

## SOURCES

Monitoring Mission (SLMM) pulls no punches in describing the mission's status as of 2007: "By the occasion of the SLMM's fifth operational anniversary in February 2007, its weekly reports read more like war tallies than the lists of cease-fire violations it recorded during its first three years" (133). Some librarians may find such judgmental analysis out of place in a reference work; others may find it refreshing.

In determining whether or not to purchase this source, librarians should keep in mind that the United Nations website ([www.un.org](http://www.un.org)) provides free information on its peacekeeping missions, including background notes for each mission, the official peacekeeping mandate, facts and figures, and UN documents. A smaller library with access to a print or online reference source that updates political developments in the nations of the world may find that this source is not worth the cost, given the amount of free information available through the UN. For larger public and academic libraries, however, the in-depth coverage and analysis make this a worthy addition to an international relations reference collection.—*Peter Bliss, Reference Librarian, University of California, Riverside*

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***College Financing Information for Teens: Tips for a Successful Financial Life: Including Facts about Planning, Saving, and Paying for Post-Secondary Education, with Information about College Savings Plans, Scholarships, Grants, Loans, Military Service, and More.*** Ed. by Karen Bellenir. Teen Finance Series. Detroit, Mich.: Omnigraphics, 2008. 400p. alkaline \$65 (ISBN 978-0-7808-0988-8).

The full title of this addition to the Teen Finance Series indicates the comprehensive nature of this work. It contains a wealth of information necessary for almost all prospective college students.

As college costs rise and the options for financing a college education proliferate, the topic of postsecondary education becomes bewilderingly complex. To provide guidance, this practical handbook discusses the broad topics of whether or not college is the best option; how to select an institution of higher education; tips on saving, paying, and borrowing for college; finding specialized college options; and suggestions for pursuing more information.

Each major section hones in on specifics: a high school action plan; standardized tests; choosing among a four-year college, a vocational school, or a community college; Section 529 Plans; financial aid packages, student loans, and PLUS loans; and educational benefits of service such as AmeriCorps and Peace Corps or Armed Forces membership.

Similar to the other titles in this series, *College Financing Information for Teens* offers sidebar information in sections labeled "Quick Tips," "It's a Fact!" "What's It Mean?" and "Remember!" All sources are documented and many include addresses, phone numbers, and websites. For more information, the book directs the reader to a "Directory of Financial Aid Resources" and a "Directory of State Higher Education Agencies."

Several other current titles offer information similar to

this volume. *The Everything Paying for College Book* by Nathan Brown and Sheryle A. Proper (Adams Media, 2005), provides a broad look at the various aspects of financing a college education. This includes saving in advance; scholarships, grants, and financial aid; part-time jobs and internships; and credit card pitfalls. This title also contains creative ways for students to supplement their income.

Gen and Kelly Tanabe's *1001 Ways To Pay for College* (SuperCollege, 2d ed., 2005) is a quick-reading and attractive volume that emphasizes a variety of creative ways to finance a college education. Topics such as unusual scholarships, contests, reward programs, and loan forgiveness programs provide very interesting reading and will spark the imagination of enterprising students. The book also contains a lot of good tips for saving money during the college years and making every college tuition penny work for the student's benefit.

*FastWeb! College Gold: The Step-by-Step Guide to Paying for College* by Mark Kantrowitz (FastWeb, 2006), is also very user-friendly and well organized. It begins with a project plan for the student, then takes a look at federal and state programs, grants, scholarships, and the help that high school guidance counselors and college financial aid administrators can provide. The conclusion helps the reader steer clear of problems in the final decision about college financing. This volume includes a survey of students and parents that helps to identify where the most help is needed in the college financial picture.

In addition to these titles, which provide general supplementary material, there are several titles that focus on specific aspects of the college financing picture. *The 529 College Savings Plan* by Richard A. Feigenbaum and David J. Morton (Sphinx Publishing, 2003) and *The Best Way To Save for College: A Complete Guide To 529 Plans* (Savingforcollege.com Publications, 2003/2004) both discuss the Internal Revenue Code of 1996 (Qualified Tuition Program) which provides families with tax advantaged ways to save for college. Both provide state-by-state assessment of the plans.

Many good books on managing college costs are available. *College Financing Information for Teens: Tips for a Successful Financial Life* has the advantage of being comprehensive, reliable, and easy to navigate. Recommended for any library serving teen readers and their parents.—*Betty Porter, Education Services Librarian, Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio*

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***Daily Life in the New Testament.*** By James W. Ermatinger. Daily Life Through History. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2008. 184p. alkaline \$49.95 (ISBN 978-0-313-34175-5).

*Daily Life in the New Testament* is an appealing book. Its purpose it is to "set the stage for understanding daily life during the New Testament period, mainly in Palestine" (xxiv), and it does a commendable job of fulfilling that purpose. However, although it does provide excellent information, its arrangement makes it easier to read like a history book than to use as a quick reference tool. The book has ten chapters with each chapter covering a certain aspect of Jewish socio-