It’s clear when speaking with new Executive Director of the Metropolitan Library System (MLS), Tim Rogers, that his top priority is community service. New to the system as of January 5, 2015, Rogers believes that the system isn’t in the book business or even the information business, “We are in the community business. We’re in the business to make the individuals within our community better... to better our patrons’ lot in life.” Rogers is building a strong connection with the public he serves. His community spirit is such that he and his wife, Carla, spend their weekends travelling and spending time in the various neighborhoods that the individual MLS locations serve. He wants to feel connected to the people and see what each area is like. So far, he says that he hasn’t found an area where he would not want to live. He says that Oklahoma feels like home and it is where he wants to end his career many years from now. He feels that one of the great things about the MLS is that each library location serves a very different niche. He had the chance to do storytime, (which he hopes to be able to do again) at multiple locations and found that the atmosphere and patrons were very different everywhere he went. He says that while the goal is the same for each program, the diversity makes each event different. This is where we as librarians make a difference in our community. Rogers feels that it isn’t about the materials or services we provide, “It’s about the way we do it that’s meaningful to the community where we do it. I love this job.”

When asked about what book he is currently reading, Rogers proffers two titles: *Aligning Strategy and Sales* by Frank Cespedes and *Learn or Die* by Edward Hess. With regards to the first, Rogers likens libraries to a business wherein we are trying to get something into people’s hands. For us it is books and information as opposed to a retail product. For the latter he speaks to learning being imperative to success. Again, he applies these uncommonly held thoughts to libraries and explains that, “libraries in general face an uncertain future. Book stores have gone away. So, how does the library continue? We learn what we need to in order to make sure the library is valuable to the community. We need to set Con’t.
From the President
Tara Hixon
Library Media Specialist
Piedmont High School
OKSL Chair
Oral History in Libraries

—Tanya Finchum & Juliana Nykolaiszyn, OSU Library
WE Have a New Book Review Editor

Congratulations to our new Book Review Editor, Michele Seikel, from OSU Stillwater Libraries! Please send her any ideas you have for reviews, and/or send her your name and she will be sending out a list of books to review. Contact her at michele.seikel@okstate.edu.

Thank you!

Calling All OLA Members!

Membership renewals are now determined by the anniversary from your last renewal. To determine your renewal date, log into your OLA account at www.oklibs.org, or contact Kay Boies at the OLA office (405) 525-5100. Since memberships used to run July through June, many memberships still have the July 1 anniversary date and are up for renewal. Be sure you are up to date and renew today!

Joanne Huff
Library Technical Assistant

Reminder!!! Note new deadlines!

Oklahoma Librarian deadlines for submission have changed, and will be the 15th of the ODD months of the year. The deadline for the next Oklahoma Librarian is July 15, 2015. What did you do at Conference?? Send articles! Send articles on what your library is doing, what your DROC is doing (a workshop?), and who’s who in your library. Do you have a topic of interest? Write an article! Do you want to review a book? Contact Barbara Miller at barbara.miller@okstate.edu. Get involved,! This is YOUR newsletter and a way to let everyone in the state know what YOU are doing for libraries in Oklahoma!
Books Behind Bars: Improving Access and Service at the Oklahoma County Juvenile Justice Center Library

At the Oklahoma County Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) in Oklahoma City, up to 82 young people a day await court hearings. Thanks to the recent efforts of many in the community, these youth will read while they wait! The project began over a year ago when staff at the JJC decided to convert a small gymnasium into a library to host training sessions and school activities. In this makeshift space, they bundled their worn and weary collection of books onto the broken shelves of some mismatched bookcases and hoped for the best. It soon became obvious that they needed more than a room and some books to have a functional library.

