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Editorial

Jane Buggle

Studies in Arts and Humanities
Dublin, Ireland

Unfortunately this mass-production university model has led to separation where there ought to be collaboration and to ever-increasing specialization. [1]
Professor Mark C. Taylor, Columbia University

A distinguishing feature of Studies in Arts and Humanities (SAH) Journal is that it is published jointly by the Library of Dublin Business School (DBS) and the SAHKartel, which comprises academics from across the higher education sector in Ireland and beyond. Although a relatively new development in Ireland, academic library publishing is well established in some parts of the world. The Library Publishing Directory 2017 details the library publishing activities undertaken in 118 academic institutions in the US, Canada, Brazil, parts of Europe, and Australia.[2]

The publishing role of academic libraries has been a natural development. Libraries have provided a comprehensive range of research supports to faculty including provision of guidance on getting published, bibliometrics, copyright and author rights, funding sources and applications, archiving on institutional repositories and preservation. Librarians have the technical know-how to manage a variety of platforms, to apply metadata to ensure maximum visibility, and they already have established relationships with the electronic database vendors who can aggregate new content via their discovery tools. Vandergrift and Bolick state that "the core library value of access supports the great opportunity to share knowledge and push innovation, thus driving our entry into publishing…as libraries invest more in this space, we must uphold our values and principles of access and discoverability."[3]

Academic libraries offer varying levels of publishing services. Some offer journal hosting on their institutional repositories. Others offer hosting on specialist platforms such as Open Journal Systems (OJS) or the Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress), along with guidance and training services. Columbia University Libraries' Centre for Digital Research and Scholarship (CRDS) offers a range of seven library publishing support models starting at low grade gratis support to comprehensive fully charged offerings.

DBS Library and the SAHKartel use an OJS platform to manage the publishing process, from author submission to journal hosting via the peer-review and copy editing

[1] Mark C. Taylor, "End the University as We Know It," *The New York Times*, April 26, 2009, http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/27/opinion/27taylor.html.
[2] The Library Publishing Coalition, *Library Publishing Directory 2017* (Atlanta, GA: The Library Publishing Coalition, 2016), http://www.librarypublishing.org/sites/librarypublishing.org/files/2017%20Directory.pdf.
[3] Micah Vandergrift and Josh Bolick, "'Free to All': Library Publishing and the Challenge of Open Access.," *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication* 2, no. 4 (2014): 107, doi:10.7710/2162-3309.1181.

processes, of SAH Journal. DBS librarians set up the OJS platform, subscribed to Cross Ref to obtain article DOIs, liaised with the British Library to secure permanent archival, uploaded the final peer-reviewed content to the journal platform, organised the layout for print on demand via Lulu (http://www.lulu.com), and successfully applied to EBSCO (https://www.ebscohost.com/titleLists/hsi-coverage.pdf) and the Directory of Open Access Journals (https://doaj.org) for the journal to be added to their platforms for discoverability. As full co-participants, librarians and faculty have reached out to their academic and practitioner networks cross-institutionally for Advisory Board and Editorial Board members, collaborators, peer reviewers and content.

Charles Watkinson, Associate University Librarian – Publishing, University of Michigan, considers the benefits to the library of involvement in publishing to lie in increased visibility and understanding of library services.

> The Library is invisible to many faculty members who do not realize when they access e-resources from their offices that librarians have made all this possible. Providing services like publishing makes the library relevant to their work in new ways and an open access approach amplifies the impact of their research…The library is a logical place to coordinate all this work and leverage central services to maximize its impact.[4]

The collaboration between librarians and faculty on SAH Journal has produced much more than a publishing and dissemination infrastructure. It has in fact produced a dynamic synergy which helps to dismantle and disrupt the separate academic silos that are a dominant feature of the academic world today. The breaking down of silos is at the very heart of the SAH Journal mission. Tapscott and Williams warn of the inherent dangers and the loss of opportunity of academic silos. They advocate for the development of a much wider international university model, "The 21st-century university will be a network and an ecosystem—not a tower—and educators need to get going on the partnerships to make this work for students."[5] Library-faculty publishing is one step towards the creation of meaningful partnerships across disciplines, institutions and countries.

In a powerful piece in the Guardian newspaper, Terry Eagleton argued that the humanities have been so devalued and underfunded that the very nature of the university has been diminished to that of "technical training facility or corporate research institute".

