Summer reading!

Sheila Webber
Chair, ASIS&T European Chapter

Happy Summer - and I hope that those of you coping with record high temperatures are keeping safe and cool. This newsletter provides you with some good summer reading: in particular with four more "Favourite article" contributions from our ASIS&T European Chapter Fellows. This time we hear from Professor Louise Limberg, Professor Ian Ruthven, Professor Reijo Savolainen and Dr Christine Urquhart (pages 3-6).

Then we have five perspectives on the June Information Science Trends Conference (see pages 6-10). As organisers we were happy to see the positive response to the event, and like Pranay Nangia (p.9) we are looking forward to IST23! The recordings of all sessions except the first keynote are available to ASIS&T members - the links are here. Abstracts of most of the papers are also available here. The Untold Stories theme resonated with presenters and delegates, and we will continue this theme: firstly in a discussion session with SIG-USE and secondly in a webinar presenting research by Dr Sara Vannini and Dr Viviane Hessami (see page 12).

The European Student Chapter has been boosted through awards sponsored by a generous anonymous donor (see page 11).

This issue also benefits from photos supplied by Louise Limberg and Shalini Urs, adding to the holiday mood.

As usual, we have our calendar of information science events (page 2), and details of committee members and country representatives (pp. 13-15) Good reading!

News to share? Event to report? Publication you want us to showcase? then - contribute to the newsletter!

Email: asist.europeanchapter@gmail.com Copy date for October edition: October 10th 2022
Events calendar

European Chapter events

12 September 2022. EC & SIG-USE joint meeting "Stories from our USE research" - go to https://tinyurl.com/35nzdefs for the Zoom link (you must login to iConnect)

October 2022. Webinar featuring talks from Dr Sara Vannini and Dr Viviane Hessami, chaired by Dr Andrea Jiménez.

Other events (in 2022)


1 October. Deadline for proposals for Libraries in the Digital Age (LIDA). http://lida.ffos.hr/


29 Oct.-1 Nov. 85th Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology. https://www.asist.org/am22/


I have two reasons for choosing this article as a favourite. First, it points to the close conceptual relationship between information seeking and information literacy. Second, it shapes an analytical bridge between theory and practice in the fields of information behaviour research and information literacy education. In doing so, it brings together my own research interests in information seeking and learning, and information literacy. Since the 1990s my research focus was directed at the interaction between information seeking and use and learning, in hindsight closely related to information literacy.

At the time, influential LIS researchers held different views on where information literacy research belonged; within LIS in the area of information behaviour research, or outside LIS, in education or literacy studies. My own history is one of certain reluctance to accept the idea of doing IL research since, to me, the notion of information literacy appeared too normative and too loaded with librarians’ self-interest in promoting their own profession – which may of course be a highly legitimate motive. During the early 2000s IL literature was heavily influenced by standards set up by various professional organisations, counter to my own interest in more open exploration of the concept itself and the enactment of information literacy and learning in various settings. Gradually I realised that such research would be possible, if explored with appropriate theoretical perspectives in various empirical contexts, and as practiced by people engaged with information for various purposes, thus involving a user perspective.

The article proposes a close connection between theory and professional practice arguing for information seeking and information literacy as “two sides of the same coin”. Information seeking as an object of learning is closely related to information literacy as an outcome of such learning. In my view the article points to a fruitful relationship, with information behaviour research providing information literacy with a theoretical grounding and the practice of information literacy education forming an important empirical context for further research and development. At the time, the idea of such relationship indicated new tracks for information literacy research with a view to conceptual development as well as more in-depth understandings of professional practice.

Great inspiration was found in combining findings from my own research with those of my co-author and colleague Olof Sundin, who continues to break essential new ground in information literacy research.