Thus, administration at the JJC sought assistance from the School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS) at the University of Oklahoma. In the spring of 2014, volunteers from the school’s student organization (OLISSA), headed by (now alumnus) graduate student Cameron Smith, began by weeding the collection of books and getting rid of those that were not useful to the Center. At the same time, they solicited roughly 2,000 book donations from the Metropolitan Library System (MLS) and the OKC Thunder Read to Achieve Program. A $5,000 grant from the OKC Friends of the Library, written by Stacy Shrank, LIS graduate student and Employee Development Coordinator for MLS, enabled the purchase of ten bookcases; Commercial Concepts, a local contractor company, volunteered its time and services to assemble and install them. Also through the efforts of Shrank, it was discovered that because this baby JJC Library falls under the wing of the much larger mother MLS, an outreach teacher for their "Come Read with Me" program can work directly with JJC youth twice a week on literacy skills and on engaging them with new materials. In addition, since JJC students qualify for the Extended Educational Services of Emerson High School in OKC, that school will provide a rotating collection of fresh books from its library. A further partnership with Chesapeake Energy will bring in more volunteers to help maintain the collection, and a grant from Target purchased popular audiobooks to enhance the collection.

While SLIS volunteers worked to update and organize the books and shelves, they realized that the room itself needed renovation in order to increase its functionality and to provide a more relaxing, communal space. In its current state, this room, used by 14-20 people at a time, features a concrete floor partially covered by rubber mats, concrete walls, a 20' ceiling with buzzing indirect lights,
and a storage area partitioned off with chain-link fence. A few heavy folding tables lean against one wall and plastic chairs are stacked in the corner.

In Fall 2014, members of the SLIS Library Administration class furthered the project when they sought out the expertise of the Community Health and Environmental Design Studio (CHED) in Tulsa. After studying the space and needs, CHED drew up three-dimensional models for consideration. These plans included ways to address acoustics, lighting, seating, and safety concerns. Citizens for Juvenile Justice (CJJ), the non-profit group established to work with the Juvenile Justice Center, will submit a grant to help cover the costs associated with these improvements to the Inasmuch Foundation in Fall 2015.

In the meantime, an advisory board was formed to oversee and make recommendations for the site on an ongoing basis. This board, which meets monthly, includes: Ms. Tayler Wolfe, Assistant Facility Administrator, Oklahoma County Juvenile Justice Center; Mrs. LaVetta Dent, Director of Outreach Services, Metropolitan Library System; Dr. Cecelia Brown, Professor and Director, OU School of Library and Information Studies; Mrs. Cathy Carlson, Library Media Specialist, Emerson High School, Oklahoma City Public Schools; Dr. Buffy Edwards, Alternative Education/Library Information Specialist, Norman Public Schools; and Ms. Lindsay Gowan, Sr. Librarian & Information Resources Analyst, Chesapeake Energy.

The project has evolved from its original hope of just bringing some order to a haphazard collection. Updating the JJC library will better the environment for staff and youth, while creating educational opportunities that could impact and potentially change the course of affected young people’s lives. The Advisory Board welcomes suggestions and encourages sharing of any experiences in similar settings. They are particularly interested in how best to organize this small collection and to check out resources without an online Integrated Library System (ILS). They are seeking recommendations for potential architects or contractors. For more information or for those interested in helping, please contact Dr. Cecelia Brown at cbrown@ou.edu or 405-325-3921.

Photo credit: Photos were taken to compliment the final report of Jakob Hertzel, Rebecca Kennedy, Alex Schaefer, Stacy Shrank, and Amanda Yamaguchi for their Library Administration course LIS 5970 at the University of Oklahoma, Fall 2014.

Article written by Robin Miller, OU SLIS graduate student and customer service representative at the Edmond branch of MLS.
“Marvin E. McKee Library’s Spectacular & Truly Eclectic Sheet Music Collection”

Sheet Music is not the first thing that usually comes to mind when thinking about an academic library. But in times of economic down-cycles, librarians learn to make the most of what resources are at hand. This is the case with the “donated” music collection which had no home, or organization, and was almost unusable. Tapping the ingrained organizational skills that most librarians possess, librarians at McKee Library decided to take on the task of making this donated collection a “star” attraction to be used by musicians in the Oklahoma Panhandle and surrounding region.

This eclectic collection, moved to the library by the O.P.S.U. Liberal Arts Department several years ago, aroused the interest of Dr. Katy Levings, Reference Librarian, and she has taken a special interest in making the collection accessible to area music directors and musicians. Organizing, cataloging, and electronic scanning have been part of the process. Since Katy is a musician and plays with the OPSU band, she has the expertise needed to make the collection very practical and usable. Over 1,000 pieces of music have been cataloged since October, 2014. Interlibrary Loan statistics and LibGuide download stats are proving that this collection is being considered for use by musicians, teachers, instructors, and students, not just locally but through-out the United States.

