Capturing Changing Conversations: A Round Table Discussion on Editing and Publishing LIS Volumes

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Abstract
Interested in editing and publishing books in the LIS field? Join us to hear from three roundtable discussants on how to organize, edit, compile, and publish books. You'll hear about their perspectives and experiences working with different publishers, identifying collaborators, and organizing and managing the editing process. Editing a book, which is more of a marathon than a sprint, can be viewed as an exercise in risk-taking: you are uncertain of the types and quality of proposals you'll receive, and you may encounter unexpected challenges such as contributors dropping out, delayed submissions, publishers changing, etc. The discussants will also share the advantages and disadvantages of editing volumes compared to other scholarly activities such as publishing a peer-reviewed article or book chapter. This session will generate a lively discussion on today's publishing trends and the need to focus on important topics in the LIS field.

Discussion
Questions:
1. Can you talk briefly about your edited volume project, including challenges/risks and benefits?
2. Tell us about your editing process (choosing and working with a publisher, organizing the volume, giving feedback to and communicating with contributors, etc.).
3. Why is editing volumes more fun than writing a scholarly article (or not)?
4. What are some trending topics today that LIS research should cover?
5. What is one piece of advice that you can give to those new to editing volumes or who would like to try it?

Question one centered on how to provide meaningful feedback to contributors.

For question two, organizing, negotiating with publisher, seeking peer reviewers, and setting norms with co-editors was addressed.

Question three focused on lifting others' work up and opportunities, like symposia, that volumes can present. For question four, participants shared research ideas.

For question five, facilitators recommended clearly communicating and negotiating with publishers, expecting the unexpected, and being organized.

During the Q & A period, the editing and feedback process was discussed, as was the importance of a solid foreword.