The Future of LRTS

I am sure the title of my editorial has caught your attention and made you wonder about LRTS! LRTS is thriving and will continue to contribute to the professional literature for technical services. See the letter from ALCTS President Genevieve S. Owens and me in this issue for full details about LRTS’ future.

I am pleased to report that LRTS operates at a green Open Access (OA) level. ALCTS members have expressed a desire for LRTS to be an OA journal. Unlike gold OA journals, which provide immediate and open access to articles, LRTS has an embargo period of less than one year. LRTS supports green OA because authors can self-archive their published papers in their institutional repositories for public use at no cost. The self-archiving policy is available at www.ala.org/alcts/resources/lrts/authinst; scroll down to the portion on copyright to see the permission statement.

Other news about LRTS:

• ALA is collaborating with the University of Illinois to create an institutional repository (IR), ALAIR. ALAIR will provide a unified place for ALCTS to post public documents. A press release is available at www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2014/01/ala-creates-institutional-repository, and ALAIR is accessible at https://alair.ala.org.

I would like to highlight the contents of this issue of LRTS:

• Oksana Zavalina and Elena V. Vassilieva discuss the results of a comparative study of user search logs in two large-scale, domain-specific digital libraries, the National Science Digital Library and Opening History. Their study demonstrates varying levels of use of advanced search options and differences in the search query lengths, search query frequencies, and distribution of search categories in queries.
• Rebecca Mugridge addresses technical services assessment reporting a study she designed to explore assessment activities in Pennsylvania’s academic libraries.
• Steven A. Knowlton provides an interesting look at the career of William E. Studwell and his quest to establish a subject cataloging code.
• Richard E. Sapon-White outlines the workflow developed at Oregon State University to address various e-book cataloging workflows.

I also note the passing of Birdie MacLennan, a former member of the LRTS Editorial Board and a published LRTS author, and also an active ALCTS member. Birdie started the discussion list Serialist when discussion lists were a new concept. The fact this list is still active and thriving is testament to her vision. And while her accomplishments, which included being a talented photographer and prolific scholar, were notable, Birdie remained approachable and unpretentious. She will be missed.