Note from the Editor

This May, we’ve hit an impressive milestone with 17,000 peer reviewed resources available through Research4Life. Since our January newsletter, we’ve reached out to librarians, authors, editors, policymakers, journalists and fundraisers to share our...
10th anniversary case study book, "Making a Difference". The book has made our achievements tangible, with doctors, midwives and researchers sharing how they’ve been able to improve patient outcomes, transform local newsletters into peer reviewed journals and literally, join the global research community.

We hope you’ll take a break to learn more about our recent project drivers and initiatives. Go viral with Research4Life: use our new Research4Life banners to promote the initiative and your involvement across your networks. We’ve also designed a range of new Research4Life brochures, flyers and factsheets for you to use and customize as a partner. Drop us a line with comments or initiatives you’d like to get involved in—we have communications, marketing, usage, training and technological development taskforces that could use your expertise. We also hope to see many of you in person at the July 25th partner meeting in Washington D.C.

Finally, many thanks to Richard Gedye, STM Director of Outreach Programmes for his wonderful job as 2011 Chair of the Research4life Communications Marketing Committee. Richard continues to serve on the Executive Council and chair the Impact Analysis team. A big thank you also to Charlotte Masiello-Riome, our Research4Life Communications Coordinator, for her expert work these past months on pretty much every item listed above.

--Ylann Schemm, Chair of the Research4Life Communications and Marketing Team

**Strategic Plan Update**

The first strategic plan for Research4Life, The Path to 2015, was written in 2006 and based on the recommendations from the 2005 user and infrastructure reviews. Our 2011 plan, *Beyond the 2015 Horizon*, is based on an extensive series of 2010 reviews covering partner, usage and infrastructure. The plan outlines Research4Life’s five strategic goals and encapsulates a wide range of information including provenance, mission, and modus operandi.
Chairman’s Report

As the time approaches to hand off the gavel of the Research4Life Executive Council Chair to Emily Gillingham at the close of the upcoming General Partner’s Meeting, I’ve been reflecting on the many events and activities of the past two years.

• We have made a strong effort to communicate more with you, the partner community of Research4Life (witness this very newsletter!)
• We have prepared and agreed to a Strategic Plan to carry us to 2020, building on the Reviews that were conducted in 2010.
• We have agreed to the first adjustments to our eligibility criteria for countries since Group B (once “Phase 2”) was launched in 2004.
• We welcomed a new programme, ARDI to expand our topical focuses.
• We have launched new efforts to include local training efforts and trainers into our trainers community.
• We have continued consolidating our back office architecture, merging the software that produces that HINARI, OARE, and AGORA User Portals, and consolidating the separate institutional management systems into a new CRM.
• We have welcomed new partners, including those who provide content and several who are providing services for our programmes.
• And definitely not least, we celebrated our 10 year anniversary and made it a point to highlight what our work has meant for the user community.

In fact, so very much has happened in the past two years, that I am quite sure that I have lost track of several key items that should be highlighted. I do not know whether to wish Emily a term that is as lively or instead to wish her a slightly calmer period of tenure. Thank you all for everything you do and will continue to do to make such a change in the quality of life for so many.

-- Kimberly Parker, Chair, Research4Life Executive Council and HINARI Programme Manager
General Partners Meeting July 2012

We will be holding our 2012 General Partners Meeting (GPM) for Research4Life (HINARI, AGORA, OARE and ARDI) on Wednesday 25 July and it is being generously hosted by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in Washington DC.

The General Partners Meeting is the body which ultimately governs Research4Life, and the GPM is the opportunity for every partner to assist in reviewing the progress of the four programmes and approve Research4Life's direction and development. Since the 2011 meeting, we have made considerable progress in a number of fields, particularly in raising the profile of Research4Life, in improving our training and outreach activities, in central systems development, and in developing more nuance in our approach to eligibility. It will be important to have your input into these and other areas as we strengthen the programmes to move beyond 2015.

