Most folks know one (big) way to contribute to LOEX is to serve on a local committee and host a conference in your city. But beyond that, a question I am occasionally asked is, are there other ways to contribute and help out LOEX? There definitely are, and those options have become more formalized relatively recently, ever since LOEX become established as an independent 501(c)(3) in mid-2013.

One well-known way to contribute is to submit an article for consideration for publication in the Quarterly. But perhaps you’d like to be on the other side of this equation? Articles are reviewed by myself and one other person from our small group of volunteer peer editors. These editors are typically drawn from the LOEX Advisory Council, a group selected by LOEX’s Board of Trustees from nominations collected by the LOEX Director (i.e., me). Along with editing the Quarterly, the Council helps with other tasks, such as helping with session proposal review for the LOEX conference, updating the resources on the LOEX website, and giving advice to the Director on issues pertaining to LOEX (e.g., how to continue to improve the conference, or how to make membership more valuable). So if you are interested in volunteering to be on the Council or just helping LOEX in some other way, please feel free to email me.

In this issue of the Quarterly, we have an article on how primary sources can help empower students in doing research and another on some fun activities to make one-shot instruction sessions more productive for both you and your students. There is a TechMatters about a tool that can help you organize your research. Finally, we an interview with Heidi Steiner Burkhardt, who has done some interesting work in the digital space and helping create a good user experience for distance learners.

Happy instructing,
Brad Sietz
Director