

chapter on a library fire in Sweden, discusses the emotional toll taken on the staff of the library. It might be expected that staff members who were actually in the building during the fire and its aftermath would suffer from stress and depression, but librarians at other branches were affected also, for example, by increased workloads and a general sense of powerlessness that pervaded the entire community. Many of the library's regular patrons were also concerned about their library.

Many of the same recovery issues are addressed in the chapter on a library fire in Norwich, England. Both of these chapters show how important communication is during a disaster and its aftermath. By keeping staff and the community updated about progress and plans for the future, library administrators can focus energies and attention on the future, boosting morale and maintaining forward momentum. Regular communication also fosters a sense of concern and goodwill within the community, both of which are valuable assets to a library in crisis. *Disaster Management for Libraries and Archives*, while not as essential as *Disaster Response and Planning for Libraries*, is a valuable complement to it. This book provides a variety of perspectives on some of the issues involved in planning and reacting to different disaster that may befall one's institution.

Neither of these books explicitly discusses the September 11, 2001, tragedy in detail (Matthews and Feather do deal with the destruction of libraries during the war in the Balkans), but it remains the specter at the feast. These events, like the Oklahoma City bombing and other acts of destruction, are grim reminders that we all live in an age with the ever present possibility of disaster. Man can be as pernicious as fire, flood, or earthquake. As unpleasant as disaster can be to contemplate, these books serve to remind all of us that the alternative of willful ignorance or unreasoning

optimism can be even more dangerous.—*Dan Forrest (dan.forrest@wku.edu), Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green*

***Authority Control in Organizing and Accessing Information: Definition and International Experience.*** Eds. Arlene G. Taylor, Barbara B. Tillett. Binghamton, N.Y.: Haworth, 2004. 651p. \$34.95 softbound (ISBN 0-7890-2716-X); \$59.95 hardbound (ISBN 0-7890-2715-1). Published simultaneously as *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* 38, no. 3/4, and 39, no. 1/2.

The International Conference on Authority Control: Definition and International Experiences was held in Florence, Italy, in February 2003. It brought together many respected experts from Europe and the United States for a review of the current state of the art in authority control. The proceedings were originally published in Italian, and this volume represents the English version with a few additional papers solicited by the editors.<sup>1</sup> Almost half the papers were contributed by Italians. There have been a number of works published on authority control in the last two or three decades, but most have focused on the practical aspects of authority work in libraries. This is the first broad and comprehensive overview of the field since the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) institutes in 1979.<sup>2</sup> More than forty contributions are brought together to cover every aspect of authority control today, from international standards-setting developments to a variety of local and specialized projects that incorporate some aspect of authority control.

The proceedings open with an address by Michael Gorman, who was also part of the 1979 institutes. In his usual curmudgeonly style, he gives an overview of the concepts of authority control and a critique of metadata schemas such as the Dublin Core. He argues that such metadata should

be either abandoned or brought up to the standard of traditional cataloging norms.

The rest of the proceedings are divided into five sections. The first is called "State of the Art and New Theoretical Perspectives." Barbara Tillett, who has been so instrumental in the world of authority control for many years, provides a valuable historical review of the last quarter century and elucidates current developments in the field, such as the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR), changes in the concept of Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC), and the Virtual International Authority File. Arlene Taylor reports on a survey of teachers to study how authority control is taught in North American schools of library and information science. The results show general agreement on the importance of authority control, but few indications that students are learning much about it amid the other subjects competing for their attention.

The second, third, and fourth sections form the heart of the book and will have perhaps the broadest interest and value. The full range of standards and activities around the world is described, in most cases by experts who are directly involved in the respective institutions and projects. The second section is called "Standards, Exchange Formats, Metadata." Gloria Cerbai Ammannati describes the efforts of the *Bibliografie Nazionale Italiana* to impose some kind of authority control on its records. Marie-France Plassard describes the work of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) with regard to authority control, and Glenn Patton discusses IFLA's Functional Requirements and Numbering of Authority Records (FRANAR) model. Pino Buizza explores how the concepts of authority control have evolved from the days of the Paris Principles, and Alberto Petrucciani argues for greater attention to the relationships between

authors and works, in the spirit of FRBR. Murtha Baca demonstrates how the concepts of authority control have been entering the world of art and museums, especially through the efforts of the Getty Research Institute, while Mirna Willer's paper outlines the development of IFLA's UNIMARC authorities format.

