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Comments From the Managing Editor

Pamela R. Jones Library Director Medaille College Buffalo, New York

I am a gardener. I love to buy small plants, nurture them, watch them grow. Sometimes I manage to place them in exactly the right spot and I am pleased with the results. Often, I end up moving plants around to get just the right look. When we moved into our home eight years ago, there were no borders. Now, my yards have large plantings. It took time, patience, and trial and error to establish my gardens. I work to maintain and improve the garden beds every year. I read garden magazines and learn from other gardeners. I spend the winter planning for new ideas to try out once spring arrives. Some ideas work, and some don't, but that is fine, because I can make adjustments as each season brings changes to my garden.

Managing the process of publishing this journal has been similar to creating and maintaining my garden. Sheryl Knab developed the idea to publish a peer-reviewed journal and the Editorial Team was officially formed. Once we determined the focus, mission and format for the journal and gave it a name, we were on our way. Just like in my garden, I have tried things, moved them around, and waited for results. Some things worked, and some didn't. It has taken almost two years to publish this premier issue. In that time, we chose software, learned how to use the software, created a logo, established standards and guidelines, documented our decisions, talked with other librarians about the editorial and publishing processes, and learned many new things about publishing. We have re-vamped the workflow numerous times. I thank the Editorial Team for their patience and good nature as we figured everything out along the way. I especially want to thank Section Editors Ann Tenglund, David Schoen, and Samantha Gust along with Layout Editor George Emery and Copy Editor Suzanne Colligan for their effort in selecting, editing, and presenting the content included in this issue. Grace DiVir-

gilio and Robin Tashjian have served as able proofreaders, patiently waiting for copy. Mike Lavin has taken on the role of Chair of the Editorial Advisory Board, communicating with the Advisory Board members and being an active participant in Editorial Team meetings. I also wish to thank Sheryl for her dedication to publishing a journal relevant for all types of libraries. Last, but not least, the support of the WNYLRC Board of Trustees is greatly appreciated. The result of the dedication and hard work of the entire Editorial Team is realized in this first issue of the *Journal of Library Innovation*.

In the Feature Articles section, Lisa Kurt, William Kurt, and Ann Medaille discuss play as a method for fostering creativity and innovation in organizations in their article "The Power of Play". The authors will get you thinking about providing staff with time to play as a way to spur new ideas to meet the needs of patrons. Do you know what Geographical Information System (GIS) technology is? If not, take time to read Eva Dodsworth's Feature Article "Indirect Outreach in a GIS Environment" not only to learn more about this technology, but also to learn how a special library marketed its resources to non-traditional patrons with positive results.

The Innovative Practice section begins with Helen Fallon's article about the development of a writing program for librarians in Ireland. John Osinski's article "Promoting a Graphic Novel Collection" describes how the author used *Comic Book Creator* software to develop marketing for his library's graphic novel collection. Electronic Resource Librarians will find Steven Shapiro's description of how he used Google calendar to provide a free email alert system for electronic resource renewals and payments especially interesting.

The mission of this journal is to disseminate research and information on innovative practice in libraries of all types. I hope you find the contents of the premier issue thought-provoking. And, by all means, please consider submitting an article if you have tried something new and different in your library; we would love to hear about it!

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