Collaborative Librarianship Changes

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Collaborative Librarianship Changes

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This issue has taken us slightly longer than anticipated. In part this is because we have received more content than usual for an issue, and because, starting with Volume 9, we have been working steadily to get more of our editorial process in place on the Digital Commons™ platform. While we have made progress in this workflow, we are still learning the ins and outs of this system. In addition, one member of the editorial board resigned due to a career change, and one copy editor has gone on an extended leave. All of which means that we have to apologize for being tardy in getting issue number three posted for everyone’s enjoyment.

We say a sad goodbye to Elizabeth Winter, who has stepped away from librarianship and information science to take a position in management consulting. This is truly an exciting development for her and we wish her all the best with her new endeavors and career pivot. No one can really be replaced, but we have found a new board member to join us in collaboration. We welcome Ray Pun from California State University, Fresno, who is sure to provide new insight and interest with collaborative work. We are very excited to welcome him to the editorial board.

Janet Lee, a copy editor since the founding of the journal, was named a Fulbright Scholar, and is currently on extended leave working to support open access publishing in Ethiopia. While we are thrilled for Janet, her absence has made us realize that we need more copy editors to help with the increasing content flow. Anne Abate continued her role as copy editor, and, thanks to recommendations from Tatiana Bryant, editorial board member, we have added two new copy editors to help with this important work. Alyssa V. Loera joins us from California State University Polytechnic, Pomona and Audrey Robinson-Nkongola from Western Kentucky University. Both jumped in on very short notice and edited articles for this issue. We appreciate the sudden work both of them took on for Collaborative Librarianship and look forward to working with them regularly.

Also deserving of our thanks are two people who make Collaborative Librarianship function smoothly. Jenelys Cox, who manages Digital Commons at the University of Denver, frequently fixes problems caused by the two of us, and helps answer our frequent requests for help. Laureen Cantwell, our layout editor, formats every article, uploads them, and publicizes each new issue on social media (speaking of which, you can follow us on Twitter at @collab_lib and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/CollaborativeLibrarianship/).

In November 2017, we will be presenting along with editorial board member, Jonathan Cain, at the Charleston Conference: Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition under the facetious title: “Our Lives as Editors of a Predatory Journal”: Lessons Learned Publishing a Scholarly Open Access Journal.” The abstract for this talk is:
As co-editors of an open access LIS journal, we manage a small, volunteer organization, and many of the practices we follow to solicit, publish, and maintain content on schedule might fit some people’s definition of predatory practices. As librarians, we understand best practices for publishing a journal, but as publishers of a small journal we are often forced to compromise. We will explore best practices for publishing an open access journal through the lens of our own experience, describe the process of migrating from one journal publishing platform to another, and reflect on how our experiences differ from “best practices.”

Lastly, we want to say thank you to the members of the editorial board for all of the hard work that they have put in. We rely on members of the board for peer review, copy editing, and formatting of the journal. While it might seem simple enough to publish a handful of case studies and peer-reviewed articles along with a few columns each quarter, it does take the work of the entire board to bring an issue to fruition. Members of the board identify topics, recruit authors, participate in peer review, and engage in larger philosophical discussions as needed. Everyone participates. Everyone helps. Everyone contributes. Fittingly for a journal that is focused on collaboration, this is truly a team effort. We could not publish an issue without the hard work of the entire editorial board.

We plan to write a more expansive editorial on this topic for our next issue, but if you are in Charleston, we hope you can join us.