

Letters

To the Editor:

Cliff Glaviano and R. Errol Lam ("Academic Libraries and Affirmative Action" [C&RL, Nov. 1990]) have developed a compelling presentation of current failures to develop a broad pool of culturally diverse academic librarians. However, their assertion that the literature has been barren ignores two important recent contributions: Ann Knight Randall, "Minority Recruitment in Librarianship," in *Librarians for the New Millennium*, p. 11-25 (edited by William E. Moen and Kathleen M. Heim, Chicago: ALA, 1988) and the chapter, "Ethnicity" in *Occupational Entry*, by Kathleen M. Heim and William E. Moen, p. 115-139 (Chicago, ALA, 1989). These two contributions, supported by an ALA Goal Award, were intended to address personnel shortages—shortages of minority personnel.

The *Millennium* volume also delineates the substance of hearings and forums sponsored by the ALA Office for Library Personnel Resources from 1987-1989 to address issues relating to the need for diversity in the library workforce. While the profession has experienced dismal success in changing the overall ethnic composition of library staff, the ALA OLPR initiatives under the direction of Margaret Myers devoted much time and commitment to addressing issues and presenting data and strategies. Those who require data and analysis are directed to the OLPR publications mentioned above, which are available from the OLPR office.

KATHLEEN M. HEIM

Professor, School of Library and Information Science
Dean, Graduate School, Louisiana State University

To the Editor:

Randall R. Butler's pH investigation of acquisitions at Brigham Young University (C&RL, Nov. 1990) is a model of clarity that merits replication. His inclusion, however, omits one essential source of oversight and control, namely the media that report and review new titles. Many of these, working from proofs or perhaps beholding to publishers, fail to inform their audience of the acidity issue, much less test and report pH.

Using the same test method as Butler (i.e., chlorophenol red indicator pen obtained from Abbey Publications, Provo, Utah), Book News, Inc. tests and reports acidity for every title reviewed in its three publications: *University Press Book News*, *SciTech Book News*, and *Reference and Research Book News*.

Sure some publishers don't like it (to the point of refusing us review copies on those grounds!), but what's right is right. Now if *Choice* and others serving a library audience would just take note.

ROBERT COHEN

Associate Editor
Book News, Inc.



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Official award citations will be presented to contest winners at the 1992 annual conference of the American Library Association, at a reception hosted by The H.W. Wilson Company.

Sponsorship

The John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Awards Contest is sponsored jointly by The H.W. Wilson Company and the Public Relations Section of the Library Administration and Management Association, a division of the American Library Association.

To Enter

To request an Information Packet containing contest entry forms, rules and regulations, questions and answers about the awards, a sample of the judges' evaluation form, names of the contest judges, and a list of previous winners, please write to: John Cotton Dana PR Awards Contest, The H.W. Wilson Company, 950 University Avenue, Bronx, New York 10452.

Contest Dates

Entries for the 1992 John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Awards Contest can reflect any one of the following time frames:

- Calendar year 1991 (January-December)
- School Year 1990/91 (Fall-Spring)
- Special Project which ends in 1991.

The Deadline for entries is February 3, 1992.