



From the PQ Editors

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Hello readers! Welcome to your new *PNLA Quarterly*. We, Leila Sterman and Jan Zauha, are taking the reins with this issue and we'd like to tell you about some of the plans we've formed recently for the journal with the input of the PNLA Board. In a nutshell, it's all about regional content, open access, and discoverability.

Who are we? Leila Sterman is the Scholarly Communication Librarian at Montana State University (MSU) in Bozeman, Montana. New to PNLA and fairly new to Montana, Leila is an expert in open access, intellectual property rights, online journals, and institutional repositories. She's all about access and metadata and brings to *PQ* a deep understanding of publishing on the Web. Jan Zauha is Outreach, Research, and Instruction Librarian also at MSU and has a long history of involvement with PNLA. She brings to *PQ* an understanding of the association's role in the region and a great appreciation for PNLA's accomplishments past, present, and future.

PQ has been in publication since 1936 and has gone through as many changes as PNLA itself. In the early 2000's the PNLA board decided that administrative items such as the reports of our chapter representatives would no longer be published in the *PQ* but would be posted on our Web site. This opened the door for more substantive content and moved *PQ* from primarily a newsletter format to a forum for ideas about libraries, professional development, information access, technologies, and other topics of regional interest written by practitioners and students in the area. Several years later, *PQ* became an online only publication.

Since then the content of *PNLA Quarterly* has grown to include a combination of peer-reviewed and editor-reviewed articles, a move that has increased the substance of its content but also shifted focus away from the region. One of our primary goals for the *Quarterly's* evolution is to return to publishing more content about issues of interest to libraries in the Pacific Northwest. Who better to provide this content than the practitioners, students, and educators who live in or are affiliated with the region? This first new issue provides an excellent example of some of the fine content available from our 6-state/province area: all of it drawn from the August 2014 program at the PNLA Annual Conference in Helena, Montana.

We plan to continue this regional focus and to offer diverse but balanced content relevant to public, academic, and special libraries.

We would also like to build on the laudable move PNLA made several years ago in making *PQ* an open access journal by improving our ability to serve up the full-text of individual articles. Rather than one long PDF file, you'll see that this issue also offers individually downloadable files for every article. This, along with the addition of keywords for each article, should help improve the discovery rate of *PQ* content and give our authors more exposure on the Web, while improving indexing by vendors such as Ebsco. This shift in editorship for *PQ* provides an opportunity to investigate how the journal might benefit from new practices and resources in scholarly communication, particularly those that have come out of the open access movement.

All of this will take some time, and we know that it is important that *PQ* return to a quarterly schedule as soon as possible if content from the region can support that publication frequency. In the coming year, our plan is to publish two issues and increase to three in 2015/16. We look forward to working with the PNLA board and membership to continue the evolution of *PQ* as a relevant, accessible journal for the profession and the region.

Thank you,
Leila Sterman & Jan Zauha