Louise Limberg
In late 2018 I was working on a paper on Meaning-Making, a process of psychological change that often occurs in response to significant life events. My particular interest was in the information interactions that occur during this process, or at least trying to get others interested in them. In the later stages of this paper, I wrote the line ‘In meaning-making ... information has to resonate with a person and speak to a deeper need for transformational change.’ As I typed the word ‘resonate’, I paused to wonder what it meant to say the information was resonant? I put this aside, having enough distractions for the time being.

Early in the next year, I was invited to give a presentation at the second Workshop on Evaluation of Personalised Information Retrieval at the ACM CHIIR conference and I rashly offered to talk on resonance and its relationship to relevance. The need to avoid public humiliation at having nothing to say on the topic forced me to start to examine what the concept of resonance may offer to the study of information interactions. The perceptive questioning and encouraging feedback I received from the attendees at the workshop led me to a bigger study on resonance and eventually to ‘Resonance and the experience of relevance’.

The paper contains a conceptual analysis of the term ‘resonance’ as it appears across almost 700 papers from multiple disciplines. It was a new venture for me in research methods and took – on and off – about a year to complete. The focus was on what it means to encounter resonant material – what does it mean to experience relevance from an information perspective? It made the theoretical proposal that resonance is a spectrum of experience with a multitude of outcomes ranging from a sense of harmony and coherence, through frisson and awakenings, to transcendence and life transformation. This focus on the way relevance makes us feel, opened up a new series of questions on how resonance can be detected, what properties resonant objects may possess, and the relationship between resonance and the most classical notions of relevance.

I cannot say that this has become a citation classic in terms of actual citations, but it is a favourite of mine because it greatly enriched my own thinking on information interactions. Even if no-one else reads it, I like it.

Ian Ruthven
Among my contributions to information behavior research, the “ELIS article” titled Everyday life information seeking: approaching information seeking in the context of “way of life”, is perhaps most-well known in our field. So far, the article has attracted 1500 citations (Google Scholar, 6 June 2022). The ELIS study was motivated by a sociological interest to examine the role of information in ordinary people’s everyday life. The article reports the findings of an empirical project in which I interviewed Finnish teachers and industrial workers about their ways to seek orienting and problem-specific information. These findings were used to develop a model for everyday life information seeking (ELIS). The main idea of the model is to make it meaningful how information seeking is shaped by a set of social and cultural factors, most notably an individual’s way of life. Way of life refers to a fairly well-established constellation of activities that an individual performs daily and which he or she considers to be the most natural or normal routine organization for the day. Moreover, ELIS is oriented by mastery of life, that is, the ways in which an individual approaches problems faced in mundane life.

For its part, the article contributed to the initiation of an international ELIS research stream focusing on the specific features of information seeking occurring in mundane contexts. I’m delighted to note that with years, the acronym of ELIS has been recognized as a label for a sub-field of information behavior research focusing on information needs, seeking and use in non-work contexts such as health and leisure. A continuing interest in the ELIS issues can be identified in the papers presented in international conferences such as ASIS&T and ISIC (The Information Behavior Conference).

As the empirical material of the ELIS study was gathered in 1993 - a pre-internet era - the picture of the ways in which people seek information in everyday contexts has changed considerably since that time. However, the ELIS model has more enduring value because it has offered a point of departure to elaborate the frameworks of information behaviour occurring in mundane contexts. This is exemplified in my book Everyday Information Practices (Savolainen, 2008). To this end, I combined the ideas of practice theories and social phenomenology in order to approach information practices as tools that people use to further their everyday projects. More recently, in an article written together with Leslie Thomson, the above ideas were used to develop an expanded model for everyday information practices (Savolainen & Thomson, 2022). Overall, the findings of the above investigation suggest that an individual framework, for example, the ELIS model cannot be seen as “final word” regarding the conceptualization of human information behavior. Rather, models represent steps in a long journey during which conceptual frameworks are gradually developed towards theories, subject to further changes.

