aloging the relatively new forms of publications such as electronic serials and other integrating resources like free Web sites. Beatrice L. Caraway lists examples of the many types of notes that are present in cataloging records for electronic serials. While it is interesting to see the wide variety of ways in which catalogers indicate similar or identical concepts, it might have been helpful if Caraway had provided some analysis of these notes and perhaps indicated a preferred wording or format when possible. Gregory Wool, in “On Pins and Needles: Using Structured Metadata for Collocation and Browsing Capability,” discusses the four methods of providing structure in a catalog—cataloging rules, authority control, categorization, and relationship control—and how they enhance access and retrieval. This is a very stimulating discussion of the role of structured metadata in a catalog, although it does not seem to be directed to the topic of cataloging electronic serials. The principles that Wool discusses are applicable in all catalogs and, in that sense, they are relevant in the section of the book that is concerned with cataloging policies. In the final chapter of this section, Michael Wright describes OCLC’s Cooperative Online Resource Catalog (CORC). While this is a useful description of the CORC service, it is already a bit dated as many of the changes hinted at in the chapter have already occurred.

The fifth section of the book addresses the topic of national projects and local applications. The strongest chapters in this section are the final three. Nicole Hennig describes the development of a database that controlled and provided access to electronic serials and included all of the information required to manage electronic journals, such as licensing information. As the development of electronic journal management systems interests many libraries, this chapter should prove helpful to readers. Evelinde Hutzler and Gerald Schupfner describe the development of a similar database that provides access to electronic journals in a consortial environment in Germany. Finally, David King discusses the efforts of the Kansas City Public Library to manage control and access to their many aggregator titles.

The last section of the book, “Books, Serials, and the Future,” includes two chapters, the first of which, “E-Books: Should We Be Afraid?” by Susan Cleyle, discusses the development of electronic books, portable e-book readers, computer-based e-book readers, and Web-based e-book services. Although Cleyle draws parallels between the development of e-books and electronic journals and makes the case that libraries need to be involved in the ongoing development of e-books, this chapter feels out of place in this book. In the final chapter, “E is for Everything: The Extra-Ordinary, Evolutionary [E-]Journal,” Gerry McKiernan discusses the evolution of the scholarly journal and the many new features that electronic journals provide, such as electronic manuscript submission, refereeing and review, alerting services, personalized e-journals, display control, and more. This is an enlightening and stimulating chapter and, with its visionary theme, the appropriate conclusion to the entire book.

Overall, this book is an excellent addition to the literature on serials cataloging and would be a useful addition to libraries that do not already subscribe to The Serials Librarian.—Rebecca L. Mugridge (rlm31@psu.edu), Pennsylvania State University, University Park


This book, part of the Haworth Series in Serials and Continuing Resources, consists of eleven essays on issues facing those transitioning to electronic journals in library collections—more or less everyone working in a library. The issues include publishing, the use of subscription agents, cataloging, access methods, consortia, statistics, troubleshooting, reserves, accreditation, and databases. The contributors include practitioners in technical services, public services, and systems—all from academic libraries, with the exception of one from a law library—as well as representatives of a subscription agent. Although the book has a publication date of 2004, the content was submitted at the beginning of 2002.

Paul Harwood and Carolyn Alderson from Swets Blackwell in the United Kingdom open the collection with an overview of pricing, licensing, and alternative publishing models in the scientific, technical, and medical arena. They briefly describe the collaborative work of the International Coalition of Library Consortia in the United States and the National Electronic Site License Initiative in the United Kingdom in the areas of pricing, licensing, and usage statistics. There is unfortunately only a bare mention of alternative publishing models such as Paul Ginsparg’s Physics Archive, BioMed Central, and Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources (SPARC), but there is an extensive later chapter by Gerry McKiernan on open access.

Patricia A. Loghry provides a very useful summary exploration of the competing benefits and respective challenges of working with a subscription agent, a vendor/publisher, or a third-party provider in setting up access to electronic journals. Her conclusion is that electronic journals operations need to have a “metamediary”—a single point of contact for extended suppliers—who are the subscription agents. However, the agents need to continue to develop new services, and there needs to be standard-
ized license agreements and a central warehouse with updated information on all URLs.

