

# Meeting the challenges of LIS research: a national coalition approach

Presentation to the Third International Seminar on LIS Education and Research (LIS-ER), Barcelona, Spain

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Professor Hazel Hall

# Hazel Hall

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<http://hazelhall.org/about>

## About Hazel Hall

I'm Director of the [Centre for Social Informatics](#) in the [Institute for Informatics and Digital Innovation](#) within the [School of Computing](#) at Edinburgh Napier University. This is my personal web site. Here I maintain a [blog](#), keep an archive of my [research output](#) and [popular hand-outs](#), and link through to my [external presentations on SlideShare](#).



My main research expertise and



To facilitate a co-ordinated and strategic approach to LIS research across the UK (2009-2012)

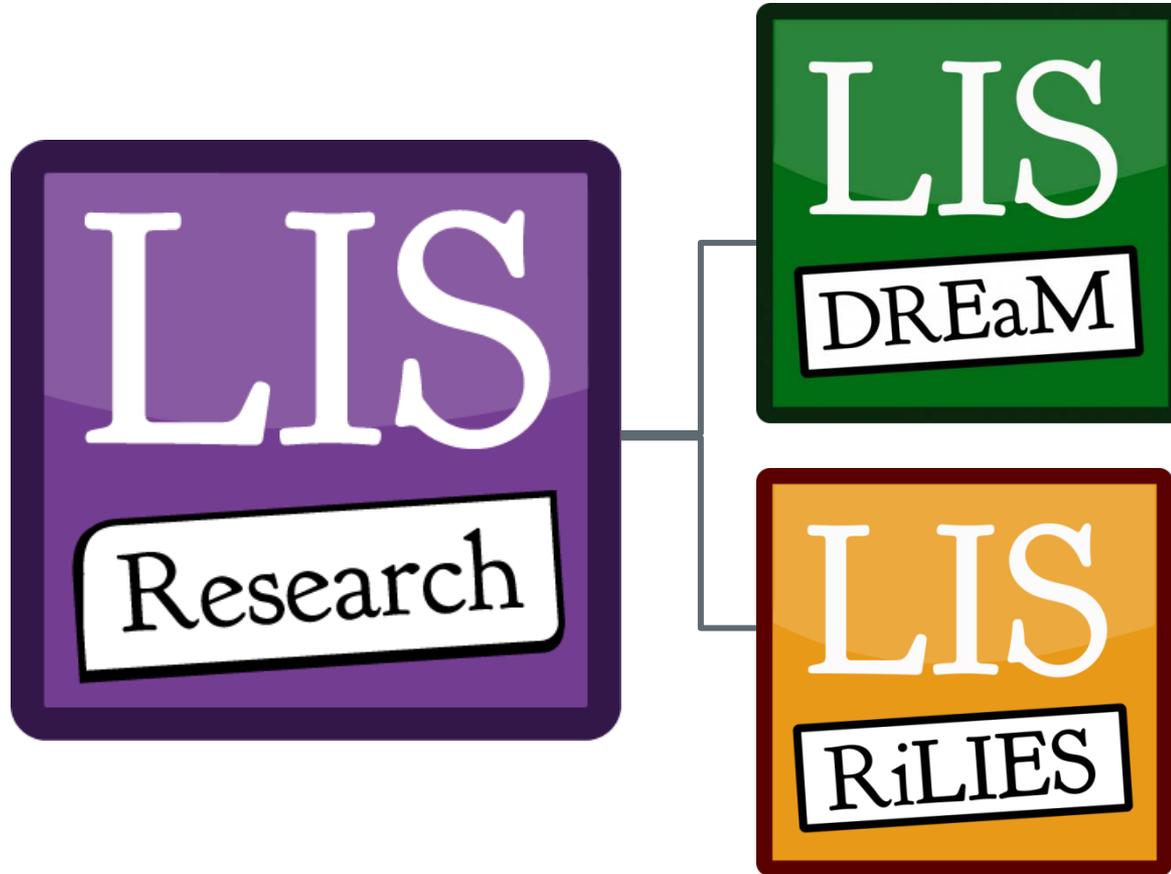


To develop a UK-wide network of LIS researchers (2011-2012)



To explore the extent to which LIS research projects influence practice (2011)

To create outputs to support the use and execution of research by librarians and information scientists (2012)



