

# Editor's note: Welcome to the *Journal of New Librarianship*

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**Abstract:** This open journal is the result of collaborative efforts among colleagues within the field of library and information sciences. Our first issue is the culmination of 18 months of dedicated work by a veritable host of volunteer reviewers, editors, and of course, authors. We are committed to publishing a multitude of viewpoints, encouraging dialog, and at times, provoking our readers to think and respond.

**Keywords:** librarianship; open access; scholarly communications; library as publisher



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It is our hope that the content you find here will stimulate, provoke and enlighten both those in the library profession and others who are interested in our work.

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The Directory of Open Access Journals lists 127 titles in the field of Library Science. So, why another journal on librarianship in an already crowded field? In discussions with colleagues it became clear that there needed to be a forum that was not only “open” regarding access, but also open to a wide variety of content. The *Journal of New Librarianship* seeks to provide access to innovative ideas regardless of format, language or source.

There is a need to offer quality literature in our field in an open, independently produced journal. Beyond that, we believe that librarians should set an example for academia. Free and open access to information and innovation is crucial to the future of our institutions and profession. We spend a great deal of energy convincing scholars to populate our digital repositories with their works, convincing senior faculty that openly published articles deserve to be valued in tenure decisions along with traditional publications. We need to “walk the walk” as well as “talk the talk.” By providing an outlet that mixes both traditional and non-traditional forms of scholarly and professional communication, we can change the way our profession shares and leads.

Further, we all know that libraries of all types are faced with increasing costs and decreasing budgets. We are often considered irrelevant or as “[vanity projects](#)” because of the high costs we pay to commercial publishers for scholarly information. For many of us, we are the only organizations within our larger institutions (whether public, corporate or academic) where wages and benefits are the second highest operating cost.

The most effective way to lower those costs and change the way we acquire information is to create that information, reliably and inexpensively. The total monetary costs of this issue are well under \$500. We are not charging submission fees to our authors, nor are we charging subscription fees to our readers.

We hope you will join our efforts as contributors to this effort, either as readers, authors, or advocates. We encourage ideas for content in any-and-all forms. If you have an idea, get in touch.

Special thanks to Matthew Kopel for all the hard work and knowledge he has put into this project. Thanks as well to the dozens of colleagues and friends who have contributed their talents and time to writing, reviewing and editing these articles.

We need content providers to keep our feed active, to submit their research and other output, their thoughts and ideas. If you are interested, please contact Steve Weiter, Dean of University Libraries at Oakland University at [spweiter@oakland.edu](mailto:spweiter@oakland.edu).

The Journal may include, but is not limited to: Solicited articles; Peer-reviewed content; Essays; Experience and opinion pieces; Media (i.e., podcasts, video, etc) relevant to innovative practices in librarianship; Book reviews; Technology reviews; Letters to the Editor on topics relevant to the field; Data sets; Manifestos; Extended scholarship (Greater than 15,000 words); and Interviews.