

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Boston
January 8 - 12, 2016

Topic: JRLYA Editor Midwinter Report

Background: Denise Agosto, the Member Editor of *JRLYA*, has provided the Board with a semi-annual report. As editor, Denise works closely with the *JRLYA* Advisory Board. The journal is YALSA's peer-reviewed, open source research journal that launched in November 2010 as part of the Board's strategy for addressing the Research & Best Practices goal in the strategic plan.

Action Required: Consent

Updates

1. Manuscript Submissions and Solicitation Efforts

During the six-month period reported here, *JRLYA* published two issues. Volume 6, issue 3, was published in August. It included two research papers sent in via open submission. Volume 6, issue 4, was a special themed issue featuring five practice-based research studies. The acceptance rate for submissions for this period averaged 40% acceptance and 60% rejections, which is appropriate for this type of journal.

I have found that themed issues tend to attract more submissions than open calls for submissions. My intention is to continue to release a new call for submissions for a new themed issue every few months. Our next themed issue will feature research related to teens, libraries, and LGBT issues. I expect it to include three or four papers, depending on the results of peer review. We will also publish occasional non-themed issues to accommodate non-themed submissions, as was the case with Volume 6, issue 3.

I have continued to write posts for the YALSA blog to publicize each new issue as it is published. Hopefully the blog posts are encouraging more YALSA members to read the journal.

2. Mid-Winter Paper Presentation Award Papers

As a contingency of winning the award, YALSA Mid-Winter Paper Presentation authors agree to publish their papers in *JRLYA*. *Mega* Subramaniam delivered the 2015 Mid-Winter Paper. She plans to submit her paper some time before Mid-Winter in January. June Abbas and Kyungwon Koh will deliver the 2016 Mid-Winter paper this coming January. We are in conversation about their paper; they plan to submit it in February or March.

NOTE: In my previous report, I requested that the Board ask the Mid-Winter Presentation committee to set a deadline for paper submission after winners deliver their papers, such as

90 days after the paper presentation. If a deadline for paper submission to *JRLYA* still hasn't been added to the award submission guidelines, please recommend to the committee to add one. A deadline would help to ensure more timely submission of the winning papers to *JRLYA*.

3. **Current Issues/Difficulties**

Within the past few months, Anna Lam did a great job of updating the format of published papers; they now look more professional. We still need to clean up the journal homepage to make it look more professional. I also still hope that journal staff will look into getting *JRYAL* indexed by EBSCO's Library Literature database (<http://www.ebscohost.com/academic/library-literature-information-science-full-text>) to increase visibility to library school students, library school faculty, and others. Doing so would increase our readership and impact.

Additional Resources

JRLYA website, <http://yalsa.ala.org/jrlya>