From the Editors

The Fourth Annual International Conference on the Study of Information and Religion (CSIR) was held at the School of Library & Information, Kent State University, June 5-6, 2014 and featured 21 presentations plus posters. From the presentations we have selected five papers for inclusion in this year’s ASIR: Advances in the Study of Information and Religion.

The theme of the 2014 Conference was “Information Management in Religious Organizations” and these papers represent at least some of the diverse ways that theme was addressed at the Conference. The authors serve either as professional librarians or instructional and research faculty and represent five different colleges or universities in the United States and New Zealand. They speak to a variety of topics - use of materials by biblical scholars, categorization of metadata compiled from a social media site used by lay people seeking religious information, the application of a systematic literature review process to a religious topic, the use of Web 2.0, social media and other technologies by a mission agency, and the way in which an information management tool can be employed in a congregational setting.

ASIR is an online, peer-reviewed, open access publication available on the Kent State University Libraries Digital Commons. We are pleased that many people have found the articles from previous ASIR issues useful. In the four months of June through September 2014, for example, there were 486 downloads of ASIR articles. Now there are five more studies available to students of information and religion. Thank you for choosing to investigate and make use of this resource.

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