

## Making Sure *PaLRaP* Remains Healthy and Strong

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Thanks to the many contributions of numerous individuals, *Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice* (*PaLRaP*) has been quite successful and well-received in its first year of existence. As we head into the second year of publication, members of the editorial team must now shift our focus from the initial stages of creation and early growth to the next phase of ongoing improvement and sustainability over the long term. There are several initiatives currently under way to help make *PaLRaP* even stronger.

First, we are looking to maintain a healthy editorial team by adding a new coeditor. This is a volunteer position for a two-year renewable term, beginning in January 2015. See the responsibilities and required qualifications for this opportunity, listed below.

### *PaLRaP* Coeditor Sought

#### Responsibilities

- Work closely with a volunteer editorial team including news editors, copy editors, and layout editors.
- Recruit and communicate with peer-reviewers as needed.
- Communicate and work with authors to provide feedback on submissions as well as strong editorial guidance as needed.
- Prepare editorials for each issue.
- Oversee use of Online Journal System (OJS) software platform by authors, reviewers, and editorial staff, answering questions about its functionality and recommending best practices.
- Conduct or assist with training of new editorial staff.

- Remain in close communication with the journal publisher, the University Library System, University of Pittsburgh and the journal sponsor, the College & Research Division (CRD) of the Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA).
- Solicit submissions for all types of articles.

**Required Qualifications**

- Experience writing for professional publications.
- Editorial experience preferred.
- Significant experience working in Pennsylvania libraries.
- Knowledge of issues related to open access scholarly publishing.
- Current member of the College & Research Division of the Pennsylvania Library Association.
- Excellent communication skills required.
- Coeditor must be willing and able to respond to numerous email messages in a timely manner.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please submit a letter of interest and a résumé to Val Lynn, PaLA College & Research Division Chair, at [vag3@psu.edu](mailto:vag3@psu.edu).

Second, articles from *PaLRaP* are now easier to find when researchers use EBSCO's Discovery Service and Summon, the discovery product of Serials Solutions/ProQuest. In the near future, we hope to also see *PaLRaP* articles included in databases such as *Library Literature & Information Science*, *Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts*, and the *Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)*.

Third, our publisher, the University Library System (ULS), University of Pittsburgh, now offers usage statistics for *PaLRaP* articles through Plum Analytics, an "all metrics" service that counts reader activity at the article level. Both traditional metrics (i.e., citations) and altmetrics (e.g., social media sharing, document downloads) are counted, providing authors with data of how often their works are used and shared, as well as an idea where such use and sharing takes place (e.g., Twitter, Mendeley, Scopus, institutional repositories, etc.). In Figure 1, you can read a fuller explanation of how Plum Analytics gathers data and see a very successful example of reader use of a journal article, published in the *International Journal of Telerehabilitation*, another ULS e-journal.

Plum Analytics tracks usage from non-proprietary sources, so some counts (e.g., Web of Science) are not available. However, many others are, including those from GitHub, bit.ly, Delicious, Wikipedia, and Reddit. Beginning in March 2014, Plum Analytics began counting use of individual *PaLRaP* articles. You will now see widgets for each article for which Plum has counted use; these widgets appear on the abstract view.

Finally, although *PaLRaP* is free to read it is not free to produce, even though the operation relies heavily on volunteer contributions of authors, reviewers, and editors. Significant technology costs still must be covered. To keep *PaLRaP* openly available and sustainable, we are encouraging readers to "Support *PaLRaP*" by either joining PaLA or by making a direct contribution through our website. Your doing so will help offset some of *PaLRaP*'s publishing expenses and keep the journal active for years to come.

## Plum Analytics' Article-level Altmetrics Widget for Open Journal Systems

- ❖ First Open Journal Systems implementation by University Library System, University of Pittsburgh, integrating Plum's widget code into OJS in article abstract view.
- ❖ To collect data:  
Step 1: We send CrossRef XML export to Plum at time of publication.  
Step 2: Plum continuously tracks dozens of data points, offering visualization tools.
- ❖ Piloted by International Journal of Telerehabilitation: <http://telerehab.pitt.edu>
- ❖ Available on 10 other journals, soon to be a regular offering for all new e-journals that we publish. <http://www.library.pitt.edu/e-journals>

For more widget info:  
<http://plu.mx/developers/widgets/>

The screenshot shows the Plum Analytics widget integrated into the article abstract view of the International Journal of Telerehabilitation. The widget displays the following data:

- Usage:** Bitly - Clicks: 4, Pitt EPrint-DScholarship - Downloads: 37
- Captures:** Mendeley - Readers: 3
- Social Media:** Twitter - Tweets: 5, Facebook - Shares: 1

Annotations on the widget include:

- Institutional Repository:** Points to the 'Pitt EPrint-DScholarship - Downloads: 37' link.
- See Readers, Downloads, and Mentions:** Points to the 'Mendeley - Readers: 3' and 'Twitter - Tweets: 5' links.
- Active Links for more info:** Points to the 'Facebook - Shares: 1' link.