References
Dr Christine Urquhart

My interests in systematic reviewing started when asked to help informally on a Cochrane systematic review of the effects of nursing records systems on nursing practice. I had previously worked in a nursing library, and was well aware of the problems of retrieving relevant articles with my library users, as differences in terminology reflected differences between North American and UK nursing practice. Often a hunt required some lateral thinking and a complementary approach. Later research studies confirmed my experience that several databases, and complementary approaches to keyword searching were effective and often essential in finding research studies for a systematic review. I became an author on several Cochrane reviews, and that experience helped me appreciate how qualitative and quantitative research could be combined to answer important questions around implementation of interventions of information systems.

Meta-analysis proved impossible for the nursing records review (and that is still true for an update). Pooling the results of different clinical controlled trials is a mathematical exercise and it is satisfying to come up with an answer to “how certain can we be that this intervention works?” Alas, the studies in the nursing records review are too heterogeneous in setting, design and outcomes for meta-analysis, but meta-synthesis approaches may help.

I realised that meta-synthesis methods should also apply to information behaviour (and information science) research, although our quantitative research may have low statistical power, and our qualitative research findings not very transferable. But, as I emphasise in [1], integration of findings, from studies done from different standpoints of research philosophy, is a major challenge. We have choices about the type of meta-synthesis to use, and in addition need to be clear about our audience(s) (policymaker, practitioner, researcher). I also think it’s useful to confess that, as [2] explains, meta-synthesis can be a messy process – and finding coherence among different and unstated research assumptions, different concepts and different outcomes is a minefield. But we got a conclusion. It’s not an easy process but our discipline needs meta-synthesis – so please, you try it too!

Christine Urquhart


Dr Rebecca Noone (SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Information Studies, University College London, UK)

Information Science Trends 22 was my first IST. I was initially drawn to the conference theme of ‘Untold Stories in Information Science’, anticipating a theme that could go in many directions – from reflections on the research process to discussion of power and visibility. And, indeed, the conference delivered in its breadth of topics and lenses!

But what I was also struck by was how thoughtfully the organizers planned the conference. And while we hear people growing tired of online environments, I believe IST provided a model of building online spaces that are not overwhelming and exhausting but connective and generative.

Firstly, I was reminded of how much more engaged I am with a conference when it follows a plenary model, where participants gather (virtually) at standalone sessions rather than choose from a selection of 4 to 10 tracks. Obviously, this is an unfair comparison since larger conferences require multiple concurrent sessions because of their scale. But what it underlines is the importance of having this spectrum of conferences offered through our association. Secondly, the three-hour days helped minimize Zoom exhaustion and make collective gathering more possible and sustainable. The conversations were lively, fun, engaged and pulled from a wide breadth of conference participants. So, when we think of continuing some forms of online gathering as more and more of life returns to in-person (realizing that for many people online remains the only option), IST provided a model for how to think of spaces like this in the future.

Dr Andrew Madden (Information School, University of Sheffield, UK)

The ‘theme’ of Untold Stories was not so much a theme as a framing device that allowed a wide range of themes to be explored.

Academic careers are built on the ability to mark out intellectual territories and operate within them. Academic problems do not always respect such territories. Having a conference that invited diversity in subject matter (as well as delegates) was a rare treat and provided a useful opportunity to examine and renegotiate the boundaries that have arisen in the information sciences.
Dr Syeda Hina Batool (Assistant Professor, Institute of Information Management, University of the Punjab; Chair-Elect, ASIS&T SA Chapter)

Virtual conferences often lose engagement and are less focused. After attending IST22, I have no more reservations about virtual conferences. The quality of research papers, keynote talks, and audience engagement all was in line with my expectations. The theme ‘untold stories’ is a unique idea than common streams of information science discipline. IST22 was a good choice for those researchers, who want to attend less formal and focused on the theme research stuff. Every single presentation touched the theme which indeed were untold, interesting, and engaging. The most important aspect of the conference was exposure with variety of research methods i.e., autoethnography, case study etc. This two-day conference gave me the feel of good budget conferences including professional presentations, posters, and discussions. Thanks to European Chapter ASIS&T for organizing such a useful event.