> What we have witnessed in our own time is the death of universities as centres of critique. Since Margaret Thatcher, the role of academia has been to service the status quo, not challenge it in the name of justice, tradition, imagination, human welfare, the free play of the mind or alternative visions of the future. We will not change this simply by increasing state funding of the humanities as opposed to slashing it to nothing. We will change it by insisting that a critical reflection on human values and principles should be central to everything that goes on in universities, not just to the study of Rembrandt or Rimbaud.[6]

With the advent of the Trump presidency in the United States and with the resurgence of the far right in parts of Europe, we have no reason to be complacent about future funding for the arts and humanities within academia. Lyn Pasquerella, President of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, cautions:

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[4] Charles Watkinson, "Enquiry," November 19, 2016.
[5] Dan Tapscott and Anthony D. Williams, "Innovating the 21st Century University: It's Time!," *Educause* 45, no. 1 (February 2010): 24–25.
[6] Terry Eagleton, "The Death of Universities," *The Guardian*, December 17, 2010, 17th December 2010 edition, https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2010/dec/17/death-universities-malaise-tuition-fees.

> ...we need to be vigilant in rebutting accusations of irrelevance and illegitimacy leveled specifically at the liberal arts and sciences and to recognize those charges for what they are: collusion in the growth of an intellectual oligarchy in which only the very richest and most prestigious institutions preserve access to the liberal arts traditions. Trump's ostensible presumption that college is only about workforce training is dangerous to our democratic future.[7]

Open access publishing also represents a powerful opportunity to remove barriers to the inclusion and engagement of members of the public into the intellectual debate and discourse that is taking place within universities and colleges. This is particularly important at a time when open knowledge bases are under threat, for example, 343 public libraries have closed in the UK over the past six years.[8] Open access publishing can engage and empower those who are traditionally excluded and disenfranchised from the flow of high quality intellectual output.

On reflection, SAH Journal has accomplished its goal of breaking down the divisions that exist between academics and practitioners as articulated in the editorial of the inaugural issue. This editorial, jointly written by the Editor in Chief, an academic, and the Managing Editor, a librarian, states:

> We envision future issues where poetry, photography and fiction will sit comfortably alongside insightful academic contributions. We hope for SAH Journal to become a global multidisciplinary place of encounter for students and faculty, for academics and librarians, for those within the walls of the university and for those beyond.[9]

This exciting fusion of the librarian-faculty publishing partnership has provided a readily accessible, open access platform where the intellectual output of students, practitioners, artists and academics is conflated, producing a reinvigorated and inclusive cross-fertilisation within the arts and humanities sphere. At a time when the humanities are under threat, the breaking down of academic silos, the forging of partnerships between students, librarians and faculty and the open dissemination of the intellectual output of the humanities across academia and to the public can only help to strengthen and sustain the future of the arts and humanities.

The fourth issue of SAH Journal reflects the diversity of content and the eclectic range and forms of submissions envisioned above. Brian O'Keeffe examines the landscape of Irish-American adoptions in the pre-legislation period of 1947-1952. Naomi Wilson's experimental film-essay combination explores mythology and the collective unconscious through the film-as-art genre. Julie Morrissy looks at the book-length hybrid poetries of current female North American poets through the lens of Marshall McLuhan's "Newspaper Landscape". Art activist, Biancoshock has generously allowed use of his art work on the cover. A contextualizing interview about his career and vision is also included. In late 2015, SAH Journal held a public interview with the creators of the groundbreaking RTE series, Love/Hate; James Flynn (producer) and Stuart Carolan (screenwriter). The transcript is published here. Mark Ward's poignant original poem, Blackbird is featured. Connor Owen argues for the integration of ecocriticism, Bookchin's social ecology theory, Critical Realism

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[7] Lynn Pasquerella, "The Problem with Trump's Proposal on Student Loans and the Liberal Arts (Essay) | Inside Higher Ed," accessed December 6, 2016, https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2016/07/29/problem-trumps-proposal-student-loans-and-liberal-arts-essay.

[8] "Libraries Lose a Quarter of Staff as Hundreds Close," *BBC News*, March 29, 2016, http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-35707956.

[9] Alexander Kouker and Conor Murphy, "Editorial," *Studies in Arts and Humanities Journal* 1, no. 1 (June 2015): 3–4.

and John Dewey's aesthetic philosophy to form a layered framework for the examination of all aesthetic objects. We are also very pleased to publish a new play written by Tom Madden to coincide with the 1916/2016 centenary celebrations: *Seán MacDiarmada: Signatory to Proclamation – Executed after the Rising of 1916 - Leitrim to Kilmainham*.

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