We traditionally have a themed section of our General Partners Meeting. This year, the theme will be "The Hidden People of the Research4Life Programmes." We will be bringing you the voices and faces of the myriad people around the world working behind the scenes (for you - many of them are well-known to our users!) to make the programmes continue ticking.

CG Health Award - Business Action on Health Award

Research4Life was recently honoured at the GBCHealth Awards in NYC on 14 & 15 May 2012. Each year, the GBCHealth Business Action on Health Awards highlight outstanding company achievements and help set the agenda for the future of the fight to defeat the greatest health threats of our time. The awards recognize the best corporate programmes developed to address global health needs. Technology Partner Microsoft was commended in the Partnership/Collective Action category for their participation in and contribution to Research4Life. The Award was fantastic opportunity to highlight the gains made by our unique partnership. Read the media coverage.
17,000 Peer Reviewed Resources Now Available in Research4Life

Content available through Research4Life has dramatically increased since 2011 to reach 17,000 peer reviewed scientific journals, books and databases. The recent sharp increase in content is primarily a result of Elsevier’s contribution of 7,000 books in 2011-2. One of the beneficiaries of Research4life, Dr. Patrick Kyamanywa, Dean, Faculty of Medicine National University of Rwanda, welcomes this significant expansion of the initiative’s ebook content explaining, “A culture of evidence-based practice can no longer be an option but the rule.’ He notes that publishers should praised for their commitment to improving access to information to students, researchers and practitioners in some of the poorest countries in the world. Read more.

Q&A with Gracian Chimwaza, Executive Director, ITOCA, South Africa

Gracian Chimwaza, is the founding director for ITOCA-Information Training & Outreach Centre for Africa www.itoca.org. In the last 13 years, Chimwaza has undertaken extensive ICT outreach, capacity building and research missions in many African countries focusing on library e-resources access through the Research4Life programmes. He currently serves on the Research4Life Programmes Executive Council, the International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD) Africa Executive Board and is also Chair of the International Advisory Group for the Mobilising Knowledge for Development (MK4D), programme at the Institute of Development Studies (UK). He has been an invited speaker in many international, regional and national-level policy meetings that address ICTs, knowledge sharing and capacity building in Africa.

• How long have you been training in regards to the Research4Life Programmes? What are your focus countries?

Since April 2004, and the focus countries have been Sub-Sahara Africa (in all four regions - East, West, Central and Southern Africa)

• What have been some of the benefits you have seen directly from your training?

Increased registrations for the Research4Life programmes and usage of the programmes
in countries where we have held training workshops

• How has the training translated to capacity building for your institutions?
  
  *Our approach is a train-the-trainer model and it’s been incredibly encouraging over the years to see participants go on to share the acquired skills with their colleague librarians, researchers and faculty when they return to their institutions after the workshops. This has helped to get the Research4Life word out to reach thousands at research and academic institutions across Africa.*

• How has the training continued? (ie. Train-the-trainer)
  
  *To date, ITOCA has conducted about 85 train-the-trainer workshops attended by about 3,000 participants in 28 countries. We estimate that the trained participants have reached at least 15,000 downstream as a result of the training workshops.*

• How many institutes do you normally train in a year time span, and what counties/cities have you done in the last six months?
  
  *We have conducted 4 workshops in the last 6 months and on average ITOCA conducts 7-8 national workshops annually.*

Making a Difference Series: Tiny Tim and Friends

*‘Even a single article can change best medical practice on the ground in resource-poor settings’* Dr. Tim Meade, Tiny Tim and Friends.

Tiny Tim and Friends is a small charity, which screens orphans for HIV in vulnerable communities surrounding Lusaka and provides anti-retroviral drugs, which suppress the HIV virus and stop the progression of AIDS. Research4Life plays a major role in TT&F’s work, allowing research that informs the development of policies and medical procedures that provide the best possible treatment. One of the key policies developed by Dr Meade and his team through their Research4Life assisted research is that mothers with HIV should continue to breastfeed their babies until two years of age, if
stable on anti-retroviral medications. This allows children to thrive with minimal risk of the infection. Find out how 500 children and their caregivers in Zambia have benefited from access to Research4Life partner content by TT&F’s medical and psychosocial care programme.

