Recent Publications

BOOK REVIEWS

Miller, J. Gormly. *Collection Development and Management at Cornell: A Concluding Report on Activities of the Cornell University Libraries' Project for Collection Development and Management, July 1979–June 1980, with Proposals for Future Planning.* Prepared under a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Libraries, 1981. 132p.
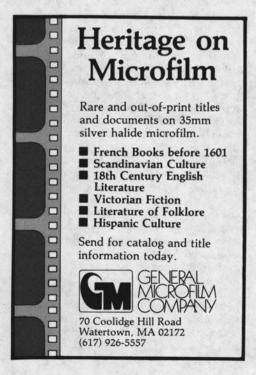
Collection Development and Management at Cornell is the final report on a Cornell project created to deal with the "rapid and unplanned growth of library collections" at a large research library. Assisted by a Mellon Foundation grant, Hendrik Edelman, then assistant director of libraries for collection development at Cornell, headed the project from July 1977 to January 1979 until he moved to Rutgers as university librarian. His interim report, *Collection Development and Management at Cornell: An Interim Report* (1979), covering the project from July 1977 through June 1979, was the first of two reports. This review covers the second part, which describes project activities for the last year of the project and includes recommendations for the future of collection development at Cornell University Libraries. Although the author focuses on Cornell issues, the report recommendations have general applicability at other university libraries and offer planning approaches that can be used by collection managers at any institution.

The report has an executive summary outlining and indexing principal segments of the report in detail. The study offers a variety of strategies for coping with collection development in a large institution, including improved collection of management data, a restructuring of the organization, and limitations on collecting goals and objectives. In addition to a short summary of the interim report and generous quotations from it, the final report includes appendixes with a bibliography of articles on allocation; a sample collection profile of the music library; a list of data collected by the project at Cornell; a list of documents and working papers prepared for the project; and definitions of terms used in the project report.

The profile of the music library, by Michael Keller, is of special value because it demonstrates in practice one of the chief planning tools recommended by the project: a collection statement about a type or field of literature. These profiles are more detailed and comprehensive than the standard ALA collection-policy statements and are proposed as an essential element of a "plan to control costs by limiting the library's goals and objectives rather than by ad-hoc program reductions or by trying to apply any kind of budgetary formula."

Other major elements of the recommended program include a detailed mission statement for the library; a survey of research use; definitions of collecting responsibilities; factors for decision making on book fund allocation; proposed categories of data

and information required for collection planning; an access service department; and working groups charged with implementing this program. The segment of the report on factors for decision making on book fund allocations (p.71–73) is a particularly valuable compilation of factors to be considered when dividing up the book budget.

Miller makes a number of significant observations about the planning process. He notes that university libraries have not applied networking concepts within their own institutions, e.g., the library as a clearinghouse or reference center for the internal "University Information Resource Network." In relation to this concept he suggests: "The Library should be encouraged with adequate funding to set up within the library system a clearinghouse to provide repositories such as art galleries, slide collections, collections of objects or images, collection of audio-visual materials and libraries or document collections outside the library system." He argues that, if the library takes on responsibility for special materials, e.g., data tapes, slides, phonodiscs, report litera-

ture, and videotapes, then they should do so with the assurance of special funds. He proposes that there be a two-level allocation system, one internal library allocation for core collections, and the other external allocation for highly specialized information services. He notes: "Taking a leaf therefore from some of the schemes by which universities are funding their computer centers, some decentralization of funding of library resources will both protect the core of the library budget and put the responsibility for some of the highly specialized resources in the departments or colleges with special and particular information requirements, where it belongs."

Miller also recommends an important role for circulation in the management of collections. This role includes management responsibility for bindery; security; conservation and preservation; microform collections; user surveys; replacements and withdrawals; duplication policies; and storage of materials. Finally, he reiterates Hendrik Edelman's concern that bibliographic access "has typically been confused with in-depth cataloging," and suggests that "the entire concept of access . . . bears reexamination." As he and Edelman point out, cataloging is critically important to the broad concept of collection management since libraries are not now readily able to respond in a timely fashion to the growing requirements to process specialized materials such as company reports, data tapes, microforms sets, census publications, collective-bargaining agreements, and other such materials, because there is still a tendency to treat everything with the same level of intensity.

This study is well written and well documented. The report's few defects stem from its origin as an internal report. It is too bad, for example, that the first and second reports were not published together since there is extensive quotation from the first report, and it would be useful to see these comments in context. There are also some typos; for example, Leroy Ortopan is referred to twice as *Ortoplan*. For the most part, however, the text is very clear and the layout is attractive. One unfortunate binding error is that the two major charts showing the "University Information Resources Network" and the "Proposed

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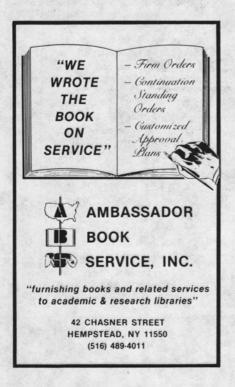**Bridgeton, Mo. 63044**

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Structure for Collection Development" are out of place in the text, but this mistake is covered by an "errata slip."

Although this report is an internal report, it should get wide distribution in the academic library field. It contains some unique insights into the problems of planning for academic library collections and is a very useful supplement to the handbooks of the Association of Research Libraries' Collection Analysis Project. Messrs. Miller and Edelman are to be commended for their incisive statements about complex collection-planning problems at Cornell because their recommendations will have enduring value outside of Ithaca.—*Frederick C. Lynden, Brown University.*

Carpenter, Michael. *Corporate Authorship: Its Role in Library Cataloging.* Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1981. 200p. $27.50. LC 80-1026. ISBN 0-313-22065-4.

Now, when the dust has settled after the debate between the supporters and opponents of corporate "authorship," triggered by the preparation of AACR2, we have a good book on the topic. The timing seems unfortunate, because a publication date a few years earlier would have helped to clarify some of the issues then under debate.

The book is divided into three parts: (1) "The Problem of Corporate Authorship," (2) "The Nature of Authorship," and (3) "Conclusion." The first part is a description of the rise, development, and ultimate demise of the concept of corporate "authorship," limited mostly as it was to the English-speaking world and lasting approximately a century and a quarter. The second part analyzes the concept of authorship in more general terms, presenting the main arguments pro or con for the extension of the concept to include corporate bodies in addition to the traditional personal authors.

The book is well written and offers a fairly thorough exposé of relevant developments, especially in the United States. If the work has a flaw, it would be its tendency to present the pro-corporate-authorship arguments more fully than their counterparts. However, even so, the reader gets a clear presentation of the qualitative differences between personal and corporate authorship and of the theoretical difficulties faced by anyone trying to formulate a justification of why personal authors and corporate "authors" should be treated in the same manner in a cataloging code. The procrustean qualities of such a position were not lost on the framers of AACR2 and led, ultimately, to its abandonment altogether.

It also focuses our attention on what happens when one tries to create a cataloging code, not by starting with the user and what his needs are, but with the code maker's perception of what such a code should be. After all, what difference does it make to the user when a main entry under personal name is called "authorship" and one under a corporate body "emanation," when in most cases he is totally unaware of such refinements anyway?

The book is, by its nature and topic, of special interest, and is recommended for collections or persons interested in the history and development of the concept of "authorship." It is definitely not something a practitioner needs to have handy when trying to interpret or unravel the whys of AACR2.—*Åke I. Koel, Yale University Library.*