Envisioning the Future of Community Informatics

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This November marked the 20th anniversary of the Community Informatics Research Network (CIRN) conference at the Monash Centre in Prato, Italy, co-sponsored by Monash University and the Metropolitan New York Library Council. The conference theme, "20 Years of CIRN: Examining the Past, Present, and Future of Communities and Technology"[1] offered several opportunities to consider how this CI community of researcher/practitioners has grown worldwide since the conference and this journal started and where this field might see itself in the next 20 years.

In this context, I am excited to announce a few new people and ideas in this editorial. First, I am pleased to announce the addition of two new Associate Editors to our editorial leadership team, Dr. Nova Ahmed and Dr. Sara Vannini. Dr. Ahmed is a researcher and faculty member in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at North South University in Bangladesh. Dr. Ahmed's area of interest covered systems and human centric computing in Feminist HCI. Dr. Sara Vannini, a Lecturer/Assistant Professor at the University of Sheffield Information School in the UK. Dr. Vannini's research is at the intersection of critical studies of technology and society, information and communication technologies and social change, and information ethics. Peter Johnson and I are pleased to welcome them both to this journal's leadership team and to help us envision its future.

A second announcement is that the Community Informatics Research Network (CIRN) discussion list has a new home[2] hosted by the Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO). We are grateful to METRO for hosting this new listserv, which will provide the administrative support and capability to manage members and support this community discussion space online. We hope that contributors to this journal will join this new discussion list as a way to participate in the discussions and to receive additional updates, particularly in-between journal issue publications.

Lastly, I am excited to announce that in the new year we will begin our planning to offer additional types of submissions to *The Journal of Community Informatics* (JoCI), including creative works, such as poetry and visual art. As part of this process, Peter and I are considering new

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[1] https://www.conftool.net/prato2022/sessions.php
[2] https://metro.org/ciresearchers

structural and visual changes to the JoCI website to help support and encourage these new submission formats. We also hope that this will encourage new individuals and groups to contribute to the journal, particularly those who may not have previously been able to submit their work.

In the coming months, the proceedings from this year's Prato CIRN conference should be available online along with previous proceedings.[3] Once again this year, this journal offered an option to publish papers from the Prato conference, as we have done in the past. Moving forward I hope this journal will continue to find ways to partner with the Prato CIRN conference, as well as other community informatics conferences in other parts of the world. One message from this year's Prato conference was clear: CIRN must find ways to become more accessible and inclusive for those who live in the Global South. In the next 20 years, I hope we will all work together to prioritize convenings in more regions of the globe to engage more diverse voices not only in participating in community informatics, but also in leading this space.

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[3] https://www.monash.edu/it/hcc/dedt/prato-conferences