The process has included the co-operation of library director, Tony Hardman, and the secretary, Dawn Lloyd has ordered an endless stream of materials to facilitate the music processing. Students have been assigned to assist in the filing and cataloging of the music materials under the guidelines of Katy and Bonnie Maille, Library Technical Assistant. Katy and Elaina Stewart, Systems and Electronic Resources Librarian, have also been chosen to present a poster on the unusual collection at the upcoming Oklahoma Library Association Conference in Midwest City on April 30-May1, 2015. The public may view the collection in McKee Library LibGuides at http://libguides.opsu.edu/sheetmusic. In addition, the poster created for the OLA Presentation was used by OPSU Band Director, Charla Lewis, at a recent Music Directors Conference, inviting all service area band directors to review and use the collection for teaching and performance.

Creating a viable, exciting library holding out of a dusty, stagnant, collection of sheet music has been an adventure. There are even bigger plans for this resource, including grant writing to allow for the digitization of the publications, making this a truly “Eclectic” and “Spectacular” McKee Library Sheet Music Collection.

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Economic Census of 2012 Adds 55 New Oklahoma Cities and Towns

The Economic Census measures businesses like the Census of Population and Housing measures people and housing. Taken in years ending in “2” and “7” and conducted primarily online, the Economic Census of 2012 has been publishing data at http://www.census.gov/econ/census/ for several months now, but so far detailed data for Oklahoma’s cities, towns, and Census Designated Places (CDP) is months away from being released. Look for the most detailed economic data at the end of 2015. But for the first time the Census Bureau has lowered their threshold for reporting data from its previous standard of a place having either a population of 5,000 or having 5,000 jobs, to the new standard of a place having either a population of 2,500 population or having 2,500 jobs. If your city or town had a population of 5,000 or had 5,000 jobs in 2007 you can expect to again get this level of detailed data. But now an additional 55 populated places in Oklahoma will have a new depth of detailed data about their local economies and businesses for the first time. Here is a list of these incorporated cities and towns and unincorporated Census Designated Places – Alva, Atoka, Bethel Acres, Bristow, Broken Bow, Cache, Chandler, Checotah, Cleveland, Collinsville, Cordell, Davis, Dewey, Drumright, Eufaula, Fairview, Fort Gibson, Frederick, Harrah, Healdton, Havener, Hinton, Hobart, Hominy, Hugo, Jay, Jones, Kingfisher, Lindsay, Longtown CDP, McLoud, Madill, Mangum, Mannford, Marietta, Marlow, Muldrow, Newcastle, Nichols Hills, Nowata, Okemah, Park Hill CDP, Pawhuska, Perkins, Pocola, Roland, Sayre, Slaughterville, Spencer, Stigler, Stilwell, Stroud, Sulphur, Tishomingo, Tonkawa, Turley CDP, Verdigris, Walters, Wewoka, Wilburton

After this data has been released, beginning in March of 2015, your library or another location in your city, town, or CDP can get training about how to access and use this data from me and my training associate Melanie Poulter, Community Service Council, Tulsa. In January and February we will offer one workshop each at ODL and at the Community Service Council to which we will invite you and others. Then we will offer to bring our workshop to you. Expect to see marketing e-mails from me beginning in December. Who will be interested in attending this training? Anyone who works in economic development, nonprofit associations, businesses, local and tribal governments, educational institutions, and interested individuals. More later.

Steve Beleu
Federal Documents Coordinator
Oklahoma Department of Libraries
ourselves up to be better. We need to learn. [To do that] you hire the people you want to learn from, not the people you want to learn from you.” In fact, of all the job duties he has on the horizon, he looks most forward to being a part of the job interview process for hiring new talent. Rogers believes that one of the best indicators of a good potential hire is the ability to get excited about ways to re-think what the organization can do with this person on staff. While a hiring committee can tell an applicant about all the great things the organization can do, it is even better when an applicant describes the cool things they can do to improve the organization.

Rogers believes that hiring the right people is key to a well-run library. “When you hire a great manager who goes on to hire great staff who touch other people in the organization and community, that’s the legacy.” Inspiration is one of the most important driving factors in a healthy work environment and he hopes to be an inspiration to his employees. “I would like to think that my energy about being a librarian and serving the community comes through. I do think that inspiration is really just sparking something in yourself,” even if that means providing employees with the tools to move on from MLS to become a leader somewhere else. Fostering that spark in people to do great things is a huge compliment to the library that first saw it in them and Rogers hopes the MLS can do that for its employees.