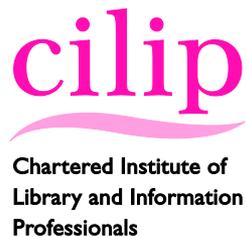
**£229,000 investment**

- ~€319,000
- ~\$350,000



## Establishment of the LIS Research Coalition

- ▶ 2006-2008: Consultations
- ▶ March 2009: Coalition formally established by 5 founding members
- ▶ August 2009: Dr Hazel Hall appointed to lead the implementation, 2 days per week in a seconded role





# ‘To facilitate a co-ordinated and strategic approach to LIS research across the UK’

## Provision of a formal structure

- ▶ To improve access to LIS research
- ▶ To maximise the relevance and impact of LIS research

## Main aims

- ▶ To bring together information about LIS research opportunities and results
- ▶ To encourage dialogue between research funders
- ▶ To promote LIS practitioner research and the translation of research outcomes into practice
- ▶ To articulate a strategic approach to LIS research
- ▶ To promote the development of research capacity in LIS

## Resource directories & repositories

The entries on this page represent links to substantive LIS resources – generally databases, link directories and journal or article-based repositories. This page was last updated June 2012

### CILIP Library & Information Research Group (LIRG)

Library and Information Research (LIR)

- LIRG open source journal, recording research outcomes.
- Last update: 2011 (issue 35(111))

### CILIP LIRG links database

- Proposed database, intended to act as a starting point for research and current awareness. Planned contents include: Bibliographic databases, Research listings, Journals, Organisations' websites, Resource portals, Mailing and discussion lists, Conferences and Writing Resources
- LIR journal article about original database can be seen here: [Establishing the context for your research project](#)
- Last update: June 2011

### LIRG researcher directory

- Directory on a Zoho database
- Researchers & projects: 247 projects listed but lacks project dates and status
- Last update: 2010

## Digital archives

### Digital library of Information Science Technology (dLIST)

- Repository (DSpace) of LIS research papers
- Established in 2002, dLIST is a cross-institutional, subject-based, open access digital archive for the Information Sciences, including Archives and Records Management, Library and Information Science,

Access to existing resources to be exploited and reused

### About the information held on these web pages

The Library and Information Science Research Coalition was a three-year project on 31st July 2012. This web site resources it holds remain but are no longer updated. The Coalition members intend to air work beyond July 2012.

Professor Hazel Hall led the implementation of the LIS Research Coalition between 2009 and 2012. To contact Hazel please e-mail [h.hall@napier.ac.uk](mailto:h.hall@napier.ac.uk), or telephone 0131 455 2760.

### Top Posts

- Publications
- DREaM event 5: Opening Keynote
- Conference review, thanks and resources
- From perspectives to policy: how an examination of evidence, value and impact can inform the LIS research agenda by Charles Oppenheim
- One minute madness
- Review of the work of the LIS Research Coalition

## LIS resources

This page contains links to guides and guidance that are relevant to LIS researchers in general and to researchers in specific sectors.

### Toolkits and guidelines for LIS researchers

- The American Library Association's Reference and User Services Association maintains the [RUSA Research and statistics page](#). At links to multiple resources on:
  - [doing quantitative research](#)
  - [doing qualitative research](#)
  - [project assessment and evaluation](#)
  - [US data source sites](#), and
  - [data gathering and evaluation](#).
- [The Digital Engagement Guide](#): Ideas and practical help to use digital and social media in the public sector. An [introduction](#) can be found [here](#).
- [DREaM project](#) resources: the five Developing Research Excellence and Methods (DREaM) [project events](#), which take place between July 2011 and July 2012, are generating resources to support LIS researchers. These can be accessed from the [DREaM project](#) web pages.
- [ESRC National Training Centre for Research Methods](#): a network of research groups, each conducting research and training in social science research methods. Coordinating at the University of Southampton
- [HEALER research toolkit](#): The toolkit is intended as a starting point for those wishing to undertake a research project, highlighting issues to consider and signposting resources. Although primarily aimed at those working in health librarianship it is of value to LIS researchers across sectors.



Resources to support LIS practitioners as researchers

About the information held on these web pages  
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Heavy use of social media by means of a [Twitter feed](#) that is still active in 2015



TWEETS 7,398 FOLLOWING 70 FOLLOWERS 5,907 FAVORITES 2 LISTS 4

Follow

LIS Research

@LISResearch

News and information for the UK library and information science research community. Updates tweeted by Stephanie Kenna.

UK  
lisresearch.org  
Joined August 2009

21 Photos and videos



Tweets Tweets & replies Photos & videos

LIS Research @LISResearch · May 20  
I'm away for a few days now. Normal service will resume from Monday 1 June.

