

Celebrating 25 Years of *portal: Libraries and the Academy*

Ellysa Stern Cahoy

As the Editor of *portal: Libraries and the Academy*, I am delighted to welcome our readers to *portal*'s 25th year! In this Editor's note, I am pleased to introduce our participation in a new open access model for *portal* content and share our plans for celebrating our journal's 25th anniversary.

Participation in Project MUSE's Subscribe to Open Program

portal was founded in 2000 as a response to the shifting landscape of scholarly publishing, particularly following the 1999 acquisition of the *Journal of Academic Librarianship*'s publisher by Elsevier. This acquisition led to increased subscription costs and underscored the necessity for researchers to take a more active role in scholarly publishing.¹ In *portal*'s inaugural issue, Managing Editor Gloriana St. Clair outlined her vision for the journal, highlighting the need to address high institutional subscription costs for serials.² St. Clair referenced the Create Change Initiative, a national effort launched by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), SPARC, and the Association of College and Research Libraries to expand access to serials content and promote journal publishing through nonprofit and independent publishers, including university presses and academic associations.³ As a librarian-led journal published by Johns Hopkins University Press, *portal* embodies this aim to ensure scholarly communications are accessible and open.

This issue remains pressing. In her editorial marking *portal*'s 20th anniversary, Editor Marianne Ryan emphasized the ongoing need to explore open-access options for *portal* content.⁴ It is fitting, then, that in our 25th anniversary year *portal* joins Project MUSE's Subscribe to Open (S2O) Program. This initiative enables the journal to offer its current-year issues as open access content, without requiring Article Processing Charges (APCs).⁵

Here's how S2O works: each year, Project MUSE establishes a sustainability threshold for a journal's gross revenues; if this threshold is reached by March, all articles published within that calendar year are made openly accessible through our Project MUSE

portal. The process then resets each January, while older content remains accessible to subscribers. We extend our thanks to Project MUSE and Johns Hopkins University Press for supporting this innovative approach to enhancing access to current humanities and social sciences scholarship.

In addition to S2O participation, *portal* has provided online access to current preprints since 2010.⁶ These are available via *portal*'s preprint server (see <https://preprint.press.jhu.edu/portal/>). We regularly share links to preprints and author interviews on LinkedIn as well—be sure to follow us there for the latest *portal* updates and social media content.⁷ Through S2O and our preprints, we are advancing our founding editors' commitment to broadening access to *portal* content. I welcome any questions from our readership regarding *portal*'s continuing dedication to supporting open access and our participation in the S2O program.

Commemorating Our Silver Anniversary

Our Editorial Board has been busy preparing for *portal*'s 25th anniversary for over a year. Past Editor Marianne Ryan led a subgroup of Board members—including Ellysa Cahoy, Vicki Coleman, Veronica Arellano Douglas, Donna Ferullo, Kate Johnson Okayasu, and Kyle Roberts—in planning ways to honor this milestone. Together, the subgroup worked on a series of initiatives, including developing a special silver-accented cover for this year's print issues and crafting a series of editorials highlighting past Editors and longstanding and influential members of our Editorial Board. This issue includes the first in our anniversary editorial series: an interview with Past Editor Marianne Ryan, conducted by Board member Kate Johnson Okayasu. Thank you to Marianne and our subgroup members for their terrific and thoughtful work planning for our 25th year! We are also grateful to Karen Coughlin, Senior Graphics Designer at Johns Hopkins University Press, for designing our beautiful commemorative cover, and to our Johns Hopkins University Press Publisher, Bill Breichner, for his continued, steadfast support.

Here's to the next 25 years of *portal*! May our journal continue to be accessible, to inspire, challenge, and support the academic library community for generations to come.

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Notes

1. Steve McKinzie and Jocelyn Godolphin, "Rough Seas and the Journal of Academic Librarianship: Differing Opinions by Two Academic Librarians," *Library and Information Science Research E-Journal* 11, no. 1 (2001), <https://doi.org/10.32655/LIBRES.2001.1.3>.
2. Gloriana St. Clair, "Through *portal*," *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 1, no. 1 (2001): vi–vii, <https://doi.org/10.1353/pla.2001.0012>.
3. Ray English and Larry Hardesty, "SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION: Create Change," *College & Research Libraries News* 61, no. 6 (June 1, 2000): 515–18, <https://doi.org/10.5860/crln.61.6.515>.
4. Marianne Ryan, "Coming of Age: *portal* at 20," *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 20, no. 1 (2020): 1–5, <https://doi.org/10.1353/pla.2020.0000>.



5. Project MUSE, "Subscribe to Open for Project MUSE," accessed October 30, 2024, <https://about.muse.jhu.edu/subscribe-to-open/S2O/#intro>.
6. Ryan, "Coming of Age," 3.
7. *portal's* LinkedIn profile can be found at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/portal-libraries-and-the-academy-0190ba2a2/>. To follow *portal* on X (Twitter), see @PortalJournal (<https://twitter.com/PortalJournal>).

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