

From the Co-editors: Australian Academic & Research Libraries

Some of you may have seen our first issue as the new editorial team for *Australian Academic & Research Libraries (AARL)*, ALIA's premier research journal. We extend our thanks to Bob Pymm and Ian Morrison (outgoing editor and book reviews editor), who have left AARL excellently positioned for the future.

A brief introduction for those of you who are not already familiar with us: Gaby is a senior lecturer at Curtin University and Mary Anne at Charles Sturt University, both in library and information studies (LIS). We are currently academics, but also have years of experience as practitioners and practitioner researchers. Our vision for AARL thus encompasses publishing research that has both the relevance and the rigour to be attractive to a diverse LIS readership. We would also like to introduce David Wells, the new book reviews editor. David is Manager, Resources at Curtin University Library.

Contents of the current issue (Vol 43, No. 3 September 2012):

Peer reviewed papers:

Working to think otherwise: Tracing ethos in information professionals' reflections on learning and practice by Sharyn Wise

Scholarly use of e-books in a virtual academic environment: A case study by Pervaiz Ahmad, Mark Brogan

'How can we help?' The contribution of university libraries to student retention by Pauline Hagel, Anne Horn, Sue Owen, Michael Currie

Knowledge, skills and attributes for academic reference librarians by Gaby Haddow

Book reviews:

Location-Aware Services and QR Codes for Libraries by Joe Murphy: reviewed by Catherine Gilbert

Evaluating and Measuring the Value, Use and Impact of Digital Collections by Lorna M. Hughes: reviewed by Liz Reuben

Reference and Information Services in the 21st Century: An Introduction by Kay Ann Cassell and Uma Hiremath: reviewed by Doreen Sullivan

Building Mobile Library Applications by Jason A Clark: reviewed by Michael Wiebrands

Call for papers:

It is our firm belief that the information professions are here to stay as long as we, their members, work together to consolidate our unique knowledge and skills within a strong research framework. We are committed to encouraging research and to the effective communication of research. A national research journal is important, providing a medium through which professionals and researchers, new and long-standing, can collaborate and communicate. Accordingly we encourage both experienced and new professionals and researchers in the information fields to write up their research and submit it to AARL, now in its forty-third year, widely indexed, and listed in the *Journal Citation Reports* with an impact factor.

Scope:

AARL will consider articles by Australian researchers about Australian information issues, and also articles by authors who are conducting their research in Australia about issues in their home country, or by researchers beyond Australia, conducting research relevant to Australia in an international context.

We are aware that the Journal is perceived as having an academic and research libraries focus and there is no doubt these sectors have been major contributors to the AARL's content. However, as the information professions converge, so too must the issues of concern in the various information sectors and thus the published literature. AARL is a research journal for all aspects of librarianship and related fields. We hope to receive paper submissions from authors researching across the full range of information professions. AARL can then become a showcase for information-related research activity in, about, and relevant to Australia and our region.

Editing a special issue:

We encourage expressions of interest for guest editing a special issue of the Journal. Special issues may address any theme that is likely to be of interest to the Journal's readership. Guest editors may be individuals or teams and their special issue will be subject to the normal peer review process. The selection of papers and coordination of review activities will be the responsibility of the guest editors. Papers may be selected either on the basis of invitation or via a general 'call for papers'. Please contact us as soon as possible if you are interested in guest editing an issue of AARL in 2013 or 2014, so we can build it into the publication schedule.

Best wishes

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