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First Thoughts on the Framework

Robert Schroeder
Portland State University, schroedr@pdx.edu

[SPECIAL INTRODUCTION]

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By Robert Schroeder
Co-editor of *Communications in Information Literacy*

Welcome to this special section of the current issue of CIL entitled "First Thoughts on the Framework." This section consists of seven featured articles that look at the ACRL's new *Framework for Information Literacy*. As you may recall, CIL featured a special issue (vol. 7, no. 2) devoted to broadening the conversation and debate during the formation of what became the new *Framework*. This current issue echoes some of the same topics, but attempts to look at the *Framework* in terms of "What now?"

Many of the pieces in this special section were invited, and I wish to thank all of the authors who so generously answered my call for speculative and provocative essays. The voices of librarians involved with the creation of the *Framework* as well as those who provided constructive criticism are represented here. So, too, are some unexpected voices. Two unsolicited, but highly relevant manuscripts serendipitously arrived in the CIL inbox as this issue was being developed. These two works are of a practical nature and show concrete ways the new frames can inspire and aid our teaching.

All of these works give us ways to begin to look at the question of "What now?" Some authors whole-heartedly expound the positive attributes of the *Framework*, while others critique, invoke a more balanced and nuanced approach to its adoption, and cautiously discover useful tools and concepts scattered throughout its text. One author, in particular refrains from looking into the *Framework* at all, but instead uses it as a springboard to question our roles in academe and to dream of even bigger things.

As always I must extend my thanks to Christopher Hollister and Stewart Brower, the founding editors of *Communications in Informing Literacy*, for not only creating this platform for discussions of vital issues, but for also being the encouraging and supportive colleagues they are. I hope these "first thoughts" challenge and inspire you to engage with this new *Framework*, to transform your information literacy instruction, and to share your new practices and dreams with all of us in turn.