It has been a tremendously busy operational year for the IASA Journal and other IASA publications, hence the delay in delivering issue 49. First and foremost, *IASA-TC 06 Guidelines for the Preservation of Video Recordings* made its draft debut after a long editorial push over its 300+ total pages. Carl Fleischhauer contributes a short announcement in this issue of the journal to demark TC 06's release. Secondly, with tremendous support from Lindsay Mattock, new IASA Journal Editorial Board member for North America, I completed a proposal to the IASA Executive Board to receive approval to move the journal to an open access model (see below for more details). Finally, a new cohort of editorial board members has been named to replace a previous cohort whose terms had completed. I want to thank Kate Murray, Grace Koch, Shubha Chaudhuri, and Zane Grosa for their time and support as members of the editorial board. And, I am happy to welcome new members Lindsay Mattock, Irfan Zuberi, Eleonore Alquier, and Claude Mussou to the editorial board. I look forward to learning from you and welcome your vision as we continue to grow and improve our shared vehicle for professional and intellectual knowledge.

In this issue, five articles address an equally diverse slate of topics that are all of importance to global audiovisual archives communities. Reto Kromer gives us a first-person account of the opportunities and pitfalls that data migrations provide, recognizing the difficulty of the process while recommending opportune improvements. Edward A. Benoit looks closely at the opportunities of user-generated description for time-based media content. Literally joining forces, Brecht Declercq and Irfan Zuberi discuss their respective successes in Belgium and India to develop mature and successful audiovisual digitization, digital preservation, and access programs. Notably, Zuberi gives an overview of the first organization ever to receive an ISO 16363 certification as a trustworthy digital repository. Elizabeth Surles looks closely at the use of *Describing Archives: A Content Standard* and its applicability within sound and audiovisual collections. Surles research engages longstanding discussions around the best practices of cataloging and describing complex content found in time-based media collections. Finally, Sami Meddeb and Louis Fortin team up for a brief musing on the importance of harnessing the power of the Internet to improve access to soundtracks.

Although I hope you are excited to move on to the content of this issue, I do hope you take a minute to read what follows.

As the *IASA Journal* prepares for its move to be an open-access journal, I would like to publish the text of the justification that was presented to the Executive Board in Accra, Ghana in October 2018 for approval (which was given unanimously by the Executive Board) and was subsequently presented to the membership during the General Assembly in Accra, Ghana in October 2018.

IASA Journal Online Open Access Justification

The *IASA Journal* Editor proposes that the Executive Board approve the transition of the *Journal* to a hybrid paper/digital open access format where articles are released immediately to the public through the IASA Journal OJS platform while also compiled and printed for members as issues are completed. This proposed change will:

- Provide broader, free immediate access to the journal content ensuring equitable access to the research published in the *Journal.*
- Encourage more publications to the Journal by colleagues who will not publish in IASA because it is distributed only to members/subscribers and is not available as Open Access.

- Move the *Journal* to a digital platform that will streamline the process of peer-review and publication and automatically generate metadata necessary for indexing the publication.
- Continue to support the needs of members and authors who require a printed paper copy of the Journal
- Begin to reduce the costs associated with the publication of the *Journal,* releasing monies to fund the indexing of the *Journal* across scholarly databases to increase journal readership.
- Provide flexibility to the editor, reviewers, and authors now that peer-review is in full effect, allowing completed and approved papers to be released digitally when more labor-intensive reviews cause delays for full Issues to be completed.
- Bring the IASA Journal on par with IASA's treatment of Technical Publications which are provided in digital form for free to the entire world as soon as they are published.

Open Access Models

The "open access" as defined by the Budapest Open Access Initiative[1] includes peer-reviewed research that is:

- published on the public internet
- available for users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to full-text of the articles, without cost
- indexed with metadata that may also be crawled, shared, or used as data
- and only constrained by the confines of copyright, which is maintained by the authors of the published work

The Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities[2] similarly defines open access as "free, irrevocable, worldwide, right of access to, and license to copy, use, distribute, transmit, and display," work with proper attribution to the authors. Both the Budapest Initiative and Berlin Declaration define the broadest level of access to ensure the free and open dissemination of knowledge.

Many journals within the archival field are available as open access. There are three different models: open access with a fee, open access with embargo, and true open access.[3] *Archival Science* has opted for the most restrictive of these models. Published by Springer, *Archival Science* allows authors to individually opt-in to open access publication of their contributions. There is currently a total of 10 articles (of 398) available as open access. Springer states that articles published as open access in this hybrid model are accessed and cited at rate higher than those that are not. However, authors are charged a $300 fee per article to publish their articles as open access.