The story of Tiny Tim and friends is just one of an illuminating series of case studies and provides insights into how access to the results of peer-reviewed research from Research4Life publisher partners is benefiting the health, well-being, and economic and social development of communities in the developing world, as well as contributing to greater environmental health and awareness. Each newsletter issue, we will be highlighting one of the more than 60 stories sent to us from around the world in the Research4Life ‘Making a Difference’ Competition. Download the full book here.

Taylor & Francis experiences Research4Life in action in Cameroon

The library at the University of Buea in south-west Cameroon, under the capable leadership of Dr Rosemary Shafrack, is a keen advocate of Research4Life which has made an important contribution to research resources. Janet Remmington, Regional Director for Africa at Taylor & Francis, who presented a publishing workshop in Buea (http://pubs-for-dev.info/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/2011-Preparing-for-Publication-Remmington.pdf) and who spent a hands-on day in the library learning more about facilities and resources, was struck by the engagement with the Research4Life initiative and the efforts being made to get more users on board. All over the library, posters like the one here, served as reminders or spurs to action or training. Dr Shafrack identified user awareness as a priority. While the challenges are many in a library such as the University of Buea, Research4Life contributes to resource availability, research visibility, institutional support, staff and patron training, and it reinforces the participation from all in the global knowledge community.

New Research4Life Videos in Development

Research4Life is working with Africa Interactive, a nonprofit media capacity building organization working locally in the developing world to create 3 videos highlighting recent Research4Life case studies from the Making a
**Difference booklet.** The video project is a joint initiative between BMJ Group, Wiley-Blackwell, Microsoft and Elsevier and will explore the impact Research4Life has had on the work of Mulugeta Bayisa, a physiotherapist in Ethiopia, Gudren Witt, a midwife in Zimbabwe, and Geoffrey Salanje, head librarian at the Bunda College of Agriculture in Malawi.

**R4L Customer Relationship Management (CRM) System**

Three of the R4L programme teams have been working hard in recent months on the new CRM, following its operational launch earlier this year. New registrations and help desk tasks are already being handled using the CRM, and the teams are now engaged in a variety of tasks around enhancing data quality in the merged data sets, refining and streamlining work flows, and adjusting template emails. Once these post-launch tasks are completed later this year, consultations will begin with the Marketing and Communications teams on using the CRM to reach out to registered institutions to boost engagement and usage.

**Education Trust Fund Established for Vimbai’s Children**

Many of you knew Vimbai Hungwe, the R4L trainer from the Information, Training and Outreach Centre for Africa (ITOCA) who died in June 2010. Recently his wife has passed away leaving three children orphaned. An Education Trust Fund has been established and will be coordinated through the ITOCA office. Initial funds will be used for the 13 year old daughter to attend boarding school and 6 and 4 year old sons’ fees at local schools. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Gracian Chimwaza or Lenny Rhine at itoca@itoca.org.

**How to Give? Direct Donations to Research4Life Now Live**

Individuals and organizations can now make direct financial contributions to Research4Life through a new ‘How to Give’ service available on the HINARI programme website. For details about fundraising or contributing, visit http://www.who.int/hinari/donation/en/index.html or send an email inquiry to: GivetoRforL@who.int
Banners, Brochures and more for Research4Life Partners

Don't forget, if you are a Research4Life partner, you can access Research4Life promotional materials including logos, web banners, flyers, brochures, boiler plate and presentations, and other information at a special partner-only link. As a partner, you can also choose to customize your Research4Life brochure or the "Making a Difference" booklet with a quote and logo. For more information, please contact Charlotte Masiello-Riome, Research4Life Communications Coordinator at communications@research4life.org