At the bottom of the widget, it says 'Powered By Plum Analytics'.

http://plu.mx  
**PLUM**  
 ANALYTICS  
 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
**ULS**  
 UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SYSTEM

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Download this poster:  
<http://goo.gl/0NBh71>

Figure 1

Plum Analytics' Article-Level Altmetrics Widget for Open Journal Systems. Poster prepared by Lauren B. Collister, University Library System, University of Pittsburgh, for SPARC Open Access Meeting, 3 March 2014.

## Current Contents

Highlights of this issue, our third, include

- “The Princess and the Poor Self-Image: An Analysis of Newbery Medal Winners for Gender Bias and Female Underrepresentation Leading into the Twenty-First Century,” a research article by Melissa A. McCleary, Clarion University, and Michael M. Widdersheim, University of Pittsburgh. This study should prove of interest to anyone selecting children’s literature, especially those in school media centers and public libraries.
- “Beyond the Letter of the Law: Accessibility, Universal, and Human-Centered Design in Video Tutorials” by Amanda S. Clossen, Learning Design Librarian at Penn State University. In this article, Clossen seeks to demonstrate how Universal and Human-Centered Design approaches can be applied to the process of library video tutorial creation in order to enhance content accessibility. It makes a nice follow-up to an article in volume 1, number 2, “Online Job Tutorials @ the Public Library: Best Practices from Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh’s Job & Career Education Center,” by Rhea M. Hebert and Wesley Roberts.
- “Changing Lives, One Note at a Time: Library Internships for Undergraduate Music Majors” by Timothy Sestrick, Music Librarian and Assistant Professor at West Chester University, and Lina Terjesen, Assistant Professor for Music Library Services at Belmont University, Nashville, Tennessee. In this article, Sestrick and Terjesen describe their experiences as mentor and mentee in the Fortenbaugh Music Internship at Musselman Library, Gettysburg College.
- “Sign Redesign: Applying Design Principles to Improve Signage in an Academic Library” by Sheila Kasperek, Associate Professor and Reference and Instruction Librarian at Mansfield University of Pennsylvania. Kasperek relates the work of Mansfield University’s Special Events and Customer Service Committee to create an attractive, usable, and Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant signage system for the library.
- “Three-Dimensional (3-D) Scanning Within Academic Libraries: Exploring and Considering a New Public Service” by Jason A. Reuscher, an Assistant Librarian at the Penn State University Schuylkill Campus. Reuscher conveys the activities and results of a microgrant-funded project to introduce 3-D scanning at his library, providing rich detail on the technology and software used for this service.
- “Basic Online Pennsylvania Legal Research for Librarians,” a practice article by Laura J. Ax-Fultz, Assistant Law Librarian and Head of Access Services for the law library at the Penn State Dickinson School of Law. This article, based on a presentation Ax-Fultz made at the Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference 2013, provides much-needed information and direction for Pennsylvania librarians when assisting with legal research questions.
- “Increasing the Discoverability of Digital Collections Using Wikipedia: The Pitt Experience” by Edward Galloway and Cassandra DellaCorte. Galloway, Head of the Archives Service Center, University Library

System, University of Pittsburgh, and DellaCorte, an undergraduate History and Communications major at Pitt, share the knowledge gained and the challenges experienced in having students create and edit articles in Wikipedia on subjects relevant to Pitt's archival and special collections.

And last but not least for this issue, we have revamped our "Noteworthy" section, both in terms of content and the approach we use to gather submissions. Rather than publishing a series of short articles, each with their own PDF file and digital object identifier (DOI), we have combined the information received into one, more substantial article, entitled "Noteworthy: News Briefs from PA Libraries." Now you can read the current news and activities of Pennsylvania's libraries and library staff in one place without needing to open multiple files. Our news editors, Larissa Gordon and Linda Neyer, have also devised a simpler news submission system, available via Google Forms. This online form ([bit.ly/1rkSdcR](http://bit.ly/1rkSdcR)) should make it easier for you, our readers, to share news items with *PaLRaP*. And it must be said, this news form should lessen the time we need to edit and proofread each submission.

We are all about efficiency at *Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice*—making sure that *PaLRaP* is useful, productive, healthy, and strong in the present and the future.