The third section is titled "Authority Control for Names and Works." The first two papers illustrate how the world of archives is discovering the power of authority control. Archives are moving away from a model where there was a one-to-one correspondence between an archival collection and its creator to one where "more than one creator can be linked to one archive and, conversely, that more than one archival fonds can be linked to one creator" (189). This means that information about creators of archives can be stored separately from the description of the archives and shared among institutions, much as libraries have long done, but archives need to keep much more information about those creators than libraries keep about names in their catalogs. Stefano Vitali describes the International Standard Archival Authority Record for Corporate Bodies, Persons, and Families (ISAAR[CPF]), and Daniel Pitti delineates the Encoded Archival Context (EAC), an XML-based implementation of ISAAR[CPF]. Jutta Weber reports on the Linking and Exploring Authority Files project, which aims to share and combine authority files from a number of European libraries. Various attempts to subject the names of printers, publishers, and booksellers of early printed books to authority control are the topic of Lorenzo Baldacchini's paper, and Richard Smiraglia argues for increased authority control over works.

"Authority Control for Subjects" is the title of the fourth section. The papers in this section examine the SACO Program; Multilingual Access to Subjects, which links English, French,

and German subject heading systems; Faceted Application of Subject Terminology, which is an OCLC project; and the new *Soggettario*, a subject thesaurus for Italian libraries.

The final section is "Authority Control Experiences and Projects." Twenty papers report on various projects that attempt to implement some kind of authority control or develop an authority file. Some of them are limited to a particular library or area. Many of the reports are from Italy, but there are others from France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States, and China.

This book represents a compilation of virtually everything that is known and much of what is in development in the field of authority control at the beginning of the twenty-first century. It testifies to the fact that in a time when keyword searching and googlization seem to be irresistible forces, the importance of authority control in organizing the information universe is being increasingly recognized. The papers are well-written and, though many of them were presumably translated or written by non-native speakers, they are presented in a smooth and colloquial English.—*John Hostage* ([hostage@law.harvard.edu](mailto:hostage@law.harvard.edu)), *Harvard Law School*.

#### References

1. Mauro Guerrini and Barbara B. Tillett, eds. *Authority control, definizione ed esperienze internazionali: atti del Convegno internazionale, Firenze, 10–12 febbraio 2003* (Roma: Associazione italiana biblioteche, 2003)
2. Mary W. Ghikas, ed. *Authority Control: The Key to Tomorrow's Catalog: Proceedings of the 1979 Library and Information Technology Association Institutes* (Phoenix, Ariz.: Oryx, 1982)

#### Brief Reviews

***Case Studies in Library Security.***  
By Bruce A. Shuman. Westport, Conn.:

Libraries Unlimited, 2002. 252p. \$40 hardbound (ISBN 1-56308-936-X).

For most librarians, members of a profession dedicated to helping others, security is usually something to be discussed in whispers or, better yet, left to somebody else. Unfortunately, this attitude leads to problems when the inevitable occurs and a situation requiring quick and correct action develops. It is always better to have put some thought into procedures before the fact than to worry about what one should have done after the fact. Case studies provide opportunities for discussion and reflection without real world consequences, and this collection of case studies on library security is an excellent tool for any librarian who may someday have to face some of the situations delineated here (all of us).

To give the cases described in this book more immediacy, the author has created a community, library system, and cast of characters to set them in. The effect is that of a collection of short stories. An additional innovation is that they are reported conversationally, in the form of memos, telephone calls, and even e-mails. This is generally quite effective, although it can be occasionally distracting when the reader is more interested in how the characters react than in pondering a more appropriate response by their own library.

The author has thoughtfully given attention to newer security concerns as well as the more traditional ones like book theft and disruptive patron behavior. Computer hackers and offensive Web sites are examined as are some more implausible sci-fi issues. The author has not ignored the community-relations aspects of library security either; for example, how the public and the library board might react to new policies and problems. *Case Studies in Library Security* will provide plenty of food for thought for any public service librarian, even one with no direct security