IST22 conference: My experience

Dr Shalini Urs (International School of Information Management, University of Mysore, India)

The breadth of topics and diversity of authors/speakers/regions at the IST22 conference blew me away! The topics covered included such novel ones as “crossing the border between human and non-human in information science” (poster by Niloofar SOLHJOO) to “Addressing Absence: Digital Inclusion and Google Maps and Codes Project” (a paper by Dr. Rebecca NOONE). The best part was that while keynotes and presentations were as scholarly as they could get, the IST 22 created a real sense of camaraderie among the participants. The keynote I enjoyed the most was “The untold story of G. Malcolm Dyson (1902-1978): Chemist and information scientist” by Martin White. As someone currently researching in the field of prosopography, the keynote gave me much to think about prosopography for visualizing the untold stories.

The opportunity to connect with and network every day before the start and the closing of the sessions was fantastic. The first day started well; it was thrilling to have met Sophie Rutter, who had been to Mysore, India (where I live), and it was incredible to hear her say, “oh, the city of Sandalwood,” about my place. This small talk highlights the uniqueness of Sandalwood. It was exciting, especially since I am embarking on a project with Professor Simon Niedenthal, Malmö University, Sweden, who specializes in “the contribution of the senses to our experience of games and play,” and others from India to build a knowledge base and a repository around Sandalwood. It is indeed a small world!

As far as virtual vs. physical conferences go, I am still ambivalent. I like both as each has its fun side and flipside. Furthermore, the trade-off is difficult to quantify. The timing of the IST 22 worked out very well for me—14:00 to 17:30 BST meant the conference would start after my evening coffee (18:30 IST) and would end before my dinner time.

All in all, it was a delight to attend the IST22!
Pranay Nangia (PhD Student, University of Strathclyde, Scotland) gives his perspective on the 3 days of the conference

I recently attended (and presented at) the ASIS&T European Chapter’s Information Science Trends conference on 15th-17th June 2022. This year’s theme was “untold stories in information science” and included presentations from scholars from various countries, including the UK, USA, Iran, Ireland, Canada, Pakistan, Colombia, Australia and India. The conference was fascinating and enjoyable. Being a PhD student, I was initially worried I wouldn’t be able to keep up with more senior academics who were also presenting. However, the lively presentations and supportive atmosphere made me feel completely at ease, and I soon felt happy to participate in the stimulating discussions over the chatbox.

Day one’s keynote by Professor Tom Boellstorff highlighted intriguing stories of glitches in early game designs that later made their way into meaningful storylines as a result of time pressures and system constraints. A charming aspect of Tom’s research was the use of various design documents during participant interviews, several of which had been prepared by participants decades ago and helped recreate vivid accounts of decision-making strategies and game design processes. Later presentations included Niloofar Solhjooy, who spoke about information experiences of families and individuals with pets/companion animals, my own presentation, discussing human information behaviour in contemporary spirituality, and David Carrie, who outlined an exciting way of researching the role of information in the formation of gender identity for non-binary and genderqueer people. In addition, Susan Dawson shared experiences from an ongoing study in which unexpected confusions in terminology during participant interviews (e.g. the term “information-seeking”) led to an improvised approach leading to new levels of inquiry and findings outside anticipated categories. Moreover, Fahad Alenezi presented preliminary results from his study on Information literacy conceptions amongst undergraduate medical students at the Faculty of Medicine, Kuwait University.

