

JLSC

ISSN 2162-3309 | JLSC is published by the Pacific University Libraries | <http://jpsc-pub.org>

Volume 8, General Issue (2020)

A Commitment to Anti-racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion from JLSC

JLSC Editors & Editorial Board

JLSC Editors & Editorial Board. (2020). A Commitment to Anti-racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion from *JLSC*. *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication*, 8(General Issue), eP2398.
<https://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2398>



© 2020 *JLSC* Editors & Editorial Board. This open access article is distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

EDITORIAL

A Commitment to Anti-racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion from *JLSC*

Editors and Editorial Board

Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication

We, the editors and editorial board of the international publication *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication (JLSC)*, acknowledge that racism is a global phenomenon and condemn it unreservedly. Further, we categorically condemn the pervasive state-sanctioned violence of white supremacy and systemic racism, which has allowed for long-standing racial injustice, police and military brutality, and the exploitation and dehumanization of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) across the globe.

JLSC is tied closely to the practices and institutions of publishing and academe, which like any institution, as [Elaine L. Westbrook writes](#), “[operate] through a set of legacy systems that have been in place for decades. These systems implicitly and explicitly perpetuate inequity because they have been traditionally centered on whiteness and patriarchy as a default.” We must actively resist our journal’s discriminatory legacies and advance practices that promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice.

As knowledge workers, our labor is inherently political: whether it’s the topics we feature; the platforms we use; the make-up and selection of our editorial board and reviewer pool; the authors we publish; the articles we choose; the credit we give; or the projects we showcase, these decisions all present opportunities for our journal to address justice, equity, and inclusion.

As the [RaceB4Race editorial board recently pointed out](#), “It’s time to end the publishing gatekeeping!” We need to ask ourselves, “Who decides what our field looks like?”—and not just in a theoretical way, but in a hands-on reassessment of our own praxis. Who are our gatekeepers—the peer reviewers, the editors, the editorial board—and how are they selected? What editorial, evaluative, and review practices and policies can we create to guide



© 2020 *JLSC* Editors & Editorial Board. This open access article is distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

their decision-making in a way that addresses systemic bias and provides equal and ethical access to publishing opportunities?

We collectively commit to furthering and deepening anti-racist practice at *JLSC*. Guidelines already exist, in the form of the Library Publishing Coalition's [Ethical Framework for Library Publishing](#) and ACRL's [Open and Equitable Scholarly Communications: Creating a More Inclusive Future](#)—it's high time now for their prioritization and implementation. As a beginning but not an end, we commit to:

- Building the racial and geographic diversity of the journal's editorial team and editorial board.
- Actively recruiting submissions by BIPOC scholars and practitioners in our field, including first-time authors.
- Actively recruiting and empowering a diverse peer reviewer pool in accordance with the recommendations laid out in the editorial team's [Peer Reviewer Toolkit](#).
- Reviewing journal policies and guidelines to ensure inclusivity, to remove any biased language, and to minimize barriers to submitting to and participating with the journal.

We ask our contributors, readers, and broader community to hold us accountable to these commitments. We welcome you to engage with us.