

Editorial

Globalisation has been much in the news in recent years and generally has had something of a mixed press. Within the educational sphere, of course, globalisation, or internationalisation, is nothing new. The sharing of research ideas, approaches and best practice has been taken for granted. Indeed, the very *raison d'être* of journals such as *Education for Information* is to enable the sharing of research results, ideas and best practice on a global basis.

In the European context, a very important recent development has been the so-called Bologna process, which began in June 1999 when 29 ministers signed the Bologna declaration. In this declaration, the 29 countries agreed to reform their higher education systems in convergent ways. Within disciplines such as English and Engineering, consideration is already taking place of the implication of the Bologna process. Whilst it does not force or demand change from individual countries or institutions, it is expected that the pressure for increasing conformance will be felt widely.

It was with the Bologna process very much in mind that the European Association for Library and Information Education and Research (EUCLID) organised a conference in Thessaloniki, Greece in October 2002. The theme of the conference was restructuring and adapting LIS education to European standards. It was fascinating and instructive to take part in the discussions with colleagues from around Europe, including several members of the Editorial Board of this journal. *Education for Information* has a longstanding association with EUCLID and we have agreed to publish a selection of the papers at the conference. The four articles in this issue are amended versions of papers first presented in Thessaloniki. Two more papers will be published in the next issue of the journal, and several other papers will be published in *New Library World*. A conference programme is presented on the next page.

Europeanisation of LIS education is one thing. But perhaps the process may be taken a step further when EUCLID combines with its North American counterpart, the Association of Library and Information Science Educators (ALISE) to offer a joint conference in Potsdam, Germany in August 2003 (www.jbi.hio.no/bibin/euclid/callforpapers3/)

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