**Systematic Reviews: Building Our Role and Expertise**

**Online 3rd April 2020**

You can follow along with today’s event or contribute to the online conversation by using the hashtag **#uhmlg2020** on Twitter

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| **09.45 – 10.00** | **Login** | **Check your IT kit** |
| **10:00 – 10.05** | Welcome and opening remarks (and protocols) | Chair: **Isla Kuhn**, Co-chair, UHMLG |
| **10.05 – 10.45** | **The Development of a Systematic Review Support Service at Cardiff** | **Delyth Morris**, Medical Subject Librarian, Cardiff University |
| **10.55 – 11.40** | **Shifting sands: maintaining library support for evidence syntheses at Bodleian Health Care Libraries** | **Nia Wyn Roberts**, Outreach Librarian, Bodleian Health Care Libraries |
| **11.40 – 11.55** | **Break** |  |
| **11.55 – 12.15** | **Cochrane Crowdsourcing Challenge** | **Anna Noel-Storr,** Information Specialist for the Cochrane Dementia and Cognitive Improvement Group, Oxford University |
| **12.25 – 13.10** | **A Review of LSHTM Systematic Reviews** | **Jane Falconer**, User Support Services Librarian, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine |
| **13.10– 14.00** | **Lunch** |  |
| **14:00 – 14.05** | Welcome back | Chair: **Iain Baird**, Co-chair, UHMLG |
| **14.05-14.50** | **Tips and tricks of the trade – sharing and remembering (nearly) everything about systematic review searching** | **Judy Wright**, Senior Information Specialist, University of Leeds |
| **15.00-15.40** | **Measuring the systematic reviews support provided by Librarians/Information Specialists at other Higher Education institutions** | **Kevin Wilson**, LSE Library |
| **15.45-16. 00** | Closing remarks **and prize draw!** | |
| **16.00** | Close | |

## If you’ve enjoyed today’s conference we’d love to see you at our summer residential conference at The Village, Swansea

(Thursday 4th – Friday 5th June)  
**Systematic Reviews: Demystifying Some of the Process**

<https://www.uhmlg.org/2020-summer-conference/>

The conference includes a workshop where you will get hands-on with some systematic review related software. Tickets are just £150 for the two days, with B&B in the conference hotel and the conference dinner included.

## Abstracts

**Delyth Morris**, Medical Subject Librarian, Cardiff University

Title: **The Development of a Systematic Review Support Service at Cardiff**

Delyth has just come to the end of year long secondment project in Cardiff University Library Service with the objective of developing and delivering a consistent, potentially income generating approach to systematic review assistance within the library’s core service (sitting alongside the already established grant funded Specialist Unit for Review Evidence). Delyth will share the challenges faced and overcome along the way, the outcome of the project and how the service could potentially be further developed.

**Nia Wyn Roberts**, Outreach Librarian, Bodleian Health Care Libraries

Title: **Shifting sands: maintaining library support for evidence syntheses at Bodleian Health Care Libraries**

Over the last 20 years the demands for library support for systematic reviews within the Medical Sciences Division at the University of Oxford has increased, both in terms of volume and complexity of requests. We have changed from a traditional library based service to an outreach model where librarians are increasingly embedded within research groups. However, this transition hasn’t followed a consistent path and individual librarians work very differently within research groups.

In this talk, Nia will outline the different service models in use across the library and expand on how her working relationships have developed with individual researchers and research groups. She will give an overview of the training programmes delivered by library staff and address how the team themselves are keeping up with developments in the evidence synthesis landscape.

**Anna Noel-Storr,** Information Specialist for the Cochrane Dementia and Cognitive Improvement Group, Oxford University

Title:  **Cochrane Crowdsourcing Challenge**

At a time when research output is expanding exponentially, citizen science, the process of engaging willing volunteers in scientific research activities, has an important role to play in helping to manage the information overload. It also creates a model of contribution that enables anyone with an interest in health to contribute meaningfully and in a way that is flexible.

