

PRESIDENT'S AND EDITORS' MESSAGE 2020

AS THE FALL SEMESTER REACHES ITS CLIMAX, WE FIND OURSELVES in the midst of a global pandemic that has now taken over a million precious souls from us in the U.S. and abroad. We are all left to work in circumstances that feel anything other than familiar, ranging from the inconvenient to the dangerous.

It is in light of these very difficult circumstances, for authors and editors alike, that we welcome with no small amount of wonder the publication of *Textual Cultures* 13.2, an issue that gathers together an array of diverse voices on topics from Spanish American textuality, editing and its history in Italy, Poland and Finland from the Middle Ages to the present, as well as nineteenth-, twentieth- and twenty-first-century representations of the book and its editing in Anglo-American literary culture. We are especially grateful to Andrew Reynolds for contributing — for the first time in the journal's history — a constellation of essays devoted to important research on colonization and editing.

Though divided into “constellations” based on geo-political boundaries that are themselves often problematic, the twelve essays of 13.2, each one a provocative and exacting study, together demonstrate a remarkable unity in their focus on the centrality of textuality and textual editing as vehicles of powerful cultural and intellectual voice and reform. Few are the places where we have the opportunity to read essays in our own and related areas of research, but also far afield, where the germination of ideas, solutions and fundamental questions can suggest new perspectives in our own research.

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