

## **Editorial**

Knowledge is the primary resource for a vibrant society. Efficient utilization of existing knowledge can create comprehensive wealth of the country to improve the quality of individual's life. Ability to create and maintain the knowledge infrastructure, and develop knowledge workers to enhance their productivity through creation, growth and exploitation of new knowledge, are the key factors in deciding the prosperity of a society or nation.

In this regard, library and information resource centers in institutions of higher learning play an imperative role in facilitating creation and dissemination of new knowledge. Owning today's high-tech learning environment in respect of resources and their utilization, research services, digital scholarship, users' need assessment, content provider mergers, evidence of learning, new frameworks for information literacy, bibliometrics, scientometrics, webometrics, and open educational sources puts high emphasis on the role of Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals, academicians and researchers to investigate these areas and addresses the challenges effectively. Research in librarianship is a core aspect of library education worldwide. Consequently, it is the core responsibility of LIS academicians and practitioners to investigate the cause and effect of the phenomenon to come out with possible solutions. By implication, the advancement of any discipline is dependent upon the strengths, types, and outcomes of research carried out and how these findings are judiciously put to use.

Keeping in view the aforementioned challenges, an attempt has been made to provide a platform where LIS educationists, practitioners and researchers around the globe in general and particularly in Pakistan may publish their investigated challenges with best possible solution. The launching of a new peer-reviewed research journal namely 'International Journal of Librarianship and Information Science (IJoLIS)' is an outstanding initiative by the Department of Library and Information Sciences, Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad, Pakistan. The IJoLIS aims to (a) introduce best practices in modern librarianship to improve the current status, process, services and practices of library and information centers, and (b) optimize resource utilization and deliver high quality and value added research to end users. We are delighted to announce that the first issue of IJoLIS has been published, covering all five research articles from abroad. We warmly congratulate authors, and are extremely thankful to our international and local reviewers for their expert reviews, time and contribution. Their input was a pre-requisite in publishing this journal.