So, who inspired Tim Rogers? The first librarian to make an impact in his life was his high school librarian, Jim Low. However, the difference he made in Rogers’ life was as his role as drama coach rather than his role as librarian. Rogers remembers attending table readings and being awed at the abilities of the actors to turn themselves into someone else. He realized that such a skill could be easily adapted to everyday life, and he used this exercise to grow from a shy kid who was too self-conscious to read aloud into someone who loved public speaking. The way he sees it, public speaking is an opportunity to relate the material one is conveying to themselves, just as an actor relates themselves to a character in order to prepare for a role. Rogers asserts that “90 percent of what I say [in a speech] is about me – even if it isn’t about me – and who knows more about me than me.” The second person to ignite his passion for librarianship was Malcolm Hill, the director of a regional consortium with which Rogers was associated. Hill was one of the first librarians he knew who thought of libraries as a business. Hill is also the reason Rogers is now in the public library domain as opposed to academia. Rogers started out wanting to be a professor of Finno-Ugric linguistics in a university setting. However, after realizing that the very limited scope of universities offering this field of study (a grand total of one) had a pool of potential candidates that were exceptional, he decided he would likely not be hired. He was on the verge of buying into a deli shop in Scarsdale when a friend suggested he try library school. There weren’t many men in the field and libraries were aplenty. Although he began his journey into librarianship with an academic frame of mind, he now loves being a public librarian. He fondly says that “different pieces of wacky happen all the time in public libraries… you get asked the weirdest questions. Oftentimes it’s stuff you can’t find from Googling. You have to dig for it. The joy on that person’s face when you get them that piece of information is priceless.” This kind of communication is what he feels public libraries are all about. But lest one think that Tim Rogers is all about serious library business and ideals, he confides that if he were to step outside himself and put on his “heroic costume” it would be as a character in a mystery novel such as those authored by Robert Parker. “I want to picture myself solving those crimes. [In real life] I’m not like that.” But he isn’t far off.
Rogers does want to help people. It’s one of the guiding factors to his desire to be a librarian. In his early library school days as a student worker in the university library, he says that he looked more like an undergrad than a graduate student, completing the look with long hair, shorts and skater shoes. He feels his look made him more approachable, and he was able to help a lot of students get to a point in their research where it was not hopeless, which was a good feeling for him. The job gave him feedback on his performance which he had been lacking in his previous career pursuit. It [librarianship] came easy, he says.

Rogers says that while the role of the library should be in providing information to help people make decisions, it is difficult to provide the whole spectrum of that in one setting. Any one institution cannot serve all needs. MLS strives to extend the services it provides beyond what is available at each location by offering outreach services. This allows for more ways of accessing services offered and is possible due to talented staff and adequate funding. But even with outreach, MLS is not able to provide everything for its customers. While the MLS has positive relationships with organizations like Pioneer Library System and the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Rogers hopes to be more engaged in the act of partnering in the future. “I like team efforts. I believe in working together.”

Rogers describes his leadership style as “collaborative” as well, and feels lucky to be joining the well-constructed and organized leadership team already put in place at MLS by former director Donna Morris. Rogers replaced Morris as executive director when she retired after 45 years of service in 2014, and Lee Brawner who served as director for 27 years before Morris. He knows he has big shoes to fill. “The scariest part of this job is that these shoes could be cement shoes. If I don’t do a good job the organization could suffer. Donna really prepared the organization for succession. I’m set up for success. It’s not a job where you have to do reclamation. It’s not a fixer upper. This is a highly functioning organization that is at the top of its game. I want to add pieces to help the organization take advantage of the opportunities we have. I just have to make sure I respect the organization.”

