

September 2020

Kenneth J. Varnum

With “unprecedented” rising to first place on my personal list of words I would prefer never to need to use again, let alone hear used, I find it eminently satisfying that some activities and events from before COVID continue in their usual, predictable ways. For me, the quarterly rhythm of publication of *Information Technology and Libraries* is one of those activities. It is helping keep me grounded. While it is certainly not much in the scope of what is happening all around me, it is at least something.

One thing that is changing is that this journal, along with *Library Resources and Technical Services* and *Library Leadership & Management* are now publications of ALA’s newest division: Core: Leadership, Infrastructure, Futures. You’ll notice a new logo at the top of our site, reflecting the new organizational structure. I am excited about the possibilities of richer cross-Core cooperation and collaboration as we explore our new structure.

This issue includes the first—and last—LITA President’s Message from incoming and outgoing LITA President Evviva Weinraub Lajoie. Evviva assumed the LITA presidency this summer, just before the merger of LITA, LLAMA, and ALCTS into the new Core division took place on September 1. Members of those three merged divisions should watch for information about elections for the new Core president in October.

I am pleased that this issue includes the 2020 LITA/Ex Libris Student Writing Award winning article, [Evaluating the Impact of the Long-S upon 18th-Century Encyclopedia Britannica Automatic Subject Metadata Generation Results](#), by Sam Grabus of Drexel University. Julia Bauder, the Chair of this year’s selection committee (I was also a member, as ITAL editor) said, “This valuable work of original research helps to quantify the scope of a problem that is of interest not only in the field of library and information science, but that also, as Grabus notes in her conclusion, could affect research in fields from the digital humanities to the sciences.”

Before closing, I would like to express my appreciation to Breanne Kirsch, who ably served on the editorial board from 2018-2020.

Sincerely,

Kenneth J. Varnum, Editor

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