

of the MARC record can cause the loss of the notion and the power of relationships in RDA. The focus on records is secondary to the “important lesson is that RDA is about recording well-formed *data* and recording *relationships*” (xvi). This approach also fosters a deeper understanding of the RDA elements and will better prepare catalogers to use RDA in a variety of encoding contexts now and in the future. It also, quite rightly, refocuses the act of cataloging on users through recording “robust and reliable data in order to maximize support for users engaged in resource discovery” (xvi). Overall, this is a comprehensive work that would be brilliant as a textbook in a cataloging class. As a cataloger, this reviewer has already used this book in daily work and looks forward to keeping it close by.—*Margaret E. Dull* (mdull@ubalt.edu), *University of Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland*

***Exploring Discovery: The Front Door to Your Library's Licensed and Digitized Content.*** Edited by Kenneth J. Varnum. Chicago: ALA Editions, 2016, 292 p. \$95 softcover (ISBN: 978-0-8389-1414-4).

We are well into the twenty-first century and many libraries, large and small, are dealing with the ever-evolving subject of discovery. This book does an excellent job of covering the many discovery interfaces and platforms available and their impact at various libraries. Discovery is, to quote a statement given in chapter 10 of this book, “enabling people to pick out what they need from an otherwise unmanageable mass of information” (120). Given the changing roles of libraries, as well as the multitude of different media types with which libraries must now deal and must make accessible to patrons, discovery is more important than ever before. Thus, this growing need for discovery that is user-friendly, all encompassing (or nearly so) and fairly intuitive on the back end has given birth to a plethora of options, all of which have their benefits and drawbacks. As not every library or collection is identical, so can be said for the various discovery platforms explored in this work.

The book is divided into four sections. The first two are devoted to various systems, divided between those which are vended and those which are custom made. The third section focuses on the front-facing aspect or “interface” side of some of these systems and the fourth, on the back-end, metadata-heavy side. The majority of chapters in this book focus on discovery systems in academic libraries. Thirteen of the nineteen chapters are either case studies in academic libraries or pull their examples from academic library websites. There are also chapters devoted to discovery in archives and library combinations, including the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. Two chapters also focus on digital and/or open access libraries where their discovery systems were of greater importance given their fully digital collections. In addition, there are a few chapters rounding out the book that do not ground themselves to a particular library type, rather

they look at discovery systems and platforms as a whole. Also worth noting is the fact that while some of the chapters in this book delve into highly niche areas such as geospatial resource discovery or use noticeably technical terminology, overall this book is quite readable.

The first section focuses on vended discovery systems, with the first two chapters concentrating on Ex Libris's offering Primo and its integrated library system Alma, and the second two chapters hone in on OCLC's WorldShare Management System and SirsiDynix's Enterprise OPAC, respectively. While three of the four were academic libraries, those three serve campus communities of varying sizes. It is elements such as these that lend themselves to how the different systems were selected and then used by the libraries in focus. The only nonacademic library focused on in this section was a combination library, museum, and archive, which also gives a unique look at what options and flexibility vended discovery systems are capable of offering.

The second section directs its attention to custom discovery systems with an emphasis on Blacklight. Blacklight is used to varying degrees by each of the five libraries discussed. Given the system's flexible nature, this does not come as a surprise. While other systems are mentioned, these chapters dive deeply into the various parts of discovery for which Blacklight is used. As such, this section is extremely useful for any library or librarian interested in using the web application. Once again, the libraries spotlighted in these five chapters are a diverse group. While three of the five chapters focus on academic libraries in the United States, chapters 7 and 8 focus on the discovery systems (and implementation of Blacklight) at a Canadian university and a museum archives, respectively.

The third section focuses on interfaces and user experiences. This section begins with dabbling in how library discovery has had to change and adapt since the advent of popular search engines such as Google. Various aspects of interfaces ranging from bento box design and single search interface to integrating online services and facets are explored in this chapter. Four of the five chapters focus on academic libraries, however much of the information in this section centers around aspects of discovery that are not only used and useful in the broad library world, but also by companies and institutions outside of the library world.

The fourth section focuses on the content and metadata aspect of discovery systems. In general, these last five chapters of the book tend to focus on the nitty-gritty technical aspects, metadata integration, and backend side of discovery platforms. To this end, the first three chapters of this section concentrate on discovery and metadata of a few digital and open access collections. This section also has two chapters dedicated to the impact of discovery platforms on libraries overall. Specifically, chapter 18 focuses on the impact in regards to the library world in general, and chapter 19

focuses on new challenges in how metadata is now used.