Gaining insight and understanding of the organization he now leads is what Rogers feels will be the most difficult part of his new position. For now, Rogers is moving slowly and asking a lot of questions. He has made a promise to himself not to make any major decisions or changes in the first 90 days before really understanding how things are set up. He says that one of the best things about being new is that it is expected that a lot of questions will be asked, though he hopes he will never the luxury and ability to continue to ask questions. Once he really gets his feet wet he can start introducing new ideas and strategies, although he is careful to state that he knows they must fit into the existing service. He will make sure that anything new is done not because he wants to do it but because it needs to be done. One idea he has is getting the outreach department more involved in business service support for entrepreneurs; something that he has seen prove successful at other libraries. He would like to see libraries as a place to turn to for meeting space and business incubation, and possibly even set up a laptop lending program. Whatever plans are made, though, he wants to make sure the organization always is cognizant of why they are doing it and for whom. A challenge he will face is making sure he is keeping the goals of the organization in alignment with serving the community to its fullest potential. For Rogers, that will mean listening to people. “The biggest challenges are always people challenges. You can get formulaic about how to build a library, but it’s the people who challenge you on a daily basis because they’re smart. They ask questions you hadn’t thought of.

Photo: Chris Larwig, Metropolitan Library System

Gillian (Knoke) McFall / Librarian
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Digitarians @ Your Library

Norman West, the newest branch of the Pioneer Library System (PLS), opened November 1, 2013, inside the new Pioneer Building, formerly a Borders bookstore. This library houses the PLS Westside 24-hour Library, one of the first in the nation, located at 300 Norman Center Court in Norman, Oklahoma. Norman West is a high-tech facility which offers a distinct service prototype and technological resources like no other. It serves as a training library for new employees of the Pioneer Library System, which serves Cleveland, McLain and Pottawatomie Counties. With more library users utilizing electronic materials, Norman West Library employs staff who are trained as Digitarians and who are pioneering the way of the future for libraries.

What is a “Digitarian?”

Norman West defines a Digitarian as someone who primarily does not use content in physical media, but mainly uses electronic formats such as a mobile device, tablet or laptop for their informational and reading needs. For staff who are Digitarians, we take the definition a step further by becoming the first “paperless” branch and offering faster, more relevant customer service to our customers.

One of the purposes for training staff as Digitarians at Norman West is to integrate digital services into the branch, so customers can receive help from the staff to set up with the tools to become Digitarians themselves. By tailoring resources, PLS is in the position to lead the digital revolution by expanding and supporting digital opportunities for all of our customers.

Another reason for staff to be Digitarians is that the transactions at this branch are made by the customer at self-check stations or automated service points such as the 24-hour Library and movie box, or the MediaSurfer iPad Station. Even payment of fines and charges is fully self-service at multiple service points, including the 24-hour Library. Norman West staff are trained to use technological devices and offer support, which enables customers to take the library with them wherever they go. Often, our customers have the device with them when they visit the library. Being Digitarians allows staff to serve in a mobile capacity and offer technology instruction anywhere in the building or beyond. Staff are able to use the Wi-Fi which extends the building’s walls. In concert with the SirsiDynix MobileCirc App, this allows staff to streamline procedures and automate tasks such as pulling reserves and holds lists, running branch reports, maintaining collections, checking out/checking in items and functioning as a mobile circulation station all while moving freely around the library.

One of the new features is applying for a library card online – no paper forms are needed. With just a few touches on a mobile device, using our website and completing the form, the card is processed in minutes or mailed to you. Again, Norman West bypasses the paper processing and saves the customer and staff time.
saves the customer and staff time.

Another feature we are introducing is wireless and mobile printing. Wireless printing is for customers who are using a laptop inside our wireless network. The customer identifies the laptop they are using, chooses the library’s printer, and picks up their print just like any other print job placed in the building. Mobile printing is for customers who have tablets, phones, or any other mobile device. There will be a free App they can download for their device, and when they want to print they will be able to use our printers just like any other customer.

By implementing the distinct service model to achieve a higher degree of point of contact for customer service, staff trained as Digitarians can better serve customers and feel informed and confident about addressing a variety of questions and service needs. As with any new technology and formats facing libraries today, the role of the staff trained as Digitarians is now becoming crucial, as we are not only improving the self-service experience but providing access to materials, information, programs and services that when combined with Digitarian staff enables customers to connect more to the joy of reading and to information for lifelong learning.

The Digitarian position of the library staff as a community resource and showcase for new technology allows the library to increase technology literacy and improve technology access and instruction for library patrons. As seen through our doors, more library users are utilizing electronic materials and services, as Norman West Library staff that are trained as Digitarians are meeting the needs of the customers who are pioneering the way of the future for libraries.

