LOEX has had a consistent format for the past few years—a Book Review, a TechMatters, an interview of an accomplished figure in the world of library instruction, along with a practical article or two based on an idea, insight and/or experience. Occasionally, we’ll sprinkle in a note from a grad student or an article on graphic design.

This format allows for plenty of flexibility—for example, we typically don’t review “library” books, but instead any recent books having to do with technological advancements, brain-based learning, social science, psychology and the like that could help a library instructor, which gives us a wide-range of books to consider. Similarly, there are so many impressive librarians out there that choosing less than a handful a year to highlight gives you plenty of high-quality options.

That said, if there is some issue of information literacy or the library instructor life that LOEX readers would find helpful for us to cover, please let us know; if it is a rich enough topic area, perhaps we’ll make it a regular or semi-regular column. Or perhaps we’ll just solicit an article or two for consideration regarding that particular topic.

In this issue of the Quarterly, we have an article on leading by example in using failure as a way to promote learning. In TechMatters, we review an online tool that helps keep you and all your many, many tasks on schedule. Our Book Review focuses on one of the biggest trends of the last decade, the increasing prominence of big data and the tools to analyze it. Finally, we end with an interview of a librarian who not only uses data, but also her K-12 background.

Happy instructing,
Brad Sietz
Director