Day two started with Martin White’s keynote on the mysterious story of chemist and information scientist G. Malcolm Dyson (1902-1978). Martin presented a case for considering Dyson as the first information scientist and emphasised that Dyson’s contributions to information science may have been systematically underplayed due to several compelling factors, including his personality, professional dynamics and life circumstances. After a brief intermission, Dr Ana Cristina Vasconcelos presented on behalf of herself and her colleagues. Ana’s presentation extended the mystery by discussing Bletchley Park as an early example of a modern data-driven big technology company. Following Ana’s talk, Dr Shalini Urs spoke about deconstructing disinformation through Western and Indian epistemological lenses, Dr Rebecca Noone delivered a provocative presentation that questioned the social implications of an ongoing Google Maps initiative– the Google Plus Codes project, and Dr Syeda Hina Batool and colleagues shared the neglected stories of visually impaired students. In addition, Jo Mckenna-Aspell shared valuable knowledge gained from extensive interviews with people from diverse backgrounds, and Daniel Robles presented a study on an open research data evaluation model for translational research projects.

Day three’s Keynote was delivered by Dr Crystal Fulton, who spoke passionately about the social impact of gambling harm. Crystal’s keynote pointed out systemic problems in approaches to understanding gambling addiction and highlighted the hostile pushback researchers might encounter from established enterprises when trying to study sensitive and controversial topics. Following the keynote, Dr Yazdan Mansourian discussed Information sharing in serious leisure and provided enchanting stories of bonsai growers in Australia. Next, Dr Andrew Madden presented the hygiene challenges of workers on the move on behalf of himself and his colleagues, and Dr Syeda Hina Batool questioned if public libraries were promoting social justice. Following this, Sam Dodd presented an autoethnographical and narrative exploration of the value of public libraries.

Overall, Information Science Trends 2022 was a captivating conference with a lively and supportive atmosphere highlighting the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of information research. I look forward to next year’s conference!
Report on June 2022 ASIS&T Africa Chapter event by Sheila Webber

On 17th June 2022 I was honoured to attend the 2nd anniversary event of the ASIS&T Africa Chapter, in order to say a few words about European Chapter and celebrate Africa Chapter’s success. The Africa Chapter officers talked about the current projects - for example student involvement in its newsletter and support for local events. There was also a focus on their video project showcasing the Chapter and its mentorship programme. Dr Abebe Rorissa talked about the Chapter's founding two years ago and its amazing growth in a short while from about 20 members to 280 members.

Those who were lucky enough to attend in person could share in the delicious-looking anniversary cake (see picture), but the rest of us had to content ourselves with imagining the taste!

Thanks to Chapter Chair Dr Imane Hilal and her colleagues on the Chapter Committee for their work

The Chapter’s Twitter account is here https://twitter.com/africa_asis

Report on Theory in Information Science: Professor Tom Wilson & Professor Nigel Ford: Webinar by Sheila Webber

On 13 May 2022 ASIS&T European Chapter hosted its most popular webinar of the year: Professor Tom Wilson and Professor Nigel Ford (both Professors Emeritus in the Information School, University of Sheffield, UK) reflected on the meaning of theory in Information Science and specifically Information Behaviour. We were also fortunate to have some prominent scholars in the “audience”, including Professor Carol Kuhlthau, who were able to add their opinions. ASIS&T members can view a recording of the session, by following this link (you will need to log in to iConnect to see the post with the link to the recording):

As session chair I had I flagged up some key questions: What is “theory” in information science and/or information behaviour? How is this different from models and frameworks? What are your views on whether information science and/or information behaviour is undertheorised? (and does this even matter?) These were starting point for a fascinating and sometimes provocative discussion, also covering other interesting questions such as – can Information Science theories be enduring and technology independent? Is Information Science in fact over theorised?

Do catch up with the recording if you haven’t already! We hope to lure Tom and Nigel back for another webinar to continue the discussion.

Professor Tom Wilson


Google Scholar:
https://scholar.google.co.uk/citations?user=5VrANcwAAAAJ&hl=en

Professor Nigel Ford.


Google Scholar:
https://scholar.google.co.uk/citations?user=_GH9T0cAAAAJ&hl=en
European Student Chapter

Report from European Student Chapter

This summer has been busy for the European Student Chapter. At the start of June, the European Student Chapter played its part in the administration of the Information Science Trends 2022 conference, lending a hand in both the peer review of submissions and undertaking other tasks in the conference itself. Both activities offered the European Student Chapter valuable insights into the peer review process and into conference administration.

