Spring 2015: LGBT in Michigan
Deadline: March 15, 2015

It has been nearly two decades since Gerry Crane was forced to resign from a West Michigan school for being gay. In the years since his dismissal, there has been a cultural shift toward acceptance of LGBT individuals and a corresponding push for full legal equality. Despite this progress, however, many challenges remain for LGBT teachers, pre-service teachers, students, parents, and administrators. This issue seeks to explore how English language arts teachers in Michigan can address these challenges. Authors may wish to answer one or more of the following questions:

- What works of young adult or adult literature have you used to address issues of sexual orientation and gender identity?
- What writing assignments have you used to foster understanding and respect between lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight students?
- What pedagogies or policies have you enacted to ensure that LGBT students are respected and heard?
- If you are an LGBT teacher, how does your school community support or fail to support you?
- How can elementary students be introduced to differences in sexual orientation and gender identity?

Fall 2015: Assessment
Deadline: August 15, 2015

In this era of measurement mania, assessment has become a highly politicized and controversial topic. For many teachers, the term evokes high stakes standardized testing, common assessments, and teacher evaluation. Despite these pressures, however, many ELA teachers and professors develop meaningful, authentic ways to measure what their students learn. The LAJM is soliciting articles related to assessment and welcomes research, discussion of methods, reflective narratives, and original creative works. Authors may consider one or more of the following questions:

- What methods have you used to assessing student writing, reading, or literature study?
- How has technology changed the way in which you assess student work?
- How do you prepare students to succeed on high stakes standardized tests?
- How should teacher education programs assess its candidates?
- How has your department or school resisted or reshaped standardized curricula and accompanying assessments?

Please submit all manuscripts through Scholarworks (scholarworks.gvsu.edu/la jm).

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