

CFP: New Directions for Interdisciplinary Collaborations in Periodical Studies

The Research Society for American Periodicals invites submissions for a panel to be held at the American Literature Association conference in Chicago, May 26-29, 2022.

In their foundational 2006 essay, “The Rise of Periodical Studies,” Sean Latham and Robert Scholes argued that “periodical studies should be constructed as a collaborative scholarly enterprise that cannot be confined to one scholar or even a single discipline.” What collaborative scholarly enterprises are possible today?

This panel seeks presentations that reflect or raise the full range of collaborations in periodical studies across disciplines, communities, and professions. From the robust community around digitization programs to the popularity of newspapers as research data for computer scientists, how can we take stock of new trends and reimagine the shape of periodicals scholarship?

We invite proposals on any aspect of these conversations, including but not limited to:

- What research coalitions with librarians and archivists might emerge around Chronicling America, the Digital Library of the Caribbean, or other landmark collections?
- Given the preponderance of white-identifying periodicals in many of the largest collections, what interventions are needed to ensure fuller access and engagement with Black, Latinx, Native/Indigenous, multilingual, immigrant, or other minoritized periodical cultures?
- What research questions or projects might engage with computer scientists in areas such as data science, machine learning, or natural language processing? What can we learn from each other? What can we learn from periodical collections as data?
- What are the trends in digital projects on periodicals? (see RSAP’s Digital Projects Open List: <http://bit.ly/rsap-list>)

Please submit a one-page abstract and a brief c.v. by January 14, 2021 to Jim Casey at jccasey@psu.edu. Please use the subject line “RSAP/ALA proposal.”

Prospective inquiries welcomed. We especially encourage proposals from collaborative teams, graduate students, contingent faculty, independent researchers, museum workers, computational researchers, archivists, librarians, and others within and beyond higher education.

(Published an article in the last two years on periodicals? Please submit by Dec 15 for the RSAP Article Prize: <http://www.periodicalresearch.org/rsap-article-prize-2020-21>.)