London and Ljubljana: a continuing collaboration
David Bawden

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The collaboration between the Department of Library and Information Science at City, University of London, and the Department of Library and Information Science and Book Studies at the University of Ljubljana has been on-going since 1999.

This has enabled exchanges of students, researchers and professors, joint research and publications, mentoring of doctoral research, joint curriculum development, and participation in wider projects. This has led to 10 joint conference presentations and 5 joint journal articles. Both departments participated in a major pan-European project to re-evaluate the library/information curriculum, and we are currently participating in an Erasmus+ project to create a multi-lingual MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) for teaching information literacy. We have recently collaborated on a project to compare the skills and competences of archives users in Slovenia and in the United Kingdom, and hope to continue with this research.

Our joint work has mainly been on topics of information literacy, information skills and competences, education and training for library/information specialists, evaluation of effectiveness and impact; all in the context of a move to a largely digital information environment. I believe that these topics will be of increasing importance as the library/information environment continues to change, and the library/information professions have to adapt.

At a time when political developments seem to cause ever-increasing problems for collaboration and cooperation, it is my hope that we may be able to continue, and to strengthen, our collaboration.

**List of joint papers**

http://openaccess.city.ac.uk/15492


D Bawden and P Vilar, Digital libraries: to meet or manage user expectations, Aslib Proceedings, 2006, 58(4), 346-354


D Bawden, R Petuchovaite and P Vilar, Are we effective? How would we know? Approaches to the evaluation of library services in Lithuania, Slovenia and the United Kingdom, New Library World, 2005, 106(1216/1217), 454-463

D Bawden and P Vilar, Meet or manage? User expectations of digital libraries, Workshop presentation given at LIDA 2005 (proceedings page 177)


R Petuchovaite, P Vilar and D Bawden, EU programmes shaping national information policies, 11th Bobcatss Symposium, Torun, February 2003, pages 171-184

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Collaboration since 1999

• why?
• how?
• what do we do now?
• Founded as the Northampton Institute to promote “the industrial skill, general knowledge, health and well-being of young men and women belonging to the poorer classes”
• 1966: became a University “for business and the professions”

CityLIS
• Department of Librarianship and Information Science
• In School of Engineering, Mathematics, Computer Science
• Research active
• Masters students only
• Relatively small (2 core staff, 5 PT and VL)
• Need collaboration

Forms of collaboration
• Exchange
  • Masters students
  • Researchers
  • Professors
• Joint research and publications
• Mentoring of doctoral research
• Joint curriculum development
• Participation in wider projects
• 10 joint conference presentations and 5 joint journal articles

• participated in a major pan-European project to re-evaluate the library/information curriculum
• collaborated on a project to compare the skills and competences of archives users in Slovenia and in the United Kingdom
• on-going Erasmus+ project to create a multi-lingual MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) for teaching information literacy.

Main topics of collaboration

• information literacy
• information behaviours, skills and competences
• education and training for library/information specialists
• evaluation of effectiveness and impact of library/information services
• all in the context of a move to a largely digital information environment
• to which the library/information professions have to adapt

The future

• we live in difficult times
• international collaboration and cooperation may seem more difficult
• but are even more important
• for us, and we hope for you
• CoLIS 2019 in Ljubljana