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1   Budapest Open Access Initiative, available at https://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/boai-10-recommendations. Accessed 2018-11-25.
2   The Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities, available at https://openaccess.mpg.de/Berlin-Declaration. Accessed 2018-11-25.
3   For additional discussion of open access models, see Paul Conway and William E. Landis, "Open-Access Publishing and the Transformation of the *American Archivist* Online," *American Archivist* 74 (Fall/Winter 2011): 482-505, published following the SAA's decision to open access to back-issues of the journal.

Journals such as *The American Archivist* and *Archivaria*, published by similar professional organizations opted for the second model, making the back-issues of the journal openly available to non-members. An embargo has been placed on the three most recent years of the publication, which are accessible only to members of the professional organizations. The abstracts and table of contents are open, but the peer-reviewed content is restricted to members of the respective organizations. Articles become open access once the embargo has passed and authors are not charged a fee. While this model does open the majority of journal content, the most recent scholarship remains inaccessible to non-members.

Journals such as *First Monday, Code{4}Lib*, and *Ariadne* have _fully embraced the open access model, providing free and open access to all articles immediately_. In this model authors are encouraged to select an Creative Commons license for their articles and the articles are immediately openly available on the web. ***This is the model that the editor recommends for IASA Journal.*** Serving a global audience, this will ensure that the excellent scholarship published in the journal will be accessible to all archivists in the field, matching the policy for the Special and Technical Publications.

Increasing Participation

Many institutions are encouraging scholars to publish their work in open access journals and readers are increasingly expecting open access to materials. The Association for College and Research Libraries (ACRL) adopted an open access policy in June 2016[4] encouraging all librarians to make their research openly available by either publishing in open access journals, opting-in to open access when available through publishers or depositing their work in a local institutional repository. *IASA Journal* has an opportunity to embrace a similar open policy and contribute to the growing body of open scholarship. *IASA* would be the first of the professional associations for audiovisual archivists to adopt an open access model - both AMIA's *Moving Image* and *ARSC Journal* are restricted to members - and the first of the archives journals to be truly open access. Removing these barriers to access will not only provide venue for scholars seeking to publish in open access journals, but also has the potential to increase the readership for the journal. As an example, a 2008 study of journals published by the American Psychological Society found that open access articles had 89% more downloads and 23% more unique visitors.[5]

Author Rights

Open access does not mean that authors give up their Copyright over their work. Authors grant a limited license to the journal to publish their material and should be encouraged to adopt a less-restrictive Creative Commons License for their work. The Budapest Open Access Initiative suggests a Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) license that allows for unrestricted use of published works as long as the work is properly attributed to the author. *First Monday*[6] allows contributing authors to select a Creative Commons license of their choice or publish completely within the public domain and can serve as a model for *IASA Journal*.

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4   Available at http://www.ala.org/acrl/standards/openaccess. Accessed 2018-11-25.
5   Davis Philip M, Lewenstein Bruce V, Simon Daniel H, Booth James G, Connolly Mathew J L. Open access publishing, article downloads, and citations: randomised controlled trial BMJ 2008; 337 :a568. Accessed 2018-11-25 at https://www.bmj.com/content/337/bmj.a568.
6   Available at https://firstmonday.org/ojs/index.php/fm/about/submissions#onlineSubmissions. Accessed 2018-11-25.

Open Journal Systems Platform

The final requirement for open access is the generation of harvestable metadata. In order to meet this requirement, the *IASA Journal* must consider a publication management platform. The *IASA Journal is* currently testing the Open Journal Systems platform. This open-source software is designed to host open access journals and supports the entire publication cycle. OJS is fully customizable and can be easily integrated into the IASA website, maintaining the organization's branding. The platform is automatically indexed by Google Scholar and produces metadata that can also be shared with and harvested by other indexing services, allowing the *Journal* to be discoverable by a wider audience. Other open access journals like *First Monday* use OJS to manage and publish open access research.

Cost

A digital open-access model will **reduce** the cost of publication for the *IASA Journal.* The OJS platform is freely available and the cost of hosting is minimal. The *Journal* is already produced in a .pdf format and can continue to be made available in this format. As of 10-2017, Ninety-six IASA members elected to receive the journal in electronic format only. In the initial phase of this proposal, those preferring to read a hard-copy will continue to receive a printed copy once an entire Issue is complete. Additionally, the back issues of *IASA Journal* have already been digitized and can easily be integrated into the OJS system, representing a minimal effort by the editorial team as the project moves forward. The largest cost associated with the publication will be the indexing services, which are estimated to be approximately $500 per year (for DOI support using CrossRef services, and for membership with DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals). If approved, the Editor will begin coordinating the logistics for these two indexing requirements.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts on the contents of this Issue, as well as on the future of the IASA Journal.

Bertram Lyons, CA
IASA Editor