In summary, this is a useful book for those wishing to understand and research different discovery options. Particularly of interest are the discussions of what Blacklight and Ex Libris's Primo have to offer libraries and patrons. Despite focusing mainly on academic libraries in the United States, the nineteen chapters do cover a wide array of discovery issues that can be found in any kind of library. This is primarily what makes the book useful. In general, librarians at academic libraries will benefit the most from the information presented here. That said, there are still many tidbits of information that librarians from other types of libraries could glean, particularly from the chapters encompassing the whole spectrum of discovery and metadata. Because of this, this book would make an excellent addition to any library or librarian's collection.—*Laura Nelson* (lnelson@csusm.edu), *California State University, San Marcos, California*

***Shared Collections: Collaborative Stewardship.*** Edited by Dawn Hale. Chicago: ALA Editions, 2016. 211 p. \$75.00 softcover (ISBN 978-0-8389-1403-8). An ALCTS Monograph.

Librarians are natural collaborators. As professionals we enjoy working with colleagues within the same institution and beyond. This is particularly fitting when it comes to collection development. Academic libraries strive to support the research needs of our users by providing access to a wide range of materials. In a world of shrinking budgets and limited staff, we turn to collaboration as a way to continue to deliver excellent services to our patrons. Collaborative partnerships between regional institutions or across state lines allow individual organizations to reallocate their resources and better serve the local needs. If you are ready to begin the planning stages of a collaborative collection development project, this book is a great starting point. *Shared Collections: Collaborative Stewardship* is a gathering of essays that discusses an array of cooperative collection development projects in a variety of institutions. It covers everything you need to know from how to create a partnership of shared collections (chapter 2) to specific examples of current projects covering everything from serials (chapter 4), monographs (chapters 6 and 8) and digital collections (chapter 7).

*Shared Collections* brings together a number of perspectives on collaborative collection building for the twenty-first century. The book is divided into three parts: "Building Shared Collections," "Shared Collections: Case Studies," and "Future Directions." The content of each section is as obvious as the titles suggest. Part 1 lays the foundation of shared collections. It lists historical examples of collaborative projects while at the same time providing direction for the future. Strieb argues that "this volume collectively addresses the challenges of learning how to operate cooperatively and

to reorganize and repurpose past investments" (4). Part 2 includes a variety of examples of cooperative agreements ranging from serials projects and electronic books to digital collections. In each case, the authors describe the steps taken to set the consortial agreement. In some cases, there is a discussion or evaluation on how the project is evolving and what future direction it may take. Part 3 consists of a single chapter that ties all the individual chapters together. It addresses the issues and solutions presented in the previous chapters, highlighting the main points in each while also adding similar projects not described in the book.

This book is a must-read for collection development librarians. It contains valuable information to keep abreast of current collaborative projects across the academic landscape. Many of the lessons and processes described can be extrapolated to new collaborative projects. An unanticipated benefit of this collection is that the chapters describe and evaluate a variety of vendors' products used in collaborative projects, therefore providing the reader with a unique assessment of the products. This valuable insight can assist in determining whether to implement a particular platform for digital collections, as is the case with the UCLA project with Nuxeo in chapter 9. Another example is how to build a digital collection for electronic books using University Press Scholarship Online in chapter 7. All but one of the chapters end with a list of notes to further expand the conversation.

*Shared Collections* provides a one-stop-shop approach to collection sharing. The examples of joint collection development run the gamut from for the traditional serials, monographs (print and electronic), digital collections, and how to handle scarce materials. The detailed descriptions of the various shared projects provide the necessary tools for other librarians and administrators to implement similar plans on their campuses. Take for example, the preservation challenge described in chapter 3's "Scarce and Endangered Works" where Nadal, Peterson, and Aveline describe their approach to outline the decision-making process to take preservation action of the materials in the UCLA system. Their work looks at "propose[d] methods of making preservation decisions based on holdings data for library collections" (27) in the UCLA library system. They suggest the need to look at the holdings of an individual item in the system at large (e.g., WorldCat) before making the decision to either replace or withdraw that particular title. The methods and lessons outlined in this preservation project can be implemented on a smaller scale at any institution that wants to apply a data-driven aspect to the process that handles their endangered materials.

This book covers important aspects of collaboration across institutions in order to build shared collections. It begins by providing readers with early examples of consortial agreements. These examples serve as a foundation for current and future projects. They are the blueprint upon which