Richard W. Clement

Editor's Note

THIS ISSUE REPRESENTS a very significant effort over the course of the last two years on the part of our two guest editors, Penny Welbourne and Kathleen Burns, both of Yale University. They have looked at diversity as something to be collected and have assembled a remarkable group of articles that chronicle the difficulties and successes and ultimately the great importance of such collecting. We hear a great deal about diversity on university campuses and elsewhere these days. And we all strive to increase the diversity of our faculty and student populations, but diversity is much more than numbers (as important as they are as indicators). Diversity is a value and an attitude that we must recognize and promote as a core educational outcome. We must teach our students to be open to diverse viewpoints and perspectives and to value the diversity that comes from all people around the world. We are in a unique position in special collections to support these efforts through our collecting, as the six articles in this issue amply demonstrate.

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