The chapter on collection management and cataloging of online materials describes a telephone survey conducted by the technical services department of the Newton Gresham Library at Sam Houston State University. The authors conducted the survey to help them develop policies and procedures on collecting, accessing, and cataloging online materials. Seventy college and university libraries, nine junior and community college libraries, and thirteen public libraries received the survey, and 76 percent responded. I thought the analysis of the survey results was not very well presented, consisting mainly of numbers and percentages given in lengthy paragraphs. The conclusion that “libraries do things differently” (45) is not particularly startling or incisive. But the survey itself could be useful as a model for a library to adapt for itself if it wanted to embark on a similar fact-finding project.

Lee Ann Howlett’s chapter on Internet protocol (IP) and password access provides a very complete overview of the amazing number of access possibilities that publishers offer. It does an excellent job of defining IP and proxy access in simple terms and of explaining the reasons why publishers might choose a particular type of access.

Miriam Childs and Wil Weston summarize the historical development and future of academic consortia for cooperative purchasing of electronic resources, using OhioLINK as an example. Joanna Duy explains how usage data can be employed by libraries to see how their collections are being used and to determine their value. She describes the need for standardizing usage data from vendors and efforts toward that end such as the ARL E-Metrics Project and Project COUNTER.

Barbara Schader has written a case study on claiming and troubleshooting electronic journals at UCLA’s Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library. Although it provides many useful examples of problems encountered by users and possible reasons for them, I find it written too much from a library’s internal perspective—what they do and how they do it—to be as helpful to someone trying to learn how to troubleshoot as it could be.

Eve Kartus and Susan Clarke write about their university’s experience in setting up and operating an electronic reserve operation. Readers should be aware that all specific mentions of copyright issues refer to Australian law.

In “E-Books after the Fall,” Vivian Lewis analyzes past and (then-)current electronic book initiatives. The section on libraries’ requirements provides an excellent summary of collection development, pricing, access, archiving, integration, statistics, and branding issues.

Gerry McKiernan’s chapter on open access or “liberating the scholarly literature” gives a thorough analysis of the development of the movement, specific initiatives and projects such as the Open Archives Initiative, and the self-archiving model. This chapter provides an excellent introduction to this important and growing publishing model. Cheryl McCain and Karen Rupp-Serrano review different regional accrediting agencies’ standards and how libraries account for their electronic serials when doing a self-study. The last two chapters describe systems developed locally at the University of Oklahoma and Utah State University to manage access to electronic subscriptions.

I find one key area missing from this collection: licensing models, terms, and conditions. An overview of this important component in managing electronic serials would round out an otherwise comprehensive list of issues facing those brave souls who attempt it (not unlike herding cats, by the way!). As with all compendiums of this type, some chapters are better than others. My own preference is always for those who tell me not how they do it at their library but why they do it that way at their library—or at least what I would need to think about to do it at mine.

Which brings me to another pet peeve: it is almost entirely written by and for academic librarians. I applaud LadyJane Hickey and the others involved in the Sam Houston State survey for including public libraries; that is the only mention of a nonacademic library environment in this book. However, even they specifically excluded special libraries. Electronic resource management (ERM) affects every library of every type, and I would really like to see a broader representation of library types.

Some areas in this book are unfortunately outdated because of the length of the publishing cycle. As I said earlier in this review, these chapters were written in early 2002. That is like decades in this fast-moving, fast-changing environment. Many of today’s readers are not looking to start building their own ERM system; they are looking at commercially produced ones, such as Innovative Interfaces’ system. In the survey conducted by Sam Houston State, respondents report using the now-defunct CORC but not Serials Solutions or TDNet. The big collection development issues today are the Big Deal and the need for unbundling.

That said, I think that librarians looking for an overview of the main problems and trends to be considered in electronic resource management will by and large find it in this book. It will not really tell you how to solve the problems, but it may give you enough of a framework to know what you need to learn or think about.—Betty Landesman (landesb@mail.nih.gov), National Institutes of Health Library, Bethesda, Md.