Later in June, the European Student Chapter welcomed 11 new student members to its ranks, on foot of a call for applications from students around Europe. The call for applications was prompted by an anonymous donation to ASIS&T’s European Chapter. 11 student members were chosen at random by both Sheila Webber and David Carrie in mid-June and recipients were notified in late June of the outcome. The recipients of the awards are listed on the right.

The European Student Chapter is excited for the coming months, particularly with the recent in-flux of new members, and, in relation to the promotion of the European Student Chapter to existing members and to students outside of ASIS&T. The European Student Chapter hopes to continue to encourage and promote student engagement within ASIS&T.

Your European Student Chapter Committee

ESC Chair: David Carrie,
University College Dublin, Ireland,
david.carrie@ucdconnect.ie

ESC Secretary/Treasurer: Erika Silverman
Strathclyde iSchool, Department of Computer and Information Sciences, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland

ESC Communications Officer: Miaomiao ‘Molly’ Chang
Strathclyde iSchool, Department of Computer and Information Sciences, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland

Award Recipients
Xiaoyi Liu
Marina Milosheva
Caroline Muthoni
Zeinab Shaker
Jennifer Sinclair
Gertrude Ugwu
Anna Wallsten
Pascal Walter
Jing Wang
Marianne Wilson
Laura Woods
Forthcoming events

Discussion: ASIS&T European Chapter and SIG USE: Stories from our USE research

12 September 2022: 15.00-16.00 BST; 16.00-17.00 CEST; 10.00-11.00 USA EST on Zoom (login to iConnect for link)

Following on from the successful ASIS&T EC + SIG USE discussion earlier in the year, join us to talk about the stories of research "concerned with people's behavioral and cognitive activities as well as their affective states as they interact with information" (quoted from here). This can be your own research, research done by others, or research that you think should be explored in the future.

Untold Stories - continued!

October 2022 on Zoom (exact date to be confirmed)

Dr Viviane Hessami (Monash University, Australia) will present "The Use of Notebooks by Bangladeshi Village Women to Backup Digital Data" and Dr Sara Vannini (Information School, University of Sheffield, UK) will present on her research on information practices and politics of migrant-aid work in the US-Mexico borderlands.

The session will be chaired by Dr Andrea Jiménez (Information School, University of Sheffield, UK)

Watch out for further announcements on iConnect!

85th Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology

October 29-November 1, 2022

Pittsburgh, USA

Crisis, Transition, Resilience: Re-Imagining an Information-Resilient Society

https://www.asist.org/am22/
Your committee 2021-2022

Chair: Sheila Webber, Information School, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK  

Sheila Webber is a Senior Lecturer in the Information School, University of Sheffield, UK. She coordinates the Library and Information Services Management postgraduate programmes and is Head of the Libraries & Information Society Research Group. Her main interests for research and teaching focus on information literacy and information behaviour. In particular she is interested in the contextual nature of information literacy, and in information behaviour in computer gaming and 3D virtual worlds. She leads the Virtual Worlds Education Roundtable in Second Life. Her information literacy blog http://information-literacy.blogspot.com has over million page views.

Chair-elect: Sophie Rutter, Information School, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK  

Sophie Rutter is a Lecturer in Information Management at the Information School, University of Sheffield. She is interested in evaluation methodologies including both lab-based and naturalistic studies. Her research focuses on two themes. Firstly, children’s information seeking. She is interested in how the environment affects the way children interact with, and use, information. Secondly, communicating and evaluating hand hygiene. She has developed novel lab-based methods for pre-testing hygiene messages, and also worked with school children to co-design hand washing messages. She is currently working on a project that develops and evaluates an Internet of Things hand sanitiser for use in workplace settings.

