

Showing Our Resolve

Michael Fernandez and Rachel E. Scott

New Year's resolutions tend to be ephemeral things, conceived in the waking fog of the early morning (or afternoon, no judgment) on January 1 and usually abandoned before the first bloom of spring. Here at *Library Resources & Technical Services (LRTS)*, we strive not to be fair weather planners, and so our resolution for 2025 (and beyond) has been years in the making. The editors of *LRTS*, working alongside Core Journal editors and within the broader family of American Library Association (ALA) publications, resolves to work transparently and in line with best practices for publishing ethics. Beginning in 2022, editors representing journals and magazines throughout ALA's portfolio worked as the Publishing Sub-Committee—Ethics to draft a policy that would facilitate our membership in the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). ALA CD#32.2 was approved as ALA policy at the 2024 Annual Conference and awaits placement into the Policy Manual. It will be included in the revised Policy Manual (located in *Chapter 16 ALA Publications in 2025*). In other words, *LRTS* is making great progress on our resolution to work as transparently and ethically as possible.

Running parallel to this process was the drafting of two specific policies. The Core Journal editors, working collectively, wrote policies related to AI/LLM and Post-Publication Concerns. These have now been reviewed by the Core Publication Coordinating Committee and are posted on our respective journal homepages. Authors considering submitting their work to *LRTS* and reviewers who have accepted an assignment should please review the “Use of Generative AI by Authors and Reviewers” policy at <https://journals.ala.org/index.php/lrts/about/submissions#authorGuidelines>.

Work on the Publishing Sub-Committee—Ethics prompted rich conversations about policy versus best practices. The sub-committee members agreed, for example, that although adopting NISO's Contributor Role Taxonomy (CRediT) is a best practice, it also presents some infrastructural, educational, and labor challenges. Accordingly, it is recommended as a best practice and will be optional for *LRTS* contributors—beginning in this very issue! *LRTS* is excited about these strides supporting ethics and transparency and remains committed to them in the years to follow, unlike that gym membership.

Communications on Practice

The editors invited Drs. Mohammad Hosseini and Kristi Holmes to introduce readers to CRediT, given their deep involvement with the taxonomy. The authors provide important background and context for the support of this practice among ALA journals. The authors helpfully employ CRediT to account for their contributions to the piece.

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Features

In “Boosting the Identifier Ecosystem of the University of Colorado Boulder Faculty,” Chris Long explains the crucial role of unique author identifiers in scholarly communication, both at the individual and campus levels. Long makes the case for the involvement of academic library catalogers in ensuring a robust identifier profile for campus faculty and contributing to the broader identifier ecosystem and its infrastructure.

A large team from Cornell University Library—Kizer S. Walker, Gabriela Castro Gessner, Adam Chandler, Caitlin Finlay, Elizabeth Hines, Susan Kendrick, Jesse Koennecke, Leah McEwen, Jacob Sayward, and Henrik Spoon—reports on their multimodal study “Math and Aftermath: Impacts of Unbundling a Large Journal Package on Researcher Perceptions and Behavior.” The team investigated several facets of cost, use, fulfillment, and perceptions surrounding a shift from a large journals package to a selective list of à la carte subscriptions. Qualitative data from interviews provides insights into researchers’ strategies for accessing journal articles and relationships between library subscriptions and researchers’ publishing behavior.

Eugene Baah Yeboah, Maned A. Mhlongo, and Omwoyo Bosire Onyancha report on a survey and interviews conducted to investigate “Resource Description and Access (RDA) in the Ghanaian Cataloguing Community: Awareness, Competencies and Implications.” The findings highlight the difference between awareness, which is high among cataloging practitioners in Ghana, and knowledge and mastery of the RDA guidelines and application of the standard, which was found to be basic. The authors posit that that awareness of the RDA standard will not lead to widespread adoption and implementation and propose strategies to promote teaching and implementation of the standard.

Notes on Operations

“Assessing Opt-In Rates for Transformative Agreements” leverages two pilot open access publishing agreements at the University of Illinois to investigate opt-in rates by each publisher as well as by disciplinary affiliation and rank of the researchers. Daniel G. Tracy, Elizabeth A. Budd, and Thomas H. Teper reflect on the lessons they learned from these pilot agreements and consider the relative benefits and challenges of transformative agreements.

Shari Laster, Lorrie McAllister, Emily Pattni, and Tammy Dang share novel approaches to engaging the Arizona State University community with print materials in “Experimental Approaches to Transforming Academic Library Print Collections.” Grant funding and a major renovation spurred the authors creation of eight experimental projects that explored users’ engagement with print books. The results highlight community-focused approaches to curating, maintaining, and engaging users with academic library print collections, inspiring readers to create new knowledge and fostering their sense of belonging.

Book Reviews

Books reviewed include *Curating Community Collections: A Holistic Approach to Diverse Collection Development* by Mary Schreiber and Wendy K. Bartlett; and *Inclusive Cataloging: Histories, Context, and Reparative Approaches* edited by Amber Billey, Elizabeth Nelson, and Rebecca Uhl.