5. Andy Peters, PLS Associate Director for Technology, e-mail message to author December 19th 2014.

Photo 1  iPad Catalog at Norman Public Library West, photo taken by Nelson Dent

Photo 2  MediaSurfer iPad Checkout Machine at Norman Public Library West, photo taken by Nelson Dent

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Call for Presentations
iCon 2015, an Information Conference for Libraries

iCon is Oklahoma’s premier library information technology conference, bringing together librarians, technicians, developers, and programmers to discuss cutting-edge library technologies. This is the 4th iCon conference and we’re thrilled to bring the conference to Stillwater, Oklahoma!

We’d like to hear from you!

Share your expertise and ideas on technology in libraries.

The Information Technology Round Table of the Oklahoma Library Association invites you to submit a presentation proposal for iCon 2015, an Information Conference, August 6-7, 2015 in Stillwater, OK.

Submissions will be accepted through Friday, April 10, 2015.

Submit your proposal via the online submission form (http://icon2015.org/present/)

Conference information

Format

Session Length: 50 min.
Requirements: Provide electronic handouts

iCon 2015 presentations are 50 minutes, with 40 minutes to present, and 10 minutes for Q&A. Presentations should document technology-related innovations in libraries. A computer, data projector, screen, and microphone will be provided. You will be responsible for bringing all other equipment required for your demonstration, except as agreed to in advance.

Presentation dates and location

iCon 2015 will be held August 6-7, 2015 at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma.
How to submit your proposal

Proposals must include the following:
- Contact information for all speakers. Please note that the person submitting a group proposal will be considered the Program Organizer and the main contact for the presentation.
- Presentation title
- Presentation Description The description should be approximately 500 words, outline the main points of the program, and highlight its relevance to attendees.

Submit your proposal via the online submission form (http://icon2015.org/present/)

Deadline

The deadline for submissions is Friday, April 10, 2015.

Selection criteria

Proposals will be evaluated by the Information Technology Round Table for clarity, originality, and timeliness.

Special attention will be given to proposals that incorporate one or more of these characteristics:
- Generates ideas or report research that contribute to ongoing discussion about the future of libraries
- Demonstrates innovative thinking and/or new perspectives
- Contributes ideas for librarians to be leaders
- Presents strategies for effectively implementing new ideas and technology

Notifications

Notifications will be issued in late April 2015.

Roy Degler
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405 744-6541
ITRT - Chair
Ethics in Law Enforcement Coming to Conference!!!

The OLA Ethics Committee is bringing another stimulating program to the OLA Conference, one sure to spark conversation and debate.

What drives your actions in time sensitive situations dealing with the police? What happens when library policies, the ALA Code of Ethics and police investigations collide? Is your library trained to handle interactions with law enforcement officials?

Panelists reviewing library and police interactions will include Tom Rink and Wayne Hanaway. Tom Rink is a former police officer, who went on to create the Tulsa Police Department library and manage it as a solo librarian until he retired after a 25-year career with the police department. Upon his retirement Tom moved to an academic setting and is now an Instructor for Library Services at Northeastern State University. Tom has been an active member of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) since the mid-90s is the current President-elect of SLA. Wayne Hanaway has been Executive Director of the Southeastern Public Library System of Oklahoma since 1991 is a past president of OLA and served two terms as chair of the OLA Ethics Committee.

Plan to attend the OLA Conference session Ethics in Action: Law Enforcement on Thursday April 30th at 1:30 as these two distinguished librarians discuss the interactions between law enforcement and the library. To learn more about our speakers please visit the OLA Conference homepage.

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Title: Guide to Reference in Medicine and Health. Editors, Christa Modschiendler, retired Biomedical Librarian from the University of Chicago, and Denise Beaubien Bennett, Engineering Librarian at the University of Florida. American Library Association, Chicago, 2014, 468 pages, $75.00 (amazon.com)ISBNs: 978-0-8389-1221-8 (paper); 978-0-8389-1983-5 (ePub); 978-0-8389-1984-2 (Kindle); 978-0-8389-1982-8 (PDF)

This is a well-organized and practical research tool for all and librarians. The book has 13 sections (medicine, bioethics, consumer health, dentistry, health care, international and global health, medical jurisprudence, nursing, nutrition, pharmacology and pharmaceutical sciences, psychiatry, public health, and toxicology). Each section has common subsections such as guides, bibliography, handbooks, encyclopedias, dictionaries, and the newest terrain for searching, ‘internet resources’. These subsections are impressive indicators of the time and knowledge of the subjects that the editors spew into this work. It also aids in the ease-of-use for the users. For example, I gained much useful and even some exotic knowledge under the histories heading in each section.

