Collaboration—All Over the Map

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We are pleased to present another issue of Collaborative Librarianship. Rather than a topical focus seen in the last issue, in a literal and figurative sense, vol. 2, no. 3 is "all over the map." The lead article presents a detailed account of a joint project of digitizing archival collections in Russia and at the Colorado State University. Discussing related challenges and successes, the article not only provides an important profile of collections that just recently have become accessible to a broader community of inquirers and researchers, it constitutes an excellent case study in digital archives development.

This issue also includes two items specifically addressing topics pertaining to public libraries. The first provides a narrative on the relatively early adoption of chat reference service at San Jose Public Library. Among other things, it provides on the practical level a glimpse into the historical development of virtual reference service. The second is an interview with George Jaramillo, Library Director of the Town of Taos Public Library, in New Mexico. Covering a number of bases this issue, an article on teaching government documents discusses aspects of educational philosophy that promote effective instruction and highlights the crucial role enthusiasm plays in effecting transformation.

"From the Field" articles include a piece on partnerships with student organization to promote library services and resources. Another discusses library-faculty partnership opportunities related to developing grant proposals. Yet another article explores the Open Access (OA) movement and shows how libraries can lead the way to greater acceptance of OA in scholarly communication.

Our popular columnist, Nicole Engard, provides another engaging account of recent developments in web technology that can be used effectively to promote and enhance collaboration. Rounding out this issue, two reviews are presented, one of Biblios.net and its use in collaborative cataloging, and the other of top-selling PDF applications for the iPad.

We invite reader response to any of the information and opinion found in these articles. Some responses may be considered for publication in an upcoming issue of Collaborative Librarianship. Also, in the interest of collaboration, should you want further information on a topic addressed in an article, or if you would like to initiate a conversation, please contact the author directly via the email address provided.