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A vision for The Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science

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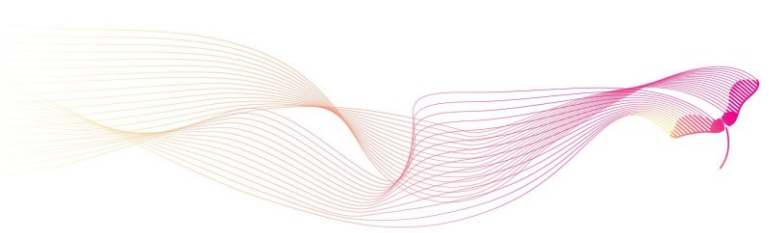
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Introduction

As this is the first issue to be published under my editorship, I wish to begin this editorial by expressing thanks to my predecessor, Dr. Heather Hill, and the CJILS editorial and production team. The last few years were transitional for our journal as we moved to a diamond open access publishing model. This transition brought some challenges but also a lot of excitement and opportunities for the future of CJILS. This transition was long in the making, and a lot remains to be done. Because of the great foundational work Dr. Hill and her team completed over the last, crucial, years, CJILS is uniquely positioned to continue to be a home for high-quality scholarship and grow into a journal that embodies the values of our community and the field.

Looking ahead

Access to information being one of the core values of our field, I am incredibly proud of us, the Canadian LIS community, and more particularly members and officers of the Canadian Association for Information Science (CAIS), for demonstrating our commitment to that value by eliminating all financial barriers to accessing and publishing in CJILS. It is my hope that our journal can inspire others to follow suit and move away from organizations and publishing models that are essentially in contradiction with the values we promote as a research field and as a profession.

Our journal is also taking steps to better represent the diversity of the community and become a platform to disseminate and engage with diverse forms of scholarship. As indicated in our new author guidelines, CJILS now accepts a broader range of document types, including research notes, commentaries, letters, book reviews, articles, and reviews. As always and following one of the most fundamental norms of science (universalism), the journal also welcomes submissions from students, scholars, practitioners, and other groups.

CJILS being the official journal of the Canadian Association for Information Science, one of its core functions remains, in my view, to support the Canadian LIS community by providing a forum for scholarship from or relevant to the Canadian context in both official languages of Canada. I am particularly delighted that this issue reflects this linguistic diversity, with two of the five contributions being in French.

The advancement of knowledge in our field will always benefit from international and interdisciplinary ties. To nurture these ties, the journal will continue to work with organizations and researchers worldwide to publish high-quality and diverse scholarship and, in doing so, make available and promote the diamond OA publishing model beyond the borders of our discipline and country. In this spirit, the journal looks forward to hosting a special issue with papers presented at the BOBCATSSS 2024 conference and welcomes other opportunities to work with colleagues across the world.

Finally, a powerful vision means nothing without solid execution. The journal is committed to improving its editorial and publishing process to ensure that papers are reviewed and published in a timely fashion without sacrificing a commitment to the quality of the peer-review process and of the works published in the journal.

In this issue

Two articles in this issue focus on artificial intelligence (AI) and its implications for the field. Michael Ridley reports on a multistage study in which he surveyed and interviewed Spotify users to explore their everyday experience with the platform's recommender systems and elicit folk theories that can reinforce, challenge, and augment these the principles of human-centered explainable AI (HCXAI) and inform the development of more transparent and explainable recommender systems for the non-expert, lay public. In her paper, Siham Alaoui discusses how AI can be leveraged to benefit the records management process, the challenges that may arise from AI implementation in records management, how those can be mitigated, and how the role of the archivist may need to be redefined in this new context.

Two articles relate to the accessibility and circulation of scholarly outputs. In their study, Poppy Riddle and her co-authors investigate the state of green open access in Canadian universities, focusing on institutional policies and repositories and how they are used for self-archiving peer-reviewed work. This work invites us to consider how our institutional infrastructures could support open access and the crucial role that academic libraries can play in this global effort. Rémi Toupin and colleagues propose a storytelling approach to analyze the circulation of articles on Twitter (now X) using network analysis, content analysis, and interviews. Their approach complements quantitative approaches that have mainly focused on measuring engagement with science on different platforms using "altmetrics" by providing a more detailed and nuanced perspective on how specific users or different audiences engage with scholarly works on social media platforms in diverse ways and for diverse reasons.

Finally, in our own contribution to this issue, my colleagues and I map the Canadian LIS research landscape through the lens of the research output of the eight academic units offering ALA-accredited degrees in Canada. Our analysis highlights the diversity of the field as a whole and how each unit contributes to the different areas of the mosaic of Canadian LIS scholarship. The article also serves as an example of how open data can be leveraged meaningfully to explore the structure of research communities.

Overall, this issue reflects the diverse range of topics and challenges emerging in the LIS field in the present day and sets the trajectory for its future. In the same light, I believe that this issue does the same for our journal.