

Encyclopedia of Social Media and Politics. Ed. by Kerric Harvey. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2014. 3 vols. \$415 (ISBN: 978-1-4522-4471-6).

“Social Media. n. web sites and applications which enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking” (OED Online—www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zdrop&inst=uga1). Or, “forms of electronic communication (as Web sites for social networking and microblogging) through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (as videos)” (Merriam-Webster Online—www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/social%20media).

There are probably as many definitions of social media as there are opportunities to pen them. But one feature carries across the definitions: some form of online communication which creates a sense of community. Harvey’s *Encyclopedia of Social Media and Politics* does a good job of bringing together the myriad forms of social media with the wider world of politics. Her edited three-volume encyclopedia covers a plethora of topics from the AARP to Mark Zuckerberg. In addition to the expected introductory essay, there is a fairly detailed chronology beginning with 1945, which quotes an article by Vannevar Bush calling “for the creation of some sort of collective memory, which he called the memex, . . . [for] storing or organizing information. . . . This article is often cited as the first to suggest the properties later realized through hypertext” (xxxix). The signed articles are usually multi-page entries, and each includes cross-references and suggestions for further reading. As one would expect in an encyclopedia on this topic, many of the suggested readings contain URLs to websites and blogs. The glossary provides additional information on terms that may not be familiar to everyone, including entries on *friending*, *tweeps*, and *Wonkette*. A resource guide, which does not include all the entries from the suggested readings, directs users to a select bibliography of books, journal titles (not to actual articles, however), and websites. A unique appendix provides a chart of Representatives and Senators, listing the member’s age and other relevant demographics, party affiliation, and whether or not he or she has a Facebook page, Twitter account, RSS feed, or a YouTube presence. The number of “likes,” followers, and the activity level in each area of social media complete the chart. Readers are invited to draw their own conclusions about this activity or lack thereof.

Significant historical events, such as the Arab Spring, the Occupy Movement, and the rise of the Tea Party Movement, are covered as well as lesser known topics. A “Reader’s Guide” divides the articles into general topics, making it easier to hone in on a given area.

Books on this topic abound. Among some recent publications are David Taras and Christopher Waddell’s *How Canadians Communicate IV* (AU Press, 2012), Jason Gainous and Kevin Wagner’s *Tweeting to Power: The Social Media Revolution in American Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2014), *Transforming American Governance: Rebooting the Public Square*,

edited by Alan Balutis, Terry F. Buss, and Dwight Ink (M.E. Sharpe, 2011), and *Party On! Political Parties from Hamilton and Jefferson to Today’s Networked Age* by John K. White and Matthew R. Kerbel (Paradigm Publishers, 2012). These titles are either entirely about social media and politics or have sections devoted to the topic. However, these publications are more suited to the general collection. A publication from 2013 which sits nicely on the reference shelf along with Harvey’s encyclopedia is the three-volume set, *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social & Political Movements*, edited by Snow, Della Porta, Klandermans, and McAdam (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013). The Wiley-Blackwell title is more historical in scope, covering the American Revolution, other decolonization movements in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as well labor movements and strikes. Social media is woven into the narratives and is also a section unto itself. Libraries would do well to purchase both of these complementary titles. *Encyclopedia of Social Media and Politics* is recommended for undergraduate, graduate, and public library collections. —Carla Wilson Buss, *Curriculum Materials & Education Librarian, University of Georgia Libraries, Athens, Georgia*

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics: An Encyclopedia. Ed. by Timothy C. Haab and John C. Whitehead. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2014. 372 p. acid free \$89 (ISBN: 978-1-4408-0119-8). E-book available (978-1-4408-0120-4), call for pricing.

The editors state up front in their preface that the aim of economics is the study of “stuff” – how it is bought, sold, and used; its costs, benefits, and policies; and whether it is conserved or not conserved, etc. The “stuff” of this single volume encyclopedia is the definitions, descriptions, contributions, and techniques of economics and economists applied to many of the environmental and natural resource contexts and issues. What is missing are more of the intrinsic contributions of the natural environment to maintaining life on Earth. The book would benefit from more emphasis on the well-being of humans and all other species beyond the excellent discussion of ecosystem services (117–120).

Among the many useful and clearly written entries is the one called “Books.” It is a short essay and bibliography of texts and other books important to the understanding of economics and human decisions on ecology and the environment.

The contributions of the selected economists to the environment, such as the understanding of conservation (Dr. John V. Krutilla, 202), environmental valuation (Sherwin Rosen, 285), and interpreting economic ideas to policy makers (George S. Tolley, 305) and others will lead users to want to learn more about their ideas and influence.

The “Value of Statistical Life” entry (330) is fascinating and troubling. While recognizing that life is precious, and protecting it is always the balancing of risks and affordability or a benefit cost analysis, it is discussed as primarily individual decision making. The concept is presented as individuals making choices rather than living with and under the political