

# Depositing Your Work in E-LIS: The Open Archive for Library and Information Science

All library workers are invited to deposit their written works, PowerPoint presentations, and more in E-LIS, the open repository for library and information science (LIS) documents.

E-LIS is a subject-based repository and is an example of one of the main avenues by which writings and other material can be made openly-accessible. The aim of Open Access, or OA, is to make the recorded output of scholarly activities (and more) freely available to all readers over the Internet. Presently, much of this information, despite the fact that most of it is publicly funded, is held behind tolls such as subscriptions. As such, it is largely only accessible to those who have a connection to an institution, organization, or company that can afford these subscriptions. E-LIS provides another option for access.

E-LIS began in 2003 and is a non-profit, volunteer-run project, hosted by the Italian Consorzio Interuniversitario Lombardo per Elaborazione Automatica (CILEA). It can be found at <http://eprints.rclis.org>. As of mid-October, it holds over 4300 documents and is growing rapidly.

Submission for E-LIS is easy. The process is designed to be carried out by an individual, usually the author, and can be completed in minutes. Submitted documents are approved by the chief E-LIS editor for the author's country, and acceptance usually occurs quickly after submission. PDF is the preferred format but other formats can be accepted as well. E-LIS accepts content of many different types. Although most submissions are journal articles or PowerPoint presentations, E-LIS also includes books, book chapters, conference posters, datasets, library instructional materials, and newspaper articles, among many others.

Perhaps the key benefit to placing a document in E-LIS is that the document will gain increased distribution and use. E-LIS material is picked up by OAIster ( <http://oaister.umdl.umich.edu/o/oaister/> ) a search tool that concentrates on content in repositories, and by standard Web-based

search engines. E-LIS is also searched as a fulltext abstracting and indexing tool. The download and abstract access figures for items in E-LIS are generally fairly high.

There are questions that crop up in regard to E-LIS. Perhaps the most common one is whether or not publishers allow articles that have appeared in their journals to also be placed in repositories. For the most part, the answer is “yes”; a majority of publishers permit article preprints and/or postprints to be placed in repositories. A list of many publisher policies regarding repositories can be seen on the SHERPA site at <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php> .

To conclude, please investigate E-LIS. Additional contributions are always welcome and will help this great resource grow.

I am a member of the Canadian editorial team for E-LIS. Questions about E-LIS are always welcome. My contact information is:

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As of December 1, 2006, the new Chief E- LIS Editor for Canada will be Kumiko Vézina. She can be contacted at:

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