

JoHILA

Journal of Health Information and Libraries Australasia

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the new decade! With the first issue for 2020, we are announcing that *HLA News* has come of age and we are making the transition from the familiar PDF newsletter style of *HLA News* to the newly titled online *Journal of Health Information and Libraries Australasia (JoHILA)*. After nearly fifty years and various titles as a trade publication, *HLA News* is evolving into a more scholarly journal.

The HLA Executive, past editors of *HLA News* and the Editorial Board have long recognised the need for a single, 'go to' location that is the definitive source of information about health LIS in our region.

Our aims remain similar – to record and showcase developments, progress and achievements of health librarians, and health library and information services – but we are widening the scope and reach to incorporate our regional audiences. *JoHILA* recognises that we are part of an international community, and seeks to advance knowledge about health library and information research and practice to improve health and wellbeing in our region.

It's an ambitious but timely leap, given the urgent and critical need for scientifically valid and evidence-informed decision making, and the connections of health to the sustainability of life on this planet. (For more on this topic, and the role of libraries in the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please see former IFLA Secretary General Jennefer Nicholson's article, "IFLA and the role of libraries in the UN Sustainable Development goals".



JoHILA is an open access journal dedicated to publishing articles about health library and information research and practice in the Australasian region.

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We are indebted to those who have set up and maintained the publication over the years – past contributors in many capacities – our copy and production editors, proof readers, distributors, sponsors, authors, reviewers, readers, and editorial board members. The HLA website will record the historical details of names and dates of all these people, but I must acknowledge our most recent past editors, Melanie Foti and Jane Orbell-Smith, for holding onto their tenacious vision to develop a scholarly publication, and to Taryn Hunt who has taken up the challenge and is leading us through the transition.

Jojo Fuller, our long-term production editor, has for many years, provided her wise thematic oversight, maintaining continuity and cohesion within and between issues, and keeping an expert marketing eye on the nuts and bolts of professional communications. To Helen Giltrap, our invisible proofreader, we say thank you for many years of detailed scrutiny.

So now it's over to you, dear readers – please sign up for the publishing notification service by using the [Register](#) link at the top of the home page for *JoHILA* – you will receive the Table of Contents by email for each new issue.

And an invitation to potential authors – please check out the section on 'Types of articles' to view requirements for research articles, practice-based articles, regular features and others - we encourage you to submit!

Ann Ritchie

Chair *JoHILA* Editorial Board

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