This work is a well of information on medicine and its related fields. Each section offers a host of useful, often classic, sources. The most entertaining subsection is the ‘medical illustration and images’ on page 131 in the medicine section, which includes colorful atlases, drawings, images. This sort of material is potentially useful for all levels of patron, from consumers to students to researchers.

Links connect the user to important online resources such as PubMed, NLM gateway, NCBI, Merck Index, etc. One example of a great resource is a catalog of teratogenic agents (agents which can cause a birth defect) in the ‘Leung’s Encyclopedia of Common Natural Ingredients Used in Foods, Drugs, and Cosmetics’, p. 325, which also is available on NCBI link (National Center for Biotechnology Information.)

As we all know librarians are addicted to Acronyms, but this book provides full names to the Acronyms for harried users. One crucial point to note is that the index directs you to entry numbers instead of the pages in the book. There is one mistake that I came upon on page 329 under handbooks subsection (entry number 1233): it should read ‘herbs’ instead of ‘drugs’. Overall, this work has an abundance of exceptionally useful information and up-to-date Internet links, offering opportunities for the young and old, children to seniors for ‘show and tell’, a research paper, to check out facts, or read on histories for personal interests. This book is highly recommended in all types of libraries.

Kiem-Dung Ta, Science Librarian
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078

*Modern Spirit: The Art of George Morrison* discusses and celebrates an artist deserving of focus for his body of work. George Morrison’s work is beautifully modern, sometimes surreal, and shows a connection to his passions and environment that are indicative of his heritage. As Rushing and Makholm explain, although George Morrison was a profound Chippewa modernist, his being an American Indian artist was really a journey.

Both Rushing and Makholm have the expertise and experience to provide the first thorough and thoughtfully guided tour of Morrison’s life and work, seamlessly intertwining the two. In addition to the comprehensive information provided about Morrison’s art in the variety of mediums he chose, the authors also direct the readers’ attention to Morrison’s being American Indian and the part his heritage played, and did not play, in his art and his role as an American modernist. Rushing and Makholm demonstrate how Morrison’s work fits into the history of American modern art and delve into the fascinating way an artist’s background or style can influence where the artist fits into the art world and how this changed throughout Morrison’s life.

*Modern Spirit* includes a preface by artist Kay WalkingStick, an in-depth chronology, and eighty-two plates. The book was awarded a 2014 Minnesota Book Award and was a 2014 Oklahoma Book Award finalist for Illustration and Design.

Jessica Moad
Metropolitan Library

Assessing Liaison Librarians: Documenting Impact for Change, edited by Daniel C. Mack and Gary W. White, is a collection of scholarly essays describing how liaison librarians can incorporate assessment into their activities and document the impact of the programs and services they provide. This book begins with a table of contents and an introduction outlining the purpose and content of the book. In chapter one White provides a definition of assessment and explains the difference between assessment and evaluation. He gives an overview of the growing assessment movement in higher education and research libraries and how it affects liaison librarians. In the chapters that follow, contributors address liaison activities relating to research services, library instruction, collection development, scholarly communication, outreach and engagement, and online, blended and other learning environments. The essays address the importance of assessment and the challenges of designing a liaison assessment program, providing readers with an understanding of the issues. In each dedicated chapter experienced professionals provide ideas, tools, techniques and advice on creating and implementing effective programs for assessing the work of liaison librarians. In the final chapter, White discusses the ongoing importance of professional development for liaison librarians. The conclusion by Daniel Mack provides a list of specific actions the library should take to create and implement an ongoing assessment program. Academic librarians will benefit from the ideas and techniques discussed in this work. Assessing Liaison Librarians: Documenting Impact for Positive Change makes important recommendations about the need for an ongoing assessment program in the academic library.

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