Sources
Professional Materials

Karen Antell, Editor

Being a Teen Library Services Advocate. By Linda W. Braun. Chicago: ALA, 2012. 107 p. Paper $50 (ISBN 978-1-55570-795-8).

Teen services are sometimes overlooked in libraries. Shrinking budgets and staff shortages can leave this important group without anyone to advocate for them. *Being a Teen Library Services Advocate* gives librarians and other stakeholders a guide to becoming an advocate both in the library and beyond the library. Author Linda Braun suggests that advocacy skills should be learned and implemented as an everyday activity to enhance the services and programs that teens receive.

The book begins with a discussion about what advocacy encompasses, why advocacy is important, and how to get started becoming an advocate for teen services. The second chapter focuses on collaboration: what it is, how to implement it, and with whom. The author discusses technologies that are conducive to collaboration and provides lengthy list of suggested community members who could serve as resources for advocacy collaboration. In chapter three, Braun focuses on how to fit advocacy tasks into a librarian's everyday work. She emphasizes that becoming an advocate for teens doesn't happen overnight; it takes practice. Chapters four and five discuss successful advocacy campaigns and examples of programs that enable teens to advocate for themselves. Braun also includes a chapter on taking advocacy outside of one's own library, sharing excellent advice about how to make one's voice heard in the venues where it matters most. The final chapter focuses on tools to enhance one's advocacy work.

Overall, this book is a comprehensive resource for anyone who wants to become an advocate, whether it is for teens or another group. The information in the book is well organized and easy to understand. Recommended for any librarian who is passionate about advocating for teen services.—*Melanie Wachsmann, Reference/Teen Librarian, Lone Star College, CyFair Branch, Cypress, Texas*

Collaboration in Libraries and Learning Environments. Edited by Maxine Melling and Margaret Weaver. London: Facet, 2013. 198 p. Paper $95 (ISBN 978-1-85604-858-3).

In today's higher education environment, academic libraries no longer can afford to remain isolated institutions of learning and information literacy. If they are to succeed in their mission to provide current and relevant information literacy skills to students, faculty, and staff, they must partner with other libraries and professional organizations. But this prospect raises many questions. How should the library go about forming partnerships? How do new technologies play a role in these collaborations? And, perhaps most importantly, how do libraries manage change?

Maxine Melling and Margaret Weaver, academic library managers in the United Kingdom, have edited a very useful and timely book on this important topic, *Collaboration in Libraries and Learning Environments*. In succeeding chapters, written by British, Canadian, and Australian academic

librarians, this brief but information-filled book will answer and guide librarians' questions and concerns regarding effective and innovative library collaborations, as well as successful technological and change management strategies to provide effective and efficient transitions to these programs. Each chapter contains useful illustrations and graphs, as well as extensive reference lists for additional information beyond each chapter. The topics include joint-use libraries, change management, collaborative library leadership, and joint information literacy programs to attract student interest.

For readers in the United States, the only potential drawback to this well-written and well-organized book is its Commonwealth focus: The chapters highlight British, Canadian, and Australian library collaborations, with no contributions from U.S. librarians. Nevertheless, *Collaboration in Libraries and Learning Environments* will provide academic librarians of all nationalities with tools and techniques for successful partnerships with other institutions of learning to serve their users with well-planned, diverse, and current information literacy programs. Highly recommended.—*Larry Cooperman, Adjunct Faculty Librarian, University of Central Florida Libraries, Orlando, Florida*

Fundamentals of Reference. By Carolyn M. Mulac. Chicago: ALA, 2012. 132 p. Paper $52 (ISBN 978-0-8389-1087-0).

In the introduction to this book, author Carolyn Mulac states that "the purpose of the *Fundamentals of Reference* is to present an outline of the big picture" (xi), and she undeniably accomplishes this goal. *Fundamentals of Reference* presents itself as an overview of its topic, touching briefly on the many aspects reference services in a very broad and general way. With two parts, "Reference Sources" and "Reference Services," this resource discusses a rather odd mix of general reference ideas and practices.

In the first part of the book, online and print reference resources are discussed in somewhat vague terms. The author first discusses reputable reference reviewing websites, including Reference Books Bulletin, a division of ALA's *Booklist*, and suggests that librarians should continually read such sites to stay informed. Next, the author provides brief overviews of standard online and print reference resources, such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, directories, and so forth. Wikipedia also makes an appearance in this section.

After a brief introduction, the second part of *Fundamentals of Reference* outlines reference services. Again, in broad strokes, the author discusses elements of the reference interview, as well as specifics about providing reference in a variety of formats: in person, on the telephone, online, and via chat services. Basic tips for each format are included, such as the suggestion to smile when answering the phone or the recommendation to review chat transcripts to monitor quality of service. A short chapter is devoted to reference services for children and young adults. This chapter seems somewhat out of place, as it is the only chapter focused on a specific population. However, several chapters concentrate on particular topics, such as medical reference, legal reference, and business reference. Part two also covers reference policies, standards and, evaluation.

All in all, this book should be considered as a resource for beginning LIS students only. The author recommends it for those first venturing out to the reference desk as well (xi), but at almost any library, the in-person, on-the-job training provided by co-workers to new reference assistants would far exceed anything included in this book. In part one, the "mix and match" of both paper and online resources is surprising, especially because it includes what this reviewer would consider unreliable sources. Written in simple language, this resource contains a bibliography, a listing of resources listed in part one, and an index.—*Lara Cummings, Reference Librarian, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington*

The Librarian's Legal Companion for Licensing Information Resources and Services. By Tomas A. Lipinski. Chicago: ALA, 2013. 733 p. Paper $130 (ISBN 978-1-55570-610-4).

Imagine that the sales representative from your book vendor is on the telephone offering you a 20 percent discount on the new edition of a reference book in your collection. You say you'll take it, but only if he is willing to throw in the first year's supplement for free. Is your response an acceptance of the salesman's offer, meaning that it's too late to back out? Or is it a counteroffer?

Here's another scenario: You would like to add a link to your library website, but, in order to do so, you notice that you will be required to click the "I agree" button on the external site. Somewhere in the back of your mind, a voice is cautioning you that adverse consequences in terms of legal liability could result. Should you proceed?

Library professionals involved with acquisitions, systems, reference, or administration who have the time and stamina to persevere will find The *Librarian's Legal Companion for Licensing Information Resources and Services* immensely helpful in answering questions about the commercial side of librarianship, such as the scenarios detailed above. To be sure, author Tomas Lipinski knows his way around the library. Rather than giving us a treatise on commercial law in the abstract, Mr. Lipinski punctuates his points with real-world examples that sound as if they could have been lifted verbatim from conversations in academic, public, or just about any other type of library.

On the down side, this is not an easy book to get through. Because the level of information here is extremely dense and conceptually difficult to master, the book is ideally suited for use as a textbook and recommended with a note of caution for all others.—*Dana M. Lucisano, Reference Librarian, Silas Bronson Library, Waterbury, Connecticut*

Making Sense of Business Reference: A Guide for Librarians and Research Professionals. By Celia Ross. Chicago: ALA, 2013. 186 p. Paper $52 (ISBN: 9780838910849)

"I need to find information on trends in the animation