regarding technical services in both local and international contexts. Major areas of discussion here include the challenges that materials processing procedures and RDA cataloging rules can create for global partners. This section is especially beneficial for those whose work involves library automation, library management systems, acquisitions, and cataloging. Recommendations regarding standardization of data structures and language scripts through International Cataloging Principles are just some of the helpful tips discussed by authors in this section. Coordinating global technical services effectively will offer students and professors access to resources and services that cannot be readily provided by home libraries.

Each chapter provides fresh ideas, experimental models, and new approaches to developing an international campus library in collaboration with the home campus. This easy-to-read guide provides valuable advice, models, and approaches for effective partnerships with international branch campus libraries.—Pamela Louderbach, Assistant Professor/Library Director, Northeastern State University, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma


As a librarian whose primary passion and daily job duties center on information literacy instruction, I find myself constantly searching for new techniques and resources to engage my students. To combat the dreaded vacant expressions and deafening silence brought to required library sessions by uninterested students, I do my research and plan, plan, plan. I talk about Beyoncé and Game of Thrones and Donald Trump. I wrap critical discussions in goofy jokes and friendly smiles, and I fervently hope that students leave my classroom with enjoyable memories and a smattering of knowledge about the power of information literacy. To convey this knowledge, I strive to use the most thought-provoking, discussion-based activities possible, and I am delighted to announce that Pagowsky and McElroy’s Critical Library Pedagogy Handbook(s) (2016) provide exactly the type of high-quality, thoughtful, progressive resources that every instruction librarian needs.

Volume 1 begins with a discussion about the critical pedagogy’s place in library science, especially in library instruction. Sprunging from the social sciences, critical theory asks participants to examine the surrounding world in the context of social structures and to seek methods of progress. In the realm of library science, critical theory creates space for librarians and patrons alike to reflect on the social reality created by every library’s environment and to create solutions that promote justice at the individual and community level. The nineteen essays put forth in the first half of volume 1 hold just such a discussion with extremely diverse perspectives, such as Hinchliffe’s (chapter 8) call for academic librarians to incorporate human rights education into information literacy and Shanley and Chance’s (chapter 16) use of the “Girls Rock” method to promote female voices. The second half of volume 1 builds from theory to practice, giving readers eleven examples of activities to apply in their own classrooms.

Volume 2, to my nerdy delight, consists solely of lesson plans, chapter upon chapter of gloriously detailed lesson plans. Each plan offers every element an instructor might need to enact the lesson for herself or himself, including rationale, outcomes, materials, step-by-step instructions, assessment, reflections, and final questions. My one (slightly) negative observation is that the lesson plans of one-shot sessions and multi-lesson activities are intermingled, without labelling at the chapter level to help the reader differentiate between them.

Aside from this small suggestion for improvement, I highly recommend these handbooks to every academic librarian seeking to strengthen their instruction with authentic discussion.—Calantha Tillotsen, Instructional Services Librarian, East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma


As libraries continue to increase their digital offerings, librarians find themselves “at the intersection where the rights and demands of users and content owners often collide” (vii). With this in mind, the purpose of this book is to provide librarians with the knowledge to “influence ever-evolving DRM (digital rights management) in ways that enable them to best serve their users” (vii). Although several books have dealt with the concept of DRM, most address either the broad aspects or the side of the producer (for example, Digital Rights Management: Technological, Economic, Legal and Political Aspects, by Eberhard Becker et al. [Springer 2008] and Digital Rights Management: Protecting and Monetizing Content, by Joan Van Tassel [Focal 2001]). Even an earlier work focused on the librarian perspective, Digital Rights Management: A Librarian’s Guide to Technology and Practice by Grace Agnew (Chandos 2008), looked at DRM primarily through the lens of copyright protection.

However, as this book’s final chapter demonstrates, DRM has become less about copyright and more about protecting owners’ profits, which ultimately creates an information divide. Therefore, a deeper understanding of this technology and ways to advocate for our patrons is essential. Although some of the earlier chapters are densely technical, they provide a foundation for understanding the later applications. While issues of copyright and access have been discussed extensively in library circles, this work addresses newer aspects of DRM. Several chapters (3, 5, and 7) explore the
mounting issue of privacy in access transactions and the growing ability to extract and combine smaller pieces of data in ways that threaten privacy. Chapter 4 highlights the need for increased collaboration between technical and public services. Research and scholarly communication see growing restrictions in sharing but could also benefit from balanced DRM in Creative Commons type licensing.

This book’s broad scope in looking at DRM in a variety of contexts and iterations provides a strong overview of the vastness of this issue to libraries whose primary goal is to disseminate information equitably. Also, because it addresses varied aspects of DRM, the book provides readers with information and resources relevant to their daily work. Each chapter presents an explanation of relevant ideas, implications, recommendations for advocacy, and a detailed bibliography. The bibliographies are a great source for enhancing one’s understanding of this complex issues. Finally, the mix of topics and discussions offers a balanced perspective of the challenges and benefits of DRM, and the last chapter concludes with a strong note of advocacy as libraries continue to address this important issue.—Donna Church, Reference Librarian, Webster University, St. Louis, Missouri


New public librarians will get a solid return on their investment with Barbara A. Alvarez’s new release, *Embedded Business Librarianship for the Public Librarian*. Alvarez offers libraries a step-by-step guide to make business services in public libraries a success. As Alvarez points out, not all public librarians have business degrees, and providing business services in public libraries can be daunting to those new to the profession. Luckily, this primer by Alvarez, who served as a business liaison librarian, gives the rest of us a guide for serving as an embedded librarian for the business sector through organized and systematic involvement in the community.

In her work, Alvarez defines and explains embedded business librarianship in terms of knowing the library’s business community, understanding the power of networking, bringing the business back to the library, and serving as a liaison to the business community. She outlines five insightful steps to build business services, from creating networking lists to developing stylized presentations based on library service offerings. Alvarez draws a clear distinction between traditional library outreach services and embedded librarianship, making a strong case for her belief that, as with any library outreach service, the success of a library’s business services efforts hinges on the library being an active participant—i.e., embedded—in its local community.

Alvarez has trained librarians to provide business services at her library, and she is the recent recipient of the Public Librarian Support Award from RUSA’s Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS)/Morningstar Award. *Embedded Business Librarianship for the Public Librarian* is a start-up primer for business services in public libraries and will meet the needs of new librarians building or enhancing business services at their library.—Nelson Dent, Information Services Librarian, Pioneer Library System, Norman, Oklahoma


*The Librarian’s Guide to Book Programs and Author Events* covers topics ranging from book clubs, author events, and public speaking to writer-in-residence events and “one city, one book” programs. An accomplished Booklist reviewer and active participant in ALA, author Brad Hooper draws on his own experiences to guide librarians who are planning author visits or engaging readers in book clubs.

In the beginning of the rather lengthy introduction, Hooper recounts an experience he once had as moderator of an ALA program; this leads him to discuss moderating panels and working with authors. Much of this material would be better placed in the chapters on public speaking and author events, as it goes into far more detail than is suitable for an introduction. Later in the introduction, Hooper provides a brief overview of the chapters.

Quite a bit of the book’s advice is good—tips on remaining calm and coherent when on stage, engaging with authors without placing them on a pedestal, choosing book club selections, and asking interesting and appropriate questions of authors. But, unfortunately, it is difficult to see much connection between the types of programs Hooper is accustomed to participating in and those that the typical public librarian is likely to encounter. Much of Hooper’s experience has been in large-scale programs, such as those that take place at ALA, with much larger crowds than the typical librarian will likely ever face. Additionally, his advice is often based on a questionable understanding of how public libraries tend to work. For instance, he seems to think that libraries purchase books for book club members to keep, rather than lending them items from our collections. Perhaps some library-sponsored clubs operate this way, but this has not been the case in this reviewer’s experience at libraries with limited funding.

In chapters 2 and 3, Hooper discusses how to organize and run book clubs. Here again, Hooper’s recommendations come off as misguided; he appears to lack an understanding of how libraries usually develop book groups. This is exacerbated by his condescending tone throughout much of the book. For example, he suggests that we librarians must guide discussion groups like a “sheepdog” and that tangential conversations “must not be tolerated.” These types of ideas veer far from the concept of library as community. After all, librarians do not just engage patrons in book discussions; they foster the formation of cohesive groups of people who enjoy learning about each other and who keep coming back not just for the books but also for the friendly bonds.