

## The IALJS and *LJS*: A Decade of Pioneering Scholars and the New Wave

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I join the chorus of thanks flowing to the IALJS on the tenth anniversary of *Literary Journalism Studies*. As was the aim of the founders of the IALJS, literary journalism is now established internationally as a field of academic inquiry. Without a peer-reviewed academic journal, particularly one the quality of *LJS*, this could not have happened.

From the beginning, *LJS* has encouraged a wide range of contributions. The first issue, published in 2009, included articles analyzing literary journalism from countries as diverse as Canada, Germany, and Australia, not just the United States. In this way, the journal has played a key contributory role in the development of a global cultural history of journalism—mostly through the publication of research done locally by passionate researchers in their home countries.

I personally would like to thank the IALJS and *LJS*—and the people behind them—for setting me on my current research path of examining the history of Australia's literary journalism. It is a fascinating area of study and one that has been inspired by the pioneer researchers in the literary journalism field and further enabled by the framework of inquiry established by the IALJS and *LJS*.

By tracing the cultural history of Australian literary journalism, I hope to fill a gap in the knowledge of our national literature, while placing the form within a cultural, economic, and political context, both locally and internationally. This has been possible only because of the work that is being completed on literary journalism, by a diversity of researchers from a range of countries, published largely in the pages of this wonderful journal.

