

The current (March 2019) issue of *Information Technology and Libraries* sees the first of what I know will be many exciting contributions to our new “Public Libraries Leading the Way” column. This feature (announced in December 2018) shines a spotlight on technology-based innovations from the public library perspective. The first column, “The Democratization of Artificial Intelligence: One Library’s Approach,” by Thomas Finley of the Frisco (Texas) Public Library, discusses how his library has developed a teaching and technology lending program around artificial intelligence, creating kits that community members can take home and use to explore artificial intelligence through a practical, hands-on, approach.

If you have a public library perspective on technology that you would like to share in a conversational, 1000-1500-word column, submit a proposal. [Full details and a link to the proposal submission form](#) can be found on the LITA Blog. I look forward to hearing your ideas.

In addition to the premiere column in this series, the current issue includes the LITA President’s column from Bohyun Kim to update us on the 2019 ALA Midwinter meeting, particularly on the status of the proposed ALCTS/LLAMA/LITA merger, and our regular Editorial Board Thoughts column, contributed this quarter by Kevin Ford, on the importance of user stories in successful technology projects.

Articles in this issue cover the topics: [improving sitewide navigation](#); [improving the display of HathiTrust records in Primo](#); [using linked data to create a geographic discovery system](#); [measuring information system project success](#); a [systematic approach towards web preservation](#); and [determining textbook cost, formats and licensing](#).

I hope you enjoy reading the issue, whether you explore just one article, or read it “cover to cover.” As always, if you want to share the research or practical experience you have gained as an article in *ITAL*, get in touch with me at varnum@umich.edu.

Sincerely,

Kenneth J. Varnum, Editor
varnum@umich.edu
March 2019

