

what teachers are looking for when they assign homework, because it relates directly to what students need and expect when they come to libraries for homework help. But the book's deep foray into pedagogical theory may leave some library staff feeling overwhelmed and out of their element. Nevertheless, the main message about nurturing relationships between librarians, teachers, and students is not lost.

Chapter 2 outlines important necessities such as assessing needs, setting goals, and developing a service philosophy. The author recognizes that the most important element of stellar service is staff, and she provides a brief outline of training topics for homework helpers. These include not only the requisite guidance on how to interpret homework assignments but also include coverage of cultural and sexual orientation diversity, youth culture, and technology.

The technology section holds no surprises, describing equipment and software requirements (including photo and video editing) for within the library walls. For remote support, the author provides and describes a variety of suggestions that could be employed to support patrons virtually, from pathfinders and RSS feeds to chat reference and social networking. The marketing section offers many good ideas on how to get the word out. Of course, evaluation, an essential piece of the programming puzzle, is emphasized as well.

Intner covers the possibilities for homework help thoroughly, reinforcing the concept of process: Many libraries provide homework support, but being aware of what we do, how we do it and *why* we do it, should be key. This book is not ground-breaking, but most readers will find something new to consider and use.—*Sarah J. Hart, Acting Children's Services Coordinator, Brampton Library, Brampton, Ontario, Canada*

How to Stay Afloat in the Academic Library Job Pool. Ed. Teresa Y. Neely. Chicago: ALA, 2011. 152 p. Paper \$50 (ISBN 978-0-8389-1080-1).

For many master of library science degree candidates, the promise of a position in an academic library is a goal that is avidly pursued. The collegial atmosphere, the available resources, and the opportunity to perform exemplary reference, cataloging, or information technology work with talented students and faculty—these are some of the reasons that many library school graduates want to pursue careers in academic libraries. These reasons also are valid for experienced librarians who want to find work in an academic setting. What can these two groups of librarians—inexperienced and experienced—do to succeed in their goal of attaining an academic library position?

Teresa Y. Neely, the editor of *How to Stay Afloat in the Academic Library Job Pool*, has written a useful and resourceful book that will assist both sets of librarians in their quest for an academic library position. Basing her book on her experience as a committee search member at the University of New Mexico library, the author first provides the reader with a sobering and honest analysis and overview of the state of hiring for entry-level librarians in academia (hopefully not deterring

any potential candidates from applying for job openings!). Further chapters cover reading job advertisements effectively for the best possible candidate match, compiling an effective and outstanding application packet, approaching and conducting the interview process successfully, and negotiating potential job offers to one's best advantage. Throughout the book, Neely writes with honesty, sincerity, and authority; she includes many relevant additional resources at the end of each chapter, as well as hypothetical interview questions and other helpful tips and techniques that encompass all aspects of the application and interview processes. Although brief, the book is full of well-organized information that potential candidates can access quickly and easily.

For those anxious academic library job candidates, both new and experienced, Neely's *How to Stay Afloat in the Academic Library Job Pool* is an essential tool in the search for the academic library position they aspire to obtain. Highly recommended.—*Larry Cooperman, Adjunct Faculty Librarian, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida*

The Library Renovation, Maintenance, and Construction Handbook. Donald A. Barclay and Eric D. Scott. New York: Neal-Schuman, 2011. 212 p. Paper \$125 (ISBN 978-1-5557-0717-0).

Most librarians gain knowledge about buildings and construction only by going through a renovation project—meaning that the “lessons learned” come only after the fact. *The Library Renovation, Maintenance, and Construction Handbook* can remedy this knowledge gap, as it is a great starting place for anyone undertaking responsibility for a building or renovation endeavor. This well-organized book divides the stages of the building process into manageable pieces and introduces the requisite vocabulary and concepts, interspersing them with useful and convincing anecdotal tidbits from the authors, who gained “ground-up” experience in designing the first library for the University of California's Merced campus in 2005.

The table of contents and index allow readers easily to skim the chapters in each of the three parts of the book: “The Basics of Construction and Renovation,” “Library-Specific Construction and Renovation,” and “Maintaining an Existing Library Building.” For example, in the first chapter, the authors explain the elements of a successful building project: design, construction, and commissioning. A chapter on “Building System Basics” gives an overview of the different types of buildings and the mechanical systems inside, such as electricity and plumbing. However, information on lighting is notably lacking, given the many choices one can make and mistakes that can occur.

Chapter 3 provides valuable details and resources about architectural plans, codes, and the construction profession. Specific public and nonpublic areas, furniture and fixtures, and navigation aids are briefly described in part 2 and include many useful tips on topics ranging from shelving capacity to digital signage. Safety and security and green libraries are

highlighted in the final part of the book.

The challenging effort that it takes to run a library during an addition or renovation demands that the chapter on this topic be located in a more prominent location, while the building maintenance chapter is best left for the library staff responsible for maintenance. Unfortunately, the book does not include a full sample request for proposal to go along with the information in the Appendix. A CD accompanies the book and contains blueprint symbols and samples, a building term glossary, and photos of common construction techniques. All of the chapters give important lessons and great advice, with chapter 11 highlighting the take-away points of the book.

This conversational, easy-to-read manual places a great deal of reference information in one place for those who find themselves working with a library construction or renovation project. It is particularly helpful that, throughout the book, the authors pose questions for readers to consider, focusing on issues such as functionality versus aesthetics. The authors are frank about what is not a librarian's job with regard to building projects (e.g., interpreting code), and they emphasize safety and security as well as flexible planning for future modifications. Although the authors could not fit everything on building and renovating into this handbook, they successfully pull together complex information and present it in such a way to make it a required handbook for all libraries.—*Shelly McCoy, Associate Librarian and Head, Student Multimedia Design Center, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware*

Mentoring in the Library: Building for the Future. Marta K. Lee. Chicago: ALA, 2011. 136 p. Paper \$50 (ISBN 978-0-8389-3593-4).

Mentoring is an essential component of helping others develop personally and professionally. Reference veteran Lee draws on her professional experience to introduce the reader to the concept of mentoring and provide case studies illustrating the mutual benefit received by both the mentor and mentee. Over the course of nine chapters, Lee demonstrates how veteran professionals can mentor students enrolled in library school or newly hired librarians in the workplace.

Chapters 1 through 4 focus on mentoring the "potential librarian." Library schools help students build a theoretical foundation, but practicing professionals can play an essential role in helping the potential librarian develop the practical knowledge that comes only from on-the-job experience. Lee provides background information and advice for mentoring library school students via help with course assignments or formal internship programs. Each chapter ends with a case study that illustrates how to implement mentoring activities in the workplace.

The remaining chapters present information on mentoring the "new librarian" in the workplace. Lee touches on the importance of mentoring through an orientation process, because each institution has different policies and procedures to learn. She emphasizes the significance of the mentor at this stage and offers sage advice on the need for both positive reinforcement

and constructive criticism during this critical time of development. An introduction to "e-mentoring" through e-mail, Facebook, discussion boards, listservs, and other communication technologies is also provided in this section.

Although this book discusses mentoring through an academic lens, the information presented and examples provided will easily translate to a public, school, or special library setting. Department heads and others who hold a formal mentoring role in their library will find this book useful. However, informal mentoring occurs at all levels; therefore, this book is recommended to all professional librarians interested in developing their mentoring skills.—*Alysia Starkey, PhD, Assistant Dean and Library Director, Kansas State University at Salina, Salina, Kansas*

Open Access: What You Need To Know Now. Walt Crawford. Chicago: ALA, 2011. 80 p. Paper \$45 (ISBN 978-0-8389-1106-8).

Open Access: What You Need to Know Now provides an informative look at what open access (OA) means and why one should care enough about OA to assist in fostering its sustainability. The author answers many questions and gives much detail about the workings of OA in six chapters that deal with the basics of OA, issues and controversies surrounding OA, and steps for fostering OA initiatives.

Open Access does not begin with an introduction but instead with a discussion of who should be concerned about OA's survival and how their involvement can make profound differences. According to the author, "Academic librarians and special librarians should care about OA" (5); among the reasons are funding and accessibility to users. Crawford outlines reasons for public librarians to support OA as well. For all types of librarians, moral and pragmatic considerations come into play. On the moral side, OA provides greater access. On the pragmatic side, "OA accelerates the research process and makes researchers and practitioners more productive" (4).

The author provides this initial definition of OA: "Free online access to journal articles" (11). However, the definition expands to read as follows: "Open access literature is available online to be read for free by anyone, anytime, anywhere" (11). In the chapter on understanding OA, Crawford engages in a lengthy discussion about defining OA from three sources—the "Budapest Open Access Initiative," the "Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing," and the "Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in Science and Humanities."

Naturally, OA provokes certain issues and controversies. Crawford divides the controversial concerns into two groups—those that are legitimate and those that are "pseudo." In the final chapters, the author provides a list of simple ways to take action; among them are understanding the situation, communicating, and keeping up to date. The book also includes a list of sources provided to keep one abreast of OA; the author calls these the "cornerstones: the resources you should check first" (63). This book is a valuable tool for anyone who wants