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Pre-conference Workshop

Themes:  
New areas for practice and research  
Recognising the need

### **Writing articles for publication: a workshop for practitioners**

The aims of this workshop are: to help practitioners reflect on would they would like to achieve in writing for publication and why they want to achieve it; to identify barriers to achievement; and to identify strategies that could foster success in the future.

The English-language literature on information literacy is currently dominated by North American authors. It would be useful to have more examples of UK practice in the literature. With increasing recognition of the importance of evidence-based practice, there is increased interest in reading, carrying out and writing up research into information literacy. Publication can also improve a practitioner's career profile. However, barriers to publication include not just inexperience in particular kinds of writing, but issues of time, motivation and support. CILIP CSG Information Literacy Group has a particular interest in fostering strong submissions to the new Journal of information literacy (JIL) from practitioners as well as academics.

The main focus of the workshop will be on writing for publication in academic journals. However, many aspects of good writing are relevant both to research articles and to articles for professional magazines such as Update and Information world review.

The workshop will provide a structure for participants to reflect on personal goals, perceived benefits, and barriers. They will share and record ideas about what specific actions at the individual, organisational, community and national level will help participants achieve their goals.

By the end of the session, practitioners will have made a start on personal plans, and also thought about initiatives that could be taken to help foster a practitioner writing community at the national level, with support from national associations (e.g. using CILIP's new online communities to form a writing support group). If participants consent to share their thoughts here can be an ongoing dialogue through the conference, with key points from the workshop available to others to add their ideas.

The workshop leader will provide support material (e.g. an annotated list of useful books on academic and professional writing), plan and facilitate workshop activities, and help record key outcomes. She will also take some responsibility for following up on ideas for actions, but hopes that if the workshop is successful this will be a shared activity with participants who want to continue work in the area. The workshop leader has relevant experience as the former editor of a monthly professional newsletter (Inform), as the current editor of JIL, and as an academic writer and supervisor.