



## Editorial

### Mel Collier

Chairman of the Editorial Board

### Raf Dekeyser

Managing Editor

We wish to welcome you most warmly to the first issue of LIBER Quarterly in its new form. After considerable discussion within the LIBER Board and its committees and as also discussed during the LIBER conference in Barcelona in 2011, our journal will from now on be a fully peer-reviewed publication. In so doing it is intended that LIBER Quarterly will bring its readers theoretical and professional articles of high quality with the authority accorded by a rigorous peer reviewing process.

LIBER Quarterly was first published in 1991, and has for 21 years served the LIBER community well, with news and contributions from the research libraries in Europe, under the enthusiastic editorship of successively Hans-Albrecht Koch and Heiner Schnellling, Peter te Boekhorst and Ulrike Scholle, Trix Bakker and last but not least Inge Angevaare. It became an on-line journal in 2003 and a fully Open Access one in 2008.

Not only is this the first issue of LIBER Quarterly in its new style and with a renewed content approach, but it is also the first issue published in the OJS interface of Igitur. In spite of the fact that the volume numbering is simply continuing the previous numbering, you may actually consider it to be a completely new journal: a peer-reviewed scientific journal about library and information sciences. Inge Angevaare will continue bringing the news from European research libraries and papers in which practical experiences are

shared, but these contributions will be found on a special resource platform on the LIBER website. LIBER Quarterly will from now on be dedicated to papers that conform to somewhat stricter scientific criteria. On the one hand we are looking for theoretical contributions, e.g. from the specialists working in our research libraries and in our departments of Library and Information Sciences. On the other hand, we will continue to welcome descriptions of examples of good practices, as long as they are underpinned by good research or by a systematic approach, and those that may lead to general conclusions in a broad cultural and institutional landscape. Especially welcome are all innovative contributions related to the activities of LIBER and its members, with an emphasis on collaborative initiatives and library cooperation within Europe.

In order to run this journal, a truly international Editorial Board of experts in the field has been established, and LIBER is grateful to all its members who have so generously accepted to participate in this mission.

We also realize, of course, that we are confronting a difficult task. Raising the scientific quality of a journal can only happen through the application of strict selective measures (some standard wisdom tells us that journals with high impact parameters usually also have high rejection rates...). Finding a sufficient number of interesting papers on a regular basis will therefore remain a challenge. LIBER has with this new vision clearly chosen for a high quality Open Access European journal (and this without publication charges), and we hope that the LIBER membership and the European experts in information sciences will support this effort by submitting their valuable contributions.