



HLA administers two awards: the HLA/HCN Innovation and Excellence Award, which acknowledges an innovation that has improved access to health information and health care (practical outcomes) and the Anne Harrison Award, recognising research that will increase the understanding of, or explore potential development in health librarianship in Australia.

HLA is in the process of establishing both formal and informal partnerships and collaborations with a number of groups. Current agreements exist with the Medical Libraries Association (MLA, USA) and HISA (Health Informatics Society of Australia) and we are developing relationships with other groups.

As a result of the Workforce and Education Research Project and the last Anne Harrison Award project (a census of health library professionals in Australia), we have been working with the former health agency Health Workforce Australia to assist in planning for the health information professional workforce for the future. We are also interested in gaining recognition through the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency (AHPRA) as a 'self-regulating' profession.

The *HLA News/National Bulletin* is the main communication tool for the group. It is a quarterly publication which informs our communities of current news, events, changes and areas of relevance to health librarianship with the aim of promoting evidence-based practice and advancing the vision of 'knowledge to improve health'.

In 2014 HLA launched a monthly *HLA Alerts* service. This is delivered directly to the inbox of HLA members and carries short snippets to update our members with the latest relevant information. We are also currently in the process of a major overhaul of our website. We have a LinkedIn group and are discussing how we can use social media to market ourselves and improve two way communication between members.

Membership is a newly formed portfolio, which aims to ensure that we know who our members are, so that we can hear their views and serve them better. We are implementing a position to take responsibility for communicating with members and update our mailing lists.

If you have any questions, ideas or want to get involved, please contact the Committee. Details and links to resources above can be found on our webpage at www.alia.org.au/groups/HLA.

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AWARD LEADS TO NEW SEARCH TRAINING TOOL

CareSearch Palliative Care Knowledge Network, with support from Flinders Filters and Health Libraries Australia, has created an online self-paced set of modules for librarians and researchers who would like to enhance and test their literature searching skills.

The Smart Searching: Logical Steps to Building and Testing Your Literature Search modules are available at sites.google.com/site/smartsearchinglogical/home and include tips and tricks derived from the methodology used at CareSearch to develop topical search filters.

The steps outlined include techniques designed to help test and improve searches and the developers hope they will give librarians and researchers a way to provide evidence of the effectiveness of their searching.

This resource was developed at CareSearch as an outcome of the 2012 ALIA HLA/HCN Health Informatics Innovation Award. Feedback, comments and suggestions can be sent to Sarah Hayman, Research Fellow (Evidence), CareSearch Palliative Care Knowledge Network, Flinders University. Contact Sarah at sarah.hayman@flinders.edu.au.



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