

2018 EAHIL Council Election - Candidate Statement

<i>Country</i>	United Kingdom	
<i>Name</i>	Shona Kirtley	
<i>Affiliation</i>	EQUATOR Network University of Oxford	
<i>My professional education and experience</i>	<p><u>Experience</u> EQUATOR Network (2011 to present) Knowledge and Information Manager/Senior Research Information Specialist Centre for Statistics in Medicine, Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences (NDORMS), University of Oxford.</p> <p>National Library for Health Women’s Health Specialist Library (2003-2011) Project Coordinator/Information Scientist Nuffield Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of Oxford.</p> <p>The above roles have allowed me to gain wide-ranging experience in the provision of evidence-based health information, in literature searching to support systematic reviews and other research studies and in research reporting standards and guidelines. I have a keen interest in accurate and transparent reporting of biomedical research studies, global health issues and health information provision and access in low and middle income countries. I write a monthly international column for BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and have authored and co-authored papers published in a variety of journals. I passionately believe that biomedical librarians could and should be recognised as essential contributors to global efforts to reduce biomedical research waste. This includes librarian-led collaborations to improve the conduct and reporting of biomedical research, ensure research reproducibility and improve journal publication practices.</p> <p><u>Education</u> MSc in Information and Library Studies, University of Strathclyde, 2001.</p> <p>MA (Hons) in Modern History, University of St. Andrews, 1999.</p>	

<p><i>What I think is special about EAHIL</i></p>	<p>EAHIL fosters a community of enthusiastic and dedicated biomedical librarians keen to share knowledge and experience and to work collaboratively to improve provision of health library and information services across Europe.</p>
<p><i>What I expect to contribute to EAHIL Council</i></p>	<p>As a librarian working within a biomedical research department rather than a traditional library, and collaborating with researchers internationally, I hope to be able to bring a fresh perspective and to share my different professional experience to help inform discussions and plans for the future of EAHIL.</p> <p>Working closely with clinicians, researchers and statisticians (in a non-library setting) allows me to experience first-hand the day-to-day workloads and pressures that clinicians and biomedical researchers face allowing me to provide a different practical perspective on the information and library services that would fulfil their needs.</p> <p>The experience I have gained through my work with librarians internationally regarding extending our roles to encompass research reporting, reproducibility of research and influencing journal and editorial practices will, I hope, also help contribute towards discussions around the future focus of EAHIL and the need to revise and reinvigorate our roles as biomedical librarians in a time of great change (but also a time of great opportunity!).</p>
<p><i>What I think are the most important issues for European health information professionals in 2019-2022</i></p>	<p>Emerging technologies Funding Scholarly communications & changing publishing practices Remaining relevant and responsive to changing user needs / demands Collaborative working and the sharing of knowledge and experience</p>
<p><i>My one-line statement for my election campaign</i></p>	<p>I love working as a biomedical librarian and I passionately believe that we continue to have an important role to play in the provision of, promotion of and improvement of biomedical knowledge – we just need to ensure that we reinvigorate our roles and remain relevant in this constantly changing landscape and I hope to be able to help to support EAHIL and represent all UK members in responding to these changes by serving as a council member for the UK.</p>