tasked with gathering and reporting on experiences to allow the EAHIL Board to make informed policy and implementation decisions on offering online CPD. The first webinar took place in November 2016, with others scheduled in winter and spring 2017. The outcomes of the pilot will be reported in 2017.

14. Impact stories from members

Six members from four different countries sent in 'impact stories' for inclusion in this 2016 report. A combined summary of the points made by those members is presented here.

The strongest theme that comes through all the impact stories is EAHIL's value as an international professional network:

"the main point I want to make here is that for me EAHIL has been and is the portal to network internationally"

For medical librarians living and working in European countries, EAHIL provides an easy way to build a network of contacts throughout Europe. Medical librarians working in other parts of the world without well-established professional networks have found opportunities for professional development by participating in EAHIL events:

"The EAHIL group has allowed me to know new sites, participate in virtual meetings ... and the most important, to know about how biomedical librarians are doing remarkable work... European medical librarians have many steps advanced in this matter so it's important and urgent follow the path they are showing us"

The professional network acts as a foundation that supports other benefits highlighted in the stories. The network allows members to learn new ideas and learn from others' contexts, skills and current work.

"Participating in conferences, workshops, CECs, webinars, reading the journal, following Facebook... Knowing what others are doing also (in a good way) pushes to take new challenges and initiatives yourself!"

EAHIL conferences and workshops are really special – "The trip to EAHIL conference/workshop is always one of the highlights of the year!" – but attending an event has lasting effects:

"to focus on the impact in 2016: we have had some hard times in our organization, so the excellent opening lecture by professor Bernat Soria "On the value of knowledge" in the Seville conference was right on the spot! Something to come back to through the year."

Participating in EAHIL events can challenge us to think in new ways and to do new things we've never done before; ideas and contacts made from one event can give the confidence and support leading to publications, collaborations, research projects and presentations at future conferences.

"...it changed my views and thoughts about research and how as working librarians we can incorporate research within our day to day practice. I met and listened to some very inspiring people and I soon realised that you can carry out and publish research within your own workplace. Indeed, through talking to colleagues at the conference, I had the opportunity to write for the Health and Information Journal – something which I do not think would have happened if I had not attended the conference."

Involvement in publications, as a result of connections made at conferences, was also described in another impact story.



Outside EAHIL events, the Association is a resource for finding “responsive and aware partners for professional experience exchange through ERASMUS staff mobility programme.” We also see independent fruitful collaborations that have a direct impact on increasing our knowledge, broadening our experiences and improving the services and facilities we provide:

“The EAHIL network has helped in benchmarking between libraries and made possible for example a site visit [...] that gave both inspiration and practical ideas for furnishings and flexible study space.”

The impact stories also show that EAHIL provides more than new ideas and professional development - the people in the network are special, too:

“But not only professional issues I would like to prioritize. Human relations is very important for me too. Since 2009 I got acquainted with many amazing people from many countries.”

As you can see from the last quoted extract, the impact stories did not adhere strictly to talking about 2016: a clear message is that for these members, long-lasting personal friendships and professional connections are created within EAHIL.

Marshall Dozier

May 2017