Treasurer: Lisa Börjesson, Department of Archives, Libraries, and Museums, Uppsala University, Sweden  

Lisa Börjesson (MA LIS, PhD) is an information science researcher at the Department of ALM, Uppsala University. Her research concerns research data management and data descriptions, particularly process information for data re-use. She teaches information management and information systems at master’s level, as well as supervise master’s level and doctoral research.

Secretary and Archivist: Mártón Németh, School of Informatics, Faculty of Informatics, University of Debrecen, Budapest, Hungary  

Martón Németh is currently working as a web librarian (from 2017) at the Department of Web Archiving of the National Széchényi Library, Budapest, Hungary. He is finishing his PhD at the Doctoral School of Informatics, University of Debrecen, about web archiving in general and about the evolution of the Hungarian service project in this field. He has master degrees from Szeged University, Hungary in the fields of History and Library and Information Science (2005). He has also obtained a Master’s degree from Aalborg, Denmark in European Studies (2007) and another one from International Master Programme in Digital Library Learning (2013). He worked as a system librarian at the Directorate of Informatics of the National Széchényi Library (2005-2012) and as a digital content manager at Monguz Ltd., Hungary (2014-2017).
Webmaster: Jesse Dinneen, Institut für Bibliotheks- und Informationswissenschaft, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany
jesse.dinneen@hu-berlin.de

Jesse Dinneen is a Junior Professor in the Berlin School of Library and Information Science at Humboldt University, Germany, where he researches personal information management and philosophical and social issues of the information society. Previously he was a Senior Lecturer at Victoria University, New Zealand and Tomlinson Doctoral Fellow at McGill University, Canada. Jesse is delighted to be joining the vibrant ASIST European chapter and helping to connect information scholars around Europe.

ESC Faculty Advisor: Diane Rasmussen Pennington, Department of Computer and Information Sciences, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland  diane.pennington@strath.ac.uk

Diane Rasmussen Pennington is the Chair of CILIP’s Metadata & Discovery Group, and previously served as the President of the Canadian Association for Information Science. For ASIS&T, she has been a Director-at-Large, Chair of the European Chapter, and Chair of SIG VIS and SIG CR. Diane has published more than 40 works and delivered over 80 presentations in non-textual indexing and retrieval, emotion-based indexing and retrieval, information organisation, linked data, user engagement on social media, and online health information.

Membership Officer: Aylin İmeri, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany
aylin.ilhan@hhu.de

Aylin İmeri is an information science researcher and lecturer (Ph.D.) at the Department of Information Science in the Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany. She supervises bachelor and master students, and her research interests are social media, information behavior, and health information behavior, especially from activity tracking technology users.

In the last years, Aylin gained valuable experience and insights through her engagement in Chapter and SIG activities (e.g., Chair, Past-Chair, SIG Deputy Director, SIG Cabinet Director (this year)). Together with Isabelle Dorsch, they established the ASIS&T Special Interest Group Social Media in 2017, initiated by Emile Levine.

Past Chair: Crystal Fulton, School of Information and Communication Studies, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland
crystal.fulton@ucd.ie

Crystal Fulton is an Associate Professor at University College Dublin, Ireland, where she studies the social interactions among people, information, and communication in daily life settings. Her research into the information worlds of people engaged in serious leisure (e.g., genealogists, urban explorers, gamblers) examines leisure participation and the connections among hobbies, behaviors around information supporting hobby activities, and impact on individuals, groups, and communities. In particular, her work moves beyond more traditional ideas around information acquisition to extend information theories in her investigations of how information is used, shared or hidden, and created in both digital and non-digital environments. Just as Covid-19 has brought challenges, it has also resulted in some relaxing coffee time in the garden where sunshine, flowers, and kitties provide entertainment. Crystal is ASIS&T President-Elect.
Who are your European Country Representatives?

Here is a full list of our Country Representatives. Please feel free to get in touch! Don’t see a representative for your country here? We are looking for volunteers to fill these gaps. We look forward to working with you!

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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<td>Belgium</td>
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