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Change is Here

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Editor's Desk

Eric C. Shoaf

Change Is Here

LLAMA has a new name emphasizing leadership, and this change will renew and refocus the work of the division. In an expected synchronicity, the division's journal has a new name,

Library Leadership & Management (LL&M), and a new look. Serials catalogers may cringe at the name change but might appreciate the aesthetics of this redesign. We value your feedback, so let us know how we can make the journal better.

In this issue of *LL&M*, Wyoma vanDuinkerken and Pixey Anne Mosley look at the psychological and emotional impacts of change in workspace configuration with an eye toward more staff inclusion in the process. Tim Spindler offers examples of how improved statistical analysis can provide more precise forecasting of changing library needs as well as better justification of library budgetary dollars to stakeholders. With a fresh look at a timeworn issue, Marian Fragola examines the relationship between professional and paraprofessional staff in the library. As libraries change, and the lines between librarians and support staff blur, she finds that closer relationships are developing between the two groups. Bella Karr Gerlich and Edward Whatley document the success of a new staffing model at the reference desk that was developed using a national statistics gathering tool—an example of change in the name of efficiency. Finally, Marta Lee presents the results of a successful mentoring program.

As I step into the *LL&M* editor's chair, I have big shoes to fill. Outgoing editor Gregg Sapp has maintained the reputation of the journal as an informative, literate, and practical publication that is valued by the membership. His wisdom and inspiration have been of great assistance in my developing the skills required for editorship, and for that I thank him. Also, we welcome Pixey Anne Mosley and Wendi Arant Kaspar, both from the library at Texas A&M University, who will serve as associate coeditors for the next two years. On a more personal level, I am in the midst of professional change as I have recently begun a new posi-

tion as assistant dean of libraries at the University of Texas at San Antonio. I am experiencing firsthand the energizing effects of change both for me and my new institution. For myself, there is growth and challenges anew, and the opportunity to have a lasting impact. Change is good.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

I have been looking at some of the early issues of *Library Administration & Management (LA&M)*, from around its beginning in 1987. Developed over a number of years, and as the result of considerable time and effort by many people, *LA&M* appeared at a propitious time for the profession with automation well entrenched in library work and a new round of budget struggles beginning. It has been there through the radical changes in storage and dissemination of information during the nineties, providing insight and ideas from leaders in the field, and it continues to this day. Of note, in the first issue dated January 1987, the lead article is from John Lubans, who has been a stalwart contributor ever since. His *Leading from the Middle* column (previously known as *On Managing*) has appeared on these pages for nearly two decades, and he continues to provide lively discussions about managing libraries. Also in the first issue is a statement of content for the journal:

The content of *Library Administration & Management* is to include (but not be limited to) the following:

- Focus on a management issue or personality
- Debates on library issues by leaders in the field
- Conference program information and calendar of LAMA events
- LAMA news, including section news and conference program reports
- LAMA president's message
- News on research, new services, or products.
- Legislative items, etc., with implications for managers
- Graphics, including cover art/photographs¹

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- where value to our members truly drives decisions;
- where leaders and managers at all levels can strengthen their expertise;
- where professional development opportunities enhance leadership and management; and
- where we are known as the preeminent professional organization that develops and supports library leaders and managers.

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In reading through the years, it would seem that the journal has more than met those goals and has served the membership well in this regard. Our columnists are among the most popular with readers. From past issues of *LA&M*, I note that by the mid-1990s, Bonnie Osif had begun contributing Manager's Bookshelf and, soon after, Julie Todaro was on board with her column The Truth Is Out There, both of which continue today. Earlier this decade, Bob Moran served a term as editor of *LA&M* and has also become a regular contributor.

There was an emphasis, particularly in the early years, on issues built around a theme.² This has been continued through the years, most recently with the fall 2007 special section "International Perspectives on Library Management" as well as the ongoing ChangeMasters series.

In keeping with this historical approach, the spring 2009 issue of *LL&M* will have the theme of leadership in libraries, and will present the best and latest in trends from the field in a forward-looking approach to leadership. Watch for it.

References

1. John Berry, "From the LAMA Executive Director," *Library Administration & Management* 1, no. 1 (Jan. 1987): 2.
2. Charles Lowry, "Themes of Future Issues," *Library Administration & Management* 4, no. 3 (Summer 1990): 126.