Progress and Renewal

In this issue, Partnership is pleased to offer another varied collection of articles on a wide-range of subjects. Mentoring and Research Data Management are prominent themes in this issue with two complementary articles on each of these topics. Volume 9, no. 1 also features two articles from international sources, one of them in French. Frequent Viewpoints contributor, Michael Dudley, is back with a strongly worded critique of the Harper Government’s recent federal library closures.

Super Conference 2014
The annual OLA Super Conference is always fertile ground for attracting content for the journal. In this issue are three articles derived from 2014 Super Conference sessions. The two Conference Spotlight articles on Research Data Management originated from a co-presentation by Jeff Moon and Michael Steeleworthy. Likewise, Create Your Very Own SOP Story! Communicate Your Attributes, Values and Contributions in a Clear, Concise and Inviting Manner by Julie Andrews-Jotham, Margaret Macmillan and Julie Mandal is a reprise of a Super Conference workshop presentation given by the authors.

Eight members of the Partnership editorial team were present at the Editors’ Meeting on Jan 30, 2014 at Super Conference: Jennifer Easter, Linda Ecclestone, David Fox, Lindsay Gibb, Mary Kandiuk, Jessica Lange, Ann Smith and Mark Weiler. Also participating in the meeting were Heather Morrison (School of Information Studies, University of Ottawa) and Louise White (The Partnership).

Editorial Team
There have been numerous changes to the Partnership editorial team in recent months. Many thanks to Mary Kandiuk who is leaving the editorial team to pursue other challenges after serving very capably as Innovations in Practice section editor since 2011. Beginning with the fall/winter issue, our new Innovations in Practice editor will be Partnership veteran Jennifer Easter who is transferring from the Conference Spotlight section. Taking over Conference Spotlight is a new recruit, Alessya Quattrociocchi of Toronto Public Library. Welcome, Alessya!

Partnership now has copyeditors from coast to coast! After an exhaustive search, the journal has hired four new copyeditors. Interest in the copyeditor position advertised in April was very strong with 13 applications. Selecting a single winner from this talented and well qualified group of candidates proved to be difficult, and as a result, the search committee agreed to invite four of the top candidates to join the copyediting team. The four new copyeditors are: Karen Bordonaro, Jane Campbell, Allana Mayer and Lindsay McNiff. The luxury of now having six copyeditors means that Partnership should be able to shorten the time for producing each issue by working on several manuscripts simultaneously. In turn, this may allow us to extend submission deadlines and possibly increase the frequency of publication.
Citation Counts
While not exclusively a research journal, it is gratifying to watch Partnership citation counts continue to climb. Our Google Scholar profile shows that there have been 84 new citations to Partnership articles in the first half of 2014. To me, this is confirmation that the journal is having an influence within the profession. Partnership authors can check the profile at any time to find out how their articles are doing!

Unfortunately, while all of Partnership's content is free and fully open access, many of the sources citing Partnership articles are not. In their 2007 study, Carter, Snyder, and Imre, quoting Peter Suber, wrote "‘There is a serious problem [serials pricing and permission crisis], known best to librarians, and a beautiful solution [open access] within the reach of scholars.’ One can draw the conclusion from Suber’s statement that librarians as authors should be the most prominent supporters of open access…” (68). Sadly, the authors concluded from their study that “…library faculty members are not practicing what they generally advocate” (77). With all of the many reputable open access publications available to them, when will librarians begin to walk the talk and stop publishing in closed/toll access journals?

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Works Cited