

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, Chicago
June 28 – July 2, 2013

Topic: JRLYA Editor Annual Report

Background: Sandra Hughes-Hassell, the Member Editor of *JRLYA*, has provided the Board with a semi-annual report. 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 goal in the strategic plan.

Action Required: Consent

Updates

1. Recent Publications

We have published three papers since ALA Midwinter 2013.

In “Taking a Dip in the Crazy Pool: The Evolution of X-Women from Heroic Subject to Sexual Object”, Suzanne M. Stauffer examines gender stereotypes and social attitudes toward women in the evolution of the female X-Men. Stauffer concludes that “nearly all of the X-Women, regardless of their individual personality, physical characteristics, or superpower, share the same pattern of development. They are hypersexualized and hyperfetishized physically, emotionally, and psychologically.”

In “This, That, Both, Neither: The Badging Of Biracial Identity In Young Adult Realism” Sarah Hannah Gómez draws on theoretical and historical research in psychology and sociology to examine biracial identity development in six realistic young adult novels. Her analysis focuses on three issues related to racial and ethnic identity development: confrontation, community building, and naming.

In “YA Literature: The Inside and Cover Story” Regina Sierra Carter focuses attention on how teens of color are depicted on the covers of contemporary YA novels. Inspired by the controversy that arose around the cover art selected for Justine Larbalestier’s *Liar*, Carter examines three other popular YA novels that have been published with different versions of cover art. Her goal: to discover which versions of YA cover art mimic the majority-view (or all-white world of publishing) and which ones actually mirror the story of minority/mixed-race characters present in the books.

2. Dissemination

- a. YALSA staff and the JRLYA advisory board use a number of additional avenues to announce new articles, including (but not limited to) the YALSA Blog, YALS, YALSA E-News, ALISE Youth Sig listserv, JESSE, and LM-NET.
- b. Tweeting (and retweeting) is also an important dissemination avenue
- c. *JRLYA* is featured in the Library and Information Science [LIS Publications wiki](#), which gathers information about publications that LIS professionals might want to write for. I'd like to solicit your feedback for possible enhancement and additional content for *JRLYA*'s wiki profile at:

[http://slisapps.sjsu.edu/wikis/faculty/putnam/index.php/The Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults](http://slisapps.sjsu.edu/wikis/faculty/putnam/index.php/The_Journal_of_Research_on_Libraries_and_Young_Adults)

3. Manuscript Submissions

In addition to the articles discussed in #1, we had two other submissions. The reviewers rejected one; I determined that the other article, which was focused on school libraries, was more appropriate to a practice-based journal such as *Teacher-Librarian*. Both individuals were notified.

4. Recommendation:

Once the new editor has been hired, I would recommend the redesign of the *JRLYA* website begin. It would be best if this occurred in conjunction/coordination with the new web design for YALS as we discussed at midwinter. As part of the redesign, it is important to capture statistics on site visitors and article downloads if possible.