

## From the Editors:

### Volume 14, Number 2

It's hard to believe how quickly 2024 has flown by – what felt like endless days in January now seem like a blur of moments slipping past. As we publish this issue of *Practical Academic Librarianship* in the final weeks of 2024, acknowledge not only what you didn't have time to accomplish this year, but more importantly, what you did! We're very thankful for the opportunity we have with PAL to further conversations concerning the important work currently going on in academic and research libraries. Many of us are wrapping up the term and looking forward to a well-deserved break, and we hope you have some time to refresh and perhaps catch up on these conversations as we all look forward to the opportunities and challenges waiting for us in the coming year.

Our latest “In Practice” piece introduces a new audience-focused model for integrated program development, something that we hope inspires you to think about services and programs for 2025 and beyond. We are delighted to publish Brian Mathews’ “**Thinking Around the Box: Using Complementary Innovation for Designing Programs and Nurturing Community**” in this issue. Mathews offers a tool for brainstorming around a specific audience and mapping potential complementary, integrated services to that group. The idea is to focus on more meaningful and in-depth experiences within specific communities. We are excited about this model and are grateful to share it in this issue. We hope it resonates with you as much as it did with us.

Turning our attention to the research articles in this issue, Johanna Meetz describes the process and results of an environmental scan focused on publishing and institutional repository programs in “**Conducting an Environmental Scan of Scholarly Communication Programs at The Ohio State University Libraries.**” The article shares materials from the scan as well as recommendations and lessons learned.

In “**Cancelling the “Big Deal” at a Public University: A Discussion of STEM Faculty Perceptions of Cancellation and an Examination of Post-Cancellation Usage Data,**” Amanda McCormick and Erin Rowley offer analysis of a multi-site study conducted after the cancellation of the Elsevier ScienceDirect Big Deal package at the

University at Buffalo Libraries. Their article describes the impact of the cancellation and how it was addressed.

Dr. Lyubov Tmanova's study, "**Systematic Review Collaboration & Data Governance in a Medical Library,**" used the systematic review data governance and analytics model to scale systematic review collaboration in a military medical library. The article describes the model and process, and it fills a gap in the literature through its focus on medical libraries in military environments.

With every issue of *Practical Academic Librarianship*, we have many volunteers to thank. The authors, peer reviewers, our Advisory Board, and you, the readers – we are certainly grateful to each of you for supporting *PAL*. We also thank those behind the scenes who work hard to make each issue a reality. Abby Thorne has been *PAL*'s chief Copy Editor since the first issue in 2011 and continues to provide us with excellent feedback and edits.

If you are interested in submitting to *PAL*, we encourage you to review [our guidelines](#). We launched our "In Practice" section earlier this year with "[Relationship Building Advice for Liaison Librarians: Putting It Into Practice and Troubleshooting](#)," which has been downloaded hundreds of times since it was published in July 2024. We are particularly seeking submissions for the "In Practice" section which focuses on practical experiences and tools to help us be more successful academic librarians.

We are also seeking articles for a special issue on career reinvention. While this process can occur at any point, regardless of how long you've been in the profession, many of us who have been working in LIS for several years are taking a step back to reflect on what motivates us, what we still need to learn, and how we can pivot to take advantage of new opportunities. Just a few questions worth considering:

- What does it mean to be mid-career?
- What happens when you move from administration back to librarianship?
- What can you continue to do that is professionally satisfying for the remainder of your career?

We feel that it is important to continue to be professionally involved, to continue to participate in professional organizations, and to continue to mentor no matter where we may be in our daily work life. While our focus is typically on research related to practical issues within academic libraries, we can't think of anything more practical

than planning the remainder of your career. If you are interested in working with us on the special issue related to career reinvigoration, please reach out to us.

We have more exciting ideas for 2025, and in the meantime, we always welcome your feedback!

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