

Editor's Introduction

Mind the Gap

Beth Blakesley

As this is my first issue as editor, I want to take this opportunity to thank the previous co-editors, Pixey Anne Mosley and Wendi Arant-Kaspar, for their service to the journal. I was very happy to work with them during the past two years and hope I can continue the fine work they did bringing *LL&M* online and returning the peer review model. I am also glad that Brad Eden is our Associate Editor. He has a great deal of experience with editing journals, and I know *LL&M* will benefit greatly from his contributions.

I am quite pleased that we have three columns in this issue, with a fourth set to appear next time. Jennifer Bartlett has been writing on a variety of topics for the "New and Noteworthy" professional reading column for us since 2011, and Leo Lo has taken on editorship of the "New Perspectives in Leadership" column that hasn't appeared recently. Two new columns debut in this issue: "Engaging Leadership," contributed by former *LL&M* editor Pixey Anne Mosley and "Management 2.0," by Patricia Katopol, a previous contributor to *LL&M*. Pixey's column will explore topics related to leadership, while Patricia's will focus on management issues. Just as leadership and management merge and interact in daily practice, I believe these two columns will complement one another quite nicely.

Our features this issue both touch on assessment. First is Nathaniel King's case study on using project management for assessment of reference services. We also present Kathryn Crowe's summary of the recent MAES conference program on assessment.

We should be proud that our colleagues at ACRL are moving *C&RL* to an open, online format as we have done with *LL&M*. *C&RL*'s new editor Scott Walter met with a group at Midwinter to discuss those plans. He will also hold discussions at ACRL in Indianapolis and at Annual in Chicago; please contact him or keep an eye out for announcements if you are interested. As is always the case with conference scheduling, I had to miss that session because I wanted to attend the LLAMA Leadership Development Seminar. This year's program, "Mindful Leadership through Tough Times," featured three speakers discussing types of leadership. Dr. Irene Herold and Dr. Kathleen DeLong offered rich theoretical grounding while Stephanie Beverage discussed these techniques and solutions from her position "in the trenches."

With this solid mix of theory and practice, those of us in attendance gained insights into various organizational theories, particularly ones that bring focus to the human side of human resources and management, focusing on emotional and intellectual needs and motivational factors. Beverage, the Director of the Huntington Beach Public Library, described how she has employed such strategies during long-standing tough budget times.

Reflecting on this program and on the content for this issue has brought into focus a topic I often consider: the differences, or gaps, between leadership and management and between theory and practice, and how best to mind those gaps.

This issue's peer reviewed articles also relate to these matters. Anthony Chow and Melissa Rich describe their research into desired qualities for leaders, which shows that skills related to emotional intelligence are strongly needed, while Kevin Harwell looks at the causes and effects of burnout and stress on the job.

I invite you to step away from the daily routines and chaotic moments to consider and ponder these topics.

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