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Some reflections as I look back on my long tenure as an academic librarian at York University. Little did I envisage, when I landed my first permanent library position, the tremendous opportunities that York would provide me for personal and professional growth. As a reference and instruction librarian I have been able to impact thousands of students at critical stages in their academic careers. As the Visual Arts, Design and Theatre Librarian I have supported faculty member colleagues working on a wide range of fascinating projects and, in collaboration with those same faculty members, have built unique and wonderful special collections relating to typography and artists’ books. As a librarian with academic status I have conducted research and contributed to original scholarship relating to Canadian authors.

I discovered the power of unions early in my career, and through the varied positions I have held within the York University Faculty Association, I have been successful in securing some of the best terms and conditions of employment for academic librarians in the country. If I were asked what my favourite book is, I would be tempted to say my Collective Agreement!

The child of immigrants, I am a passionate advocate of diversity believing that we need to reflect the communities we serve. I began my career in libraries as a page in the Children’s Department of the Bloor and Gladstone Branch of the Toronto Public Library located in one of the city’s most diverse neighbourhoods. I have used every opportunity,
both within and outside of York, to promote increased diversity in academic librarianship and recently conducted a nation-wide survey of diversity and academic librarians in Canada.

Serving as the Editor of the Innovations in Practice Section for *Partnership* allows me to give back to a profession which I have found enriching and fulfilling. It enables me to contribute to the cultivation of a research culture for librarians – one that has as its focus Canadian libraries and librarianship. Scholarly communication and access to information have evolved light-years since I became an academic librarian. The creation of an open access journal for members of Canada’s national network of provincial and territorial library associations was a landmark in the history of Canadian libraries and librarianship, providing an important venue for peer reviewed research that is openly available. At a time when libraries and librarianship appear to be threatened, in all sectors, *Partnership* provides members of the library community in Canada with an opportunity to raise our profile as well as articulate our value and define our roles in the academy and society at large. The Editorial team at *Partnership* and our small army of peer reviewers, all of whom donate their time freely and willingly, work to foster and promote high quality library research in Canada. It is a role that I am honoured to play.