



Having now been involved with INCITE for almost two years, I am constantly impressed at the level of commitment that people in the LIS industry have for their work, their organisations and for others who work in the industry.

But it's also your desire to help others that inspires me – the way LIS professionals put a hand out to others in the industry to help them learn, to improve their qualifications and further their careers. It's competitive, as it has to be and as all industries are, but there is a manifest sense of integrity about this industry, an evident love of your work and a sense that you're all participating in it together.

Learning from one another is a fabulous way to pass on experiences and to share knowledge. It's how we grow individually and together. It's how a great idea gets passed around a workplace, an industry and around the world. And this generous approach to the sharing of knowledge enables others to build on the original idea and constantly improve it.

Today it's easier than ever to share our learning experiences. We can travel to conferences in other countries to find out for ourselves what other people in our industry are doing. Or we can sit in the comfort of our office and join a webinar, or Skype a colleague who works far away.

All we have to do is watch, listen and be open.

We watch and listen all day without necessarily even

realising it, osmotically assimilating ideas and practices. But actively choosing to learn usually requires an extra amount of effort. To commit to an educational course, which in most cases involves studying after a hard day at work, is a challenge that can require a great deal of planning and organisation, both in your home life and at work.

We live in a world that zips along at a speed unimagined 20 years ago. We rush from one thing to another throughout our day as we multitask to get all the items on our multiple lists ticked off. To fully commit to a course and the required amount of time in which we will close the door on our busy world and concentrate on learning can seem like an insurmountable task.

But I hope, after reading this issue, that those of you who are finding it difficult to start any PD will see a pinprick of light and be encouraged to consider the many available resources to help you reach your goals.

And remember the people in your industry. They are out there in your workplace, in your networking groups, and beavering away at ALIA. They have their hands out ready to help. All you need to do is ask.

Then come back and tell me about your experiences and we'll pass them around with other readers of *INCITE*. 🌟

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