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Editorial

Peggy Johnson



The Association for Libraries Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary in 2007. Originally the Resources and Technical Services Division, the name was changed to ALCTS in 1989. The official journal of the association has remained *Library Resources & Technical Services* since volume 1, number 1, winter 1957. Two journals, *Serial Slants* and the *Journal of Cataloging and Classification*, were discontinued in 1956, forming the basis of the new publication. Esther Percy, the first editor, described the journal as “open to papers and discussion of all topics pertinent to the interests of the Division and its sections, both those general and inclusive in scope and those of specific questions or considerations.”¹ Percy went on to identify hopes for the new organization—which also held true for the journal—“that serials people, catalogers, order librarians, book selectors, and others will not only have a forum for exchange with those of like interests, but also an opportunity to work closely with those of related interests . . . Great days are ahead, and *Library Resources & Technical Services* anticipates being a part of them!”²

The first two volumes of *LRTS* address topics eerily familiar fifty years later. Papers with such titles as “Keeping Serials Costs in Check,” “Toward a Better Cataloging Code,” “Arabic Cataloging: A Criticism of the Present Rules,” and “Evaluation of the University Library Collection” could appear in *LRTS* today.

Previous editors of *LRTS* have been essential to its success. The high regard that *LRTS* has held for fifty years is due in large part to the editors. Only those who have edited a peer-reviewed journal can understand the time and attention required to produce an issue of sound and meaningful papers every three months. Now seems an appropriate time to recognize those previous editors.

Esther J. Peirce, 1957–1967 (v. 1–11)

Paul S. Dunkin, 1968–1971 (v. 12–v. 15, no. 3)

Robert Wedgeworth, 1971–1973 (v. 15, no. 4–v.17, no. 1)

Wesley Simonton, 1973–1979 (v. 17, no. 2–v.23, no. 3)

Elizabeth L. Tate, 1979–1987 (v. 23, no. 4–v. 32, no. 2)

Shelia S. Intner, 1987–1990 (v. 32, no. 3–v.34, no. 3)

Richard P. Smiraglia, 1990–1996 (v.34, no. 4–v. 40, no. 4)

Jennifer Younger, 1997–2000 (v. 41–v. 44)

John Budd, 2001–2003 (v. 45–v. 47, no. 2)

Esther Piercy has my utmost admiration for editing *LRTS* for eleven years—longer than any other editor.

Journals do not survive without editorial boards, production staff, and, of course, a steady stream of contributing authors. Space does not permit naming all of these important people, but I value all with whom I have worked and I know my predecessor editors did as well.

References

1. Esther J. Piercy, “Introducing *LRTS*,” *Library Resources & Technical Services* 1, no. 1 (Winter 1957): 4.
2. Ibid.