LIS Research @LISResearch · May 20  
RT @LSEImpactBlog: The Research Funding Toolkit (book review): step-by-step guide to constructing a grant application bit.ly/1fzr4f1

LIS Research @LISResearch · May 20  
RT @timeshighered: The secrets to successful interdisciplinary work: owl.li/NixXZ

LIS Research @LISResearch · May 24  
RT @IFLA: De Gruyter Saur / IFLA Research Paper Award 2015 Winner announced bit.ly/1F6s3Qv

LIS Research @LISResearch · May 24  
Is the doctoral thesis obsolete? ow.ly /Ne5wo (via @PaulJump @timeshighered) #PhD #research

LIS Research @LISResearch · May 24  
RT @ESRC: Check out our new PhD writing competition #in2065 in partnership with SAGE ow.ly/NccD7 #esrcphd #esrc50 @SAGE\_News

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Sign up

Trends · Change

- #FlyFriday Promoted by Cadbury UK
#NationalBiscuitDay
#PSYAngPaninindigan
#BlackMagicVideo
Peter MadKay
#PigeonVsIndia
Lil Mama
#ArvindSnoopgate
Buhari
Dzumhur
ChicorProject CHALLENGEVideo

## Face-to-face events

### Conferences

- ▶ [Coalition conference 2010](#)
- ▶ [DREaM launch 2011](#)
- ▶ [DREaM conclusion 2012](#)

### Workshops

- ▶ [DREaM: 3 in 2011/12](#)
- ▶ [RiLIES1: 3 in 2011](#)
- ▶ [RiLIES2: 1 in 2012](#)

### 'External' event participation

- ▶ [22 events](#)





## Impact examples 1

### Social media reach: examples

- ▶ [Coalition web pages](#): monthly hit rate of 2,908 views in 2012
- ▶ [@LISResearch](#): almost 6,000 followers in 2015
- ▶ [SlideShares](#): 49 sets of slides viewed thousands of times, with the most-viewed attracting 15,444 hits

### Project reach: [DREaM](#) as example

- ▶ 213 'on-site' participants
- ▶ 33 presenters
- ▶ Remote audience of ~80 blog posts, ~800 tweets, multiple web pages, SlideShares, SoundClouds, Vimeos etc.

## Impact examples 2

### Growth in knowledge and expertise in research skills

- ▶ [DREaM](#): workshop participants reported (1) substantial growth in theoretical knowledge; (2) modest increase in application of new skills; (3) greater confidence as researchers; (4) widened networks

### Development of new resources

- ▶ [Research, evaluation and audit](#) (Facet, 2013): a third of the book's authors had some involvement in the Coalition's activities between 2009 and 2012

### Research on the agenda of LIS professional bodies

- ▶ e.g. [CILIP](#), [LIRG](#), [European Association for Health Information and Libraries](#)



## Published reports on immediate impact of [DREaM](#)

### 2012

- ▶ Brettle, A., Hall, H., & Oppenheim, C. (2012). [We have a DREaM: the Developing Research Excellence and Methods network](#). Paper presented at the 4th International Conference on Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries, Limerick, Ireland, 22-25 May 2012.

### 2013

- ▶ Cooke, L. & Hall, H. (2013). [Facets of DREaM: a Social Network Analysis exploring network development in the UK LIS research community](#). *Journal of Documentation*, 69(6), 786-806.



## Current project to measure impact of DREaM 3 years on

Since 2012, to what extent have the workshop participants:

- ▶ implemented new and innovative research methods/techniques in their work-place environments?
- ▶ undertaken and disseminated relevant, high priority research output to inform policy, determine information services provision, and develop the future LIS research agenda?
- ▶ experienced enhanced possibilities for exploring avenues for new research initiatives as a result of network participation?
- ▶ continued to work as a network?
- ▶ witnessed impact of their post-DREaM research on end-user communities?





## What next?

### Keynote presentation at EAHIL conference

- ▶ Hall, H. (2015). Opening keynote presentation to be delivered at [Research minded: supporting, understanding, conducting research workshop](#) organised by the [European Association for Health Information and Libraries \(EAHIL\)](#), in collaboration with the [International Conference of Animal Health Information Specialists \(ICAHIS\)](#) and the [International Clinical Librarian Conference \(ICLC\)](#), Edinburgh, 10-12 June 2015.

### Complete 2015 DREaM impact study

- ▶ Data collection and analysis
- ▶ Internal report September 2015
- ▶ External publication of findings to follow

## Contact Hazel Hall

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Slides on SlideShare at:

<http://slideshare.net/hazelhall>

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