In May 2016 Cochrane launched Cochrane Crowd, its citizen science platform. Here, contributors from around the world help to identify health evidence for Cochrane systematic reviews. To date over 100,000 trials have been identified by the crowd. This dataset has not only enriched Cochrane’s central repository of trials, it has enabled the creatiion of machine learning classifiers. These classifiers now paly an important role in helping Cochrane keep pace with the rate of research publication.

This talk will describe the Cochrane’s crowdsourcing and machine learning innovations and how they are helping to make the review production process more efficient without compromising on quality.

**Jane Falconer**, User Support Services Librarian, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Title:  **LSHTM Systematic Review Support: Past, Present and Future**

In the past three years, the support provided to systematic reviewers at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) by library staff has been transformed. The impetus behind this was an internal review of LSHTM-authored reviews which found a major issue with reporting and search standards. This was a surprise, given LSHTM’s emphasis on excellence in research, and the expertise on systematic review methodology amongst staff. This presentation describes how this review was conducted before describing the successes and failures in our subsequent support for reviewers. Like our users, we aim to provide an evidence-based service, so we have tried to follow best-practice, where available. The past three years has seen an update and expansion of our face-to-face and online training, improved publicity for individual support, introduction of peer-review of searches using the PRESS guidance and introduction of sub-contracting of trained library staff to conduct searches. The presentation ends with an insight into my future plans for the service.

**Judy Wright**, Senior Information Specialist, University of Leeds

Title: **Tips and tricks of the trade – sharing and remembering (nearly) everything about systematic review searching**

A challenge when delivering a systematic review service is keeping up to date with new search methods, changing software interfaces and remembering everything useful you’ve discovered along the way. Useful nuggets of knowledge can be small seemingly every-day things such as when to use a ? or # truncation symbol in Ovid, and then which one to use in ProQuest. We also learn and develop ad hoc skills to deal with problems as and when they arise, for example, working out how to manage records from a database you rarely use that doesn’t have export or import functions. These nuggets can be quickly forgotten or lost, buried in a sub-folder of a sub-folder or a post-it note mountain. Weeks, months or years later you remember that you had that useful nugget of knowledge, or had solved that problem before, but can’t remember how did it or where you noted it down.

This session will share practical tips of how you can share and manage the knowledge of all things related to your systematic review searching within your team. I’ll explain how we use an internal Wiki to store tips and tricks for literature searching, reference management, consistent search reporting, database syntax, local operating procedures and much more. It helps us remember things like “What year did Web of Science – SCI begin?”, “How do I report a search from ClinicalTrials.gov?”, “What’s the latest guidance on rapid reviews searches?” or “Have we done searches for overviews of systematic reviews before and what did we call the strategies”? Alongside describing the Wiki, I will highlight some of the most heavily used ‘tips’ and other methods we use to keep up to date.

**Andra Fry & Kevin Wilson**, LSE Library

Title: **Measuring the systematic reviews support provided by Librarians/Information Specialists at other Higher Education institutions**

Over the last few years, our Liaison team at LSE Library has experienced an increase in the number of requests to advise or collaborate on systematic reviews. As this was not a service we offered, the support we have been able to provide has been limited.

Due to concerns on the implications of this support not being available, our team has been asked to investigate the feasibility of setting up a formalised service. In July-August 2019, we conducted a comprehensive survey aiming to identify the level of systematic reviews support provided by Librarians or Information Specialists at other Higher Education institutions. The survey covered areas such as the extent to which they provided support for systematic reviews, their staffing capacity, the volume of reviews supported, and what benefits and challenges they experienced as a result. This was circulated for a period of three weeks to six health and systematic reviews groups.

We received 112 responses and were surprised to discover that many others were in a similar situation to us. We are excited by the amount of interest in this area and would love to share with you what we have learnt from the survey. Please join us for this talk to also find out what we decided to do at LSE Library.