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Stepping into the Future

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As we begin a new year, our thoughts naturally incline toward stepping into the future, and change – change in who we are, who we want to be, and what we want to achieve. This is the first issue of the *Student Research Journal* that I have the honor to introduce as Editor-in-Chief, and, more significantly, the first issue published under our new title, *School of Information Student Research Journal* (SRJ). This new title reflects changes at San Jose State University, as the program evolves to meet the challenges of information professionals in the twenty-first century. Although the name of the journal has changed, our mission has not. We are still committed to being the only double-blind, open access, peer-reviewed library and information science journal to publish graduate student research. Here at *SRJ*, we are dedicated to publishing excellent scholarship and sharing it with the larger LIS community. In this issue, we are pleased to present to you two articles that address this theme of change. Our invited contribution discusses changes that are ongoing in our field, while our regular article explores directions in which it still needs to change.

For this issue, we have an invited contribution from Bernd Becker, who addresses the myths surrounding information literacy and digital literacy, and examines the different elements of the two types of literacies (p. 1). Becker discusses the different behaviors associated with a digitally literate individual, and how information literacy is evolving as the Information Age becomes the Digital Age. Becker describes digital literacy as “something much greater than just learning how to use software or digital technology” (p. 5). Becker serves as the SJSU Martin Luther King, Jr. Library liaison to the Psychology Department, the Child & Adolescent Department, and the Counselor Education Department. He also serves as the Collection Development Coordinator at the King Library and is a regular author for the Taylor and Francis journal *Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian*. He teaches courses for the iSchool, notably the course on Information Literacy and Learning. We appreciate Mr. Becker’s willingness to provide an article for *SRJ*, as instruction continues to be a growing field in the area of information science.

We also have a peer-reviewed research article for this issue written by Patricia Mars, titled “Gender Demographics and Perception in Librarianship.” This essay explores gender issues and stereotypes in the field of library and information science by analyzing data on current trends in libraries (p. 1). In addition to her analysis, Ms. Mars provides options for moving forward and combating issues of gender inequality in the profession. This article is timely, considering the current social climate and focus on women’s issues in the United States. Mars is currently a student in the Library and Information Science program at the Catholic University of America.

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thank you to the faculty and staff here at San Jose State University. We could not do this without your support and guidance.