

SOURCES

quality research project depends upon an answerable research question by providing a detailed discussion of brainstorming. She then moves into the task of searching for specific types of print and electronic resources. Her discussion of the benefits of assigned-subject (versus keyword) searching should be compelling and understandable to impatient Googlers. The evaluation of sources is also described. She includes valuable material on the roles of imagination and insight (the “Aha!” moment) in research, demonstrating her thorough grasp of the psychology of information gathering.

George concludes by tackling the age-old student challenge of time management during the weeks before a project is due. She includes research timelines for projects assigned two, four, and six weeks in advance. A glossary also defines more than two hundred research terms. Arlene Rodda Quaratiello's *The College Student's Research Companion* (Neal-Schuman, 2007) is also an excellent guide, although it focuses more on the actual use of library materials and electronic resources; its coverage of research topic formulation is brief. However, it does contain high-quality material on specific database interfaces and Internet searching. Combined, these two books would be a terrific set of textbooks for a semester-long library instruction course.

The Elements of Library Research is a very useful tool for students struggling to identify a topic for a term paper, and it effectively frames the subsequent information gathering as a challenging but fun treasure hunt. Highly recommended for undergraduates.—Eric Petersen, Assistant Director of Library Services, Dana College, Blair, Nebraska

Privacy and Confidentiality Issues: A Guide for Libraries and Their Lawyers. By Theresa Chmara. Chicago: ALA, 2009. 98p. paper \$40 (ISBN 978-0-8389-0970-6).

Approachable and succinct, *Privacy and Confidentiality Issues* seems intended primarily for school and public

libraries, but it contains such valuable legal information that other types of libraries are likely to benefit from it as well. Over the course of seven chapters, Chmara touches on topics such as the First Amendment as it pertains to privacy and confidentiality, state and federal laws and statutes, privacy and confidentiality concerns relating to the Internet and to the rights of minors, and the development of a privacy policy for one's institution. In addition, an appendix is included that briefly summarizes the privacy and confidentiality statutes of each of the fifty states (as of September 2008). The book is refreshingly jargon-free—all legal terms and abbreviations are clearly defined. *Privacy and Confidentiality Issues* is a broad, but useful, overview of its subject.

Each of Chmara's chapters takes a question-and-answer format, which enhances its readability and makes it useful as a quick guide to a variety of legal situations. Frequently, major points are repeated, which is jarringly repetitive upon first reading; however, this kind of repetition makes sense for readers using the book as a reference guide rather than reading it from beginning to end. Likewise, many of the questions seem posed or artificial—merely a way to provide further information about a point or topic. However, this quality is likely to be useful for reference use by readers picking up the book to learn about just one or two relevant topics. A variety of scenarios familiar to librarians and library staff are laid out as examples, and for each scenario the author not only presents the recommended action or appropriate person to contact but also cites applicable laws and statutes. Case studies are included throughout the book as further examples.

The two most commendable qualities of *Privacy and Confidentiality Issues* are the practicality of the information given and the clarity with which that information is presented. This book will make an excellent go-to source for the sundry privacy and confidentiality concerns that libraries routinely encounter.—Sarah McHone-Chase, Information Delivery Services Librarian, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

ABC-CLIO 5
Annual Reviews cover 3
Compendium 1

Hoover's cover 2
MLA 7
Omnigraphics cover 4