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Changing roles for academic libraries means changing roles for academic archives. Academic archives no longer exist in isolation from their institutions, but play a central and dynamic role in academic libraries and in institutions of higher education as a whole. Purcell focuses on the expanding responsibilities of college and university archivists and the work they have done to keep academic archives relevant. The book discusses many timely issues, including digitization efforts, the expanding role of records management in academic archives, and the increased importance of public outreach services for academic archives and special collections libraries. Overall, the book is very well organized and accessible; relevant information about the history of the archival profession in the United States is used to illustrate how the profession has evolved and how interdependent relationships between academic archives and academic libraries continue to develop. In addition to his discussion of the central role that academic archives play in colleges and universities, the author thoroughly covers core archival concepts, including collection development, processing, and collection management. Purcell, who is the Director of Special Collections at Virginia Tech, also offers useful advice to those considering a career in archives. He paints a realistic picture of today's job market for archivists and emphasizes the importance of choosing a well-reputed graduate program. Although this book's focus is on academic archives, its readability and coverage of contemporary issues, core concepts, and the archival profession as a whole make it an excellent resource for most introductory archives courses and for individuals considering a career in any type of archive or special collections library. Academic librarians who wish to understand the role of academic archives and special collections departments in today's academic libraries will also find this book to be highly informative.—Allison Embry, Access Services and Distance Learning Librarian, Rogers State University, Claremore, Oklahoma


Young adults aged 12–18 can be a tricky group to understand, and our society too often doesn’t know how to deal with them or what to do with them. This book delivers on its promise of advising librarians about how to answer teens’ tough questions, but provides even more than this. “Working with teens is a roller-coaster ride,” according to author M. K. Eagle (ix). Many would agree with this statement, but what is needed is a systematic approach to surviving that ride and maintaining our own professional goals. It is widely acknowledged that professional training for youth services librarians is sparse, and this book demonstrates and documents the huge need for training and preparation.

The book is structured in such a way that it could be used for professional development and would make an effective tool.
for a book study. Rather surprisingly, the first chapter asks the reader to reflect and engage in self-evaluation. The author emphasizes the importance of asking ourselves tough questions and discovering our own biases. Once we can put those aside, it will be easier to address the tough questions of our teens.

Other chapters include discussions and descriptions of the teen librarians’ experiences in answering questions about sexuality, homelessness, body modifications (tattoos and piercings), abuse, and much more. These are tough topics. Librarians are trained in information retrieval and use, not counseling. However, librarianship is a service-oriented field, and librarians tend to step up to the plate and do what is needed to serve their patrons. Answering Teens’ Tough Questions is a tool that will help librarians prepare for one of the potentially challenging aspects of their jobs. This book is recommended for group study or individual use and as a professional development resource to help librarians learn to effectively answer the tough questions our teens have every day.—Lisa Hunt, NBCT, School Library Media Specialist, Moore Public Schools, Moore, Oklahoma


Book sales (or, to be more modern and current, book and electronic media sales) are the backbone of many libraries’ fundraising efforts, and in tough economic times, these sales are a needed source of library revenue. Written by librarians from the Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Public Library, the Potsdam (New York) Public Library, and the Oro Valley (Arizona) Public Library, this book is unique in its perspectives and views from three different public libraries across the country. It contains many helpful tips and useful practices for organizing and managing a successful book and electronic media sale. The authors address topics such as how to obtain sufficient book donations, how to create book sale committees, how to recruit, train, and retain book sale volunteers, how to organize donations, how to publicize the event, and how to keep account of book sale income. Throughout each chapter, all three authors offer their expertise and experience in running successful book sales at their respective libraries, with handy tips (highlighted by a light bulb) and convenient examples of letters, posters, and flyers. The layout of each chapter, with its examples in gray, makes it easy to read and simple to locate information quickly. The appendixes include a book collection glossary, a guide to collectible books, a list of Internet resources, and a collection of price guide resources.

Although focused mainly on public library book sales, A Book Sale How-to Guide: More Money, Less Stress can also be used by other types of libraries, such as academic libraries, that wish to hold successful book sales. Pat Ditzler and Joann Dumas have written a very useful and resourceful guide to running smooth and hassle-free book sales—all libraries should make this book a part of their collection, if they want to earn income for their institutions. Highly recommended.—Larry Cooperman, Adjunct Faculty Librarian, University of Central Florida Libraries, Orlando, Florida


This work is the second edition of Budd’s 2005 book of the same title. Budd is a professor in the School of Information Science at the University of Missouri at Columbia; his research areas include scholarly communication, social and epistemological aspects of knowledge transfer, and the politics of higher education and academic libraries. He is also the author of Knowledge and Knowing in Library and Information Science (Scarecrow, 2001) and numerous articles in scholarly journals.

It should be recognized at the outset that this book is intended primarily as a text for library science programs, although ACRL’s press release states it could also be used as “an introduction for new professionals and academic administration.” The book’s style reinforces its suitability as a text by interspersing boxed “challenge” questions as a way of summarizing sections of each chapter. The didactic nature of the text is also seen in the discussion points that follow each chapter’s summary.

The author’s first chapter sets the context with a history of the academic library and of higher education in the U.S. back to colonial times. Chapters 2 and 3 provide an overview of the organizational culture of higher education and an understanding of governance, including business models, faculty governance, and management issues surrounding teams and quality assurance. Chapters 4 through 10 focus on more practical issues: funding and fundraising, scholarly communication, collections, the growth of electronic information, open access and digital repositories, user communities and literacy-based approaches, and the core aspects of academic librarianship. Budd’s final chapter, “A Look Ahead,” admits the dangers of speculation, but touches on trends in instruction, distance education, and scholarly communication. The book ends with a 30-page bibliography of sources cited in the text.

Budd’s text takes such a long historical view that it spends only a fraction of its space on forward thinking. Although he raises some contemporary issues, such as embedded librarianship, it would have been valuable for him to have devoted more space to emerging trends for practitioners in the field. This book provides a solid introduction for students, but does not cover current challenges sufficiently for librarians already in the field, even new appointments.—Susan Hopwood, Outreach Librarian, Marquette University Libraries, Milwaukee, Wisconsin


Diversity Programming and Outreach for Academic Libraries