

From the Editor

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For the past decade, ARL has published *ARL: A Bimonthly Newsletter of Research Library Issues and Actions*. This publication was originally designed to convey news and to highlight the issues being addressed by Association programs and activities. Over time, the growing acceptance of email and websites allowed the Association to report news faster and more efficiently by these other means. This gave the newsletter leeway to give more focus to the issues and, as a result, to become a very different kind of publication. Increasingly, space was given to longer articles, especially those that describe innovative changes underway in libraries or seek to influence external forces affecting research libraries and scholarly communication.

The broadening of scope in this publication was a natural one, reflecting the same trend underway within Association programs. Looking back, the evolution of the publication was accelerated by the nature of the agenda and the quality of writing contributed to it by the Coalition for Networked Information. The recent arrival of SPARC and the enthusiastic profusion of new members, new ideas, and new authors have tipped the scale. To mark this point, we have decided to publicly state the obvious: labeling this publication an "ARL newsletter" is no longer accurate. With this issue, it is renamed *ARL: A Bimonthly Report on Research Library Issues and Actions from ARL, CNI, and SPARC*.

This title change is a first step in a process to review the publication and assess how it could best meet the needs of the several audiences we intend for it to serve, including all the members and constituencies of ARL and SPARC, and as a key communications vehicle to inform the research library community about CNI's work. The name change is consciously subtle for a practical reason: to avoid triggering work updating library serial records for what may be an interim name change. We do intend, however, for the change to send a signal to readers and potential authors that the scope of *ARL: A Bimonthly Report* reaches beyond ARL institutions and that the format is "more than a newsletter."

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