Sources
Professional Materials

Karen Antell, Editor

Better Library and Learning Space. Ed. by Les Watson. London: Facet, 2013. 288 p. Paper $100. (ISBN-13: 978-1-85604-763-0).

How can libraries best plan, create, and maintain spaces that foster learning? Although many library buildings have classrooms for formal instruction, more and more libraries are developing and supporting informal spaces where learning takes place outside of the classroom, whether for groups of students or for individuals. This collection takes it as a given that libraries have always been learning spaces, but it specifically examines how two changes—our understanding of learning processes and the impact of technology on learning—have transformed the planning, organization, and management of academic library buildings.

The collection's scope is global; its first section focuses on case studies from six libraries in the United Kingdom, the United States, China, and Australia. Several commonalities emerge: These libraries all focus on situating the library as the geographic and symbolic center of learning on campus and connecting the library to its educational, environmental, and cultural contexts. They also offer a variety of spaces within the library—places for private study and public interaction, as well as semi-private spaces where learners can concentrate but also be energized by the community of learners around them. An example of this is the translucent "study igloos" at the Saltire Centre at Glasgow Caledonian University. Each case study in this section is headed by a keyword, such as flexibility, balance, silence, or ecology, that encapsulates the theme of the building project.

A theoretical section addresses wider, more universal concepts, such as technology and learning theory, as they pertain to the space planning and renovation process. A final section on the futures of library planning operates as a toolkit to help readers think about library learning spaces. Chapters not only address the actions and needs of the people—students, faculty, researchers, staff, and visitors—in libraries, but also address the objects and services in libraries, especially how the first consideration of any project should be how the interactions of users, objects, and services support learning. Overall, this collection, in particular the case studies and the practical information in the last section, will be invaluable for administrators, librarians, architects, and others embarking on a library building or renovation project.—*Laura Braunstein, Librarian for English and Writing, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire*

Data Management for Libraries. A LITA Guide. By Laura Krier and Carly A. Strasser. Chicago: ALA TechSource, 2014. 104 p. Paper $58 (ISBN: 978-1-55570-969-3).

This volume in the LITA Guide series adds to a number of recent publications about data management. Writing primarily for an academic audience, authors Krier and Strasser provide a succinct but thorough introduction to help librarians learn fundamentals of data management and to guide them in assessing their institutions' needs so that they can

SOURCES

develop an appropriate array of services. The current digital era presents growing opportunities for librarians to both support researchers and to assist them in complying with funding agencies' requirements for data management plans in grant proposals and progress reports. A major theme is that librarians should draw on their traditional strength in working collaboratively, and that broad communication is crucial to engage multiple stakeholders, including researchers who generate data, information technology professionals, and research office administrators. Librarians can make valuable contributions to institutional data management by applying their knowledge about how information is created, stored, made discoverable and accessible, and preserved to the challenges of managing data in digital and other formats. Additionally, librarians can educate researchers about ethics and copyright concerns as they work together to establish appropriate plans for data sharing over time. The book is organized logically, opening with a chapter that provides a basic overview of data management. The authors offer thoughtful, practical recommendations to help librarians facilitate the process of assessing local needs and establishing services that they can realistically provide. Checklists and questions in many chapters of this book will serve readers well as they gather local information and analyze their institutional needs regarding crucial aspects of research data, such as types of data generated, appropriate metadata creation and standards, ethics and intellectual property rights, and mechanisms for short- and long-term data storage, access, preservation, and reuse. Other topics featured include data management interviews, metadata, preservation, access, and data governance. Appendixes provide resources for institutional repositories, samples of data librarian job descriptions, and data management plans. Ample references to relevant publications and websites lead to valuable further reading, and several links point to examples of supportive guidance that many libraries provide to the researchers at their universities and research centers. Library professionals will find this book useful and accessible, especially those who are unfamiliar with data management. After reading this introductory text, librarians may wish to pursue additional recent publications that offer numerous case studies and slightly more detailed descriptions of existing repositories and standards for creating viable metadata and for preservation. Related titles include *Research Data Management: Practical Strategies for Information Professionals* (Purdue University Press, 2014) and *Delivering Research Management Services* (Facet Publishing, 2014).—*Flora Shrode, Head of Reference and Instruction Services, Utah State University Library, Logan, Utah*

Delivering Research Data Management Services: Fundamentals of Good Practice. Ed. by Graham Pryor, Sarah Jones, and Angus Whyte. London: Facet, 2014. 256 p. Paper $99.95 (ISBN: 978-0-8108-9142-5).

A how-to guide for large research institutions, *Delivering Research Data Management Services: Fundamentals of Good Practice* gives readers a short history of the proliferation of research data and then takes the reader through the fundamentals of creating and administering a sustainable research data management (RDM) service.

Constructing and managing a successful RDM service requires commitment and participation from various institutional players and constituencies. *Delivering Research Data Management Services* provides very clear reasoning on why institutions need a well-designed and well-articulated RDM plan. For instance, various government and funding agencies now require researchers to include a research data plan in grant applications. In addition, well-preserved and accessible data offers many potential benefits to future research. The book also discusses how different constituencies must work together and what special interests each may bring to the planning process.

Creating a research data plan with input from university management, support services, and researchers may be a complex process, but, according to the authors, it can be accomplished with thoughtful planning and guidance.

The book includes helpful charts and graphs to illustrate concepts visually as well as definitions of common terminology. Many of the illustrations would be particularly helpful for use during planning meetings. Chapters focus on the state of research data management, various approaches to RDM, sustainability, infrastructure, roles, and services.

Much of the latter half of the book is devoted to a variety of approaches to RDM through case studies from institutions in several countries. These case studies include instances where the university's library took a leading role, a case of a national research data management service, and several other models. The case studies are especially insightful because they are written by individuals from each institution involved in the creation of the RDM system discussed.

The types of data discussed are diverse, and the needs of researchers and institutions are equally varied.

Delivering Research Data Management Services: Fundamentals of Good Practice breaks down the preparation and implementation process into accessible steps and presents clear reasoning for why planning is important. The first chapters of the book are based on examples and policy from the United Kingdom, but the structure of the plans presented could be applied to the United States or other countries. Many of the citations in the chapters are only web addresses that may shift over time; including the titles of the webpages might be useful for future access.

Delivering Research Data Management Services: Fundamentals of Good Practice will be a helpful resource for institutions, administrators, and researchers trying to plan a cohesive and coherent research data management service. It will also serve as useful background reading for those simply interested in e-Science and big research data. Recommended for academic libraries at large research institutions.—*Rachel Hamelers, Reference Librarian and Math and Science Subject Specialist, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania*