

All entries are signed and contain sources for additional information. While the *Encyclopedia* has many features that make it easily navigable such as subheadings within long entries, bolded terms for cross referencing between entries, a thorough index and “see references” for entries known by alternative terms, browsing would be much easier with one simple addition, a listing of the entries by category: theme, topical and biography. Further, the very small typeface, reminiscent of print encyclopedias of the past, may cause difficulty for some readers. One other minor distraction is a lack of consistency between the “see references” and the actual headings: “Resurrections” versus “Resurrection,” for example.

Overall, however, this is a valuable and well-researched resource on a topic not covered elsewhere. It is a must for all Polish American, ethnic and cross-cultural studies collections, and highly recommended for academic research library collections and public libraries in areas with substantial Polish American populations.—*Joann E. Donatiello, Population Research Librarian, Donald E. Stokes Library, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey*

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***The Medical Library Association's Master Guide to Authoritative Information in the Health Sciences.*** Ed. Laurie L. Thompson. New York: Neal-Schulman, 2011. 659 p. Alkaline \$295 (ISBN 978-1-5557-0719-4).

This resource is an updated option to the “*Brandon Hill Selected List of Print Books and Journals for the Small Medical Library*, which ceases publication in 2003 after 38 years and 20 editions” (xi). *The Medical Library Association's Master Guide to Authoritative Information in the Health Sciences* (hereafter *MLA Master Guide*) expands the Brandon Hill list by including works in the basic sciences as well as digital and online publications. Works that were included in the final Brandon Hill list are given a special designation. This resource is being written about as the new gold standard in collection development tools for medical libraries. By using expert contributors, the editors have compiled more than 2,000 authoritative titles encompassing 35 specialties, plus subspecialties, basic sciences, and emerging disciplines. *The MLA Master Guide* is not comprehensive. Selectors were limited to choosing ten of the most important monographs and serials in their discipline.

This work is loosely arranged by the Health Occupations and the Biological Sciences tree structures of the National Library of Medicine's Medical Subject Headings (MeSH). Definitions come from Stedman's Medical Dictionary or from the topics contributor if a MeSH derived definition is not available. Each section includes general works related to the discipline, as well as more specialized topics. Each entry contains full bibliographic information, URLs (if applicable), and an annotation describing the scope and coverage of the work. The majority of titles covered are appropriate for an academic medical library. Titles appropriate for a hospital or consumer health library are marked.

In comparison to the *Brandon Hill List of Print Books and Journals for the Small Medical Library* (Medical Library

Association, 2001), this resource appears much easier and more efficient. The *Brandon Hill List* is simply a list of titles with their prices, as opposed to *The MLA Master Guide* which contains nicely written annotations for each work listed. Another benefit to this work when compared to the *Brandon Hill List of Print Books and Journals for the Small Medical Library* is that the former is not strictly limited to print resources. The work being reviewed also covers many more titles.

I also looked at Jeffrey T. Huber, Jo Anne Boorkman, and Jean Blackwell's *Introduction to Reference Sources in the Health Sciences* (Neal-Schuman, 2008). This source also integrates print and electronic sources together and provides annotations. However, I don't feel that it is as organized. *The MLA Master Guide* is much more intuitive and user friendly.

I would highly recommend *The Medical Library Association's Master Guide to Authoritative Information in the Health Sciences* over the other two works. It is very well organized and the annotations offer just the right amount of information. Developing or maintaining a collection in a health sciences library can be expensive and is so important because the resources must be accurate, dependable, and up to date to be useful. MLA's guide makes this task easy. I would recommend this title for any academic medical or hospital library.—*Mina Chercourt, Unit Leader, Database Maintenance, Grasselli Library and Breen Learning Center, John Carroll University, University Heights, Ohio*

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***A Student Guide to Energy.*** By John F. Mongillo. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2011. 5 vols. Acid free \$255 (ISBN 978-0-3133-7720-4) E-book available (978-0-3133-7721-1), call for pricing.

John F. Mongillo, middle school science teacher and author of other science reference books such as the popular *Teen Guide to Environmental Science* (Greenwood, 2004), has brought his skills to another timely work. Designed for use by middle and high school students, this multifaceted set provides students with grounding in basic energy concepts as well as discussing the need for both the development and management of energy resources. The set is divided into 5 volumes. Volume 1 deals with oil, natural gas, coal and nuclear energy; volume 2 covers solar energy and hydrogen fuel cells; volume 3 deals with wind energy, oceanic energy and hydropower; volume 4 includes geothermal and biomass energy; and finally volume 5 focuses on energy efficiency, conservation and sustainability.

Within each volume there are a number of accessible chapters devoted to a specific type of energy or topic. Each chapter orientates the user with a quick historical overview and explanation of the specific energy type. The rest of the meaty chapter provides in-depth treatment of the energy form, has interviews with scientists, and information boxes titled “Did you Know?” which draw attention to facts one might have missed. Each chapter also contains cross references to other volumes, a short unannotated bibliography, a suggestion of something to do, and a list of websites and videos. The text is illustrated with diagrams, black and white

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## SOURCES

photographs, graphs and charts which help extend the text.

Each volume has the same useful appendixes including an index to the entire set, an energy timeline (3000 BC to AD 2009), energy data tables, a list of governmental and non-governmental organizations with their web addresses, a list of books and other reading material for the entire set, a list of opportunities in renewal and nonrenewal energy careers, a list of energy product developers and manufacturers, and the National Science Education Standards and content standards that are applicable.

The topic of energy is very important. The prices for energy seem to be driving the economy of the world in the twenty-first century. Scientists and inventors are struggling to harness the power of the wind, sun and water while trying to

create a clean environment. Keeping up-to-date on the topic of energy seems like an almost impossible task but this set should be popular with students (and their teachers). There are very few current reference works which deal with the topic for students. *Smith and Taylor's Renewable and Alternative Energy Resources: A Reference Handbook* (ABC-Clio, 2008) could be used by motivated high school students interested in researching emerging technologies but it does not have the depth and breadth of this set. This set has a multinational focus that will be helpful.

I recommend this for middle and high school libraries where there is curricular need and student interest in the topic.—*Dona J. Helmer, Librarian, Anchorage School District, Anchorage, Alaska*