

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Denver
January 23-28, 2009**

Topic: Research Journal Mission & Refereeing

Background: At the 2008 Annual Conference meeting, the Board voted to establish a research journal and directed the Research Committee to “create a mission statement and refereeing process for the journal and submit to the Board for approval at the 2009 Midwinter Meeting .” Sandra Hughes-Hassell, the Research Committee Chair, submitted the

enriching theory, research and practice in young adult library services and welcomes manuscripts from them.

Draft Refereeing Process

JOURNAL NAME is a refereed journal using double-blind reviewing. The editor conducts an initial assessment of all manuscripts and may reject papers that are clearly outside the mission and scope of the journal. Submissions that clearly do not meet the standards for quality established by the journal's mission statement may also be rejected by the editor without further review. Manuscripts that reflect the journal's mission and are within the journal's scope are sent to at least two reviewers. For this process, the cover sheet with authors' names and other identifying materials is deleted. The review process usually takes ten to twelve weeks. Authors may not submit the manuscript to other publications while a JOURNAL NAME review is in progress.

Reviewers address the content and style of the manuscript. Main areas of consideration are:

- Does the manuscript address a significant problem, topic, or issue?
- Does the manuscript make a new contribution to theory, research, and/or practice?
- Does the literature review place the research in perspective?
- Is the methodology used appropriate to the problem, topic, or issue?
- Does the evidence presented support the conclusions?
- Does the author communicate effectively?
- Do graphs, charts, or other graphics contribute to the manuscript?

Reviewers place the manuscript in one of five categories:

ACCEPT: Publish as it stands **REVISIONS REQUIRED:** Accept, but needs further work as indicated in comments **RESUBMIT FOR REVIEW:** Encourage a resubmission with major revisions indicated, with no guarantee of publication **REJECT:** For reasons indicated in comments **NOT APPROPRIATE FOR JOURNAL NAME:** Suggest other journals

After the decision has been made, the editor writes to the author accepting the manuscript, accepting it contingent on revisions, encouraging a resubmission, rejecting it, or suggesting submission to another more appropriate journal.