

The chapters devoted to assessing the quality of library collections offer a solid overview of the various methodologies available to the librarian. Collection developers and bibliographers will find them very useful. In contrast, the chapter on evaluation of catalog use initially seems too brief and far too superficial (only eight pages in length), but the author supplements it with important sections of a later chapter devoted to database searching. His assessment of the research leads him to conclude that the transformation of the card catalog into an online database has not improved subject access. While catalogs have grown larger since the advent of automation, according to Lancaster there has been no significant increase in their discriminating power. He concludes "that significant improvements are not possible within the constraints of existing subject cataloging practice." The section on evaluation of reference service focuses primarily on answering of factual questions. The author devotes considerable attention to a single unobtrusive study. While other such studies are briefly noted, he does not review various research approaches. He discusses instead a variety of factors that affect the quality of question answering services in libraries in a very useful fashion.

Lancaster often comments on his own published evaluative research conducted throughout his long career as a library science educator. For instance, his investigation of the teaching-relatedness of library and information science journals leads him to argue that this factor, as well as research-relatedness, needs to be considered in the evaluation of journals in an academic library. He also frequently injects his assessments of research and methodologies with provocative suggestions, such as "One suspects, in fact, that a colorful display on 'Books that have never been borrowed' might be a great success." The book offers an excellent mix of research on academic and public libraries. Lancaster cites numerous review articles in addition to articles reporting empirical re-

search, and surveys both U.K. and U.S. research as well.

Current debates do not escape Lancaster's attention. He frequently emphasizes evaluating *access*, noting in his introduction that "access, rather than ownership, should be the main criterion by which a library's resources should be evaluated." While somewhat ironic, it is also perhaps predictable that access to *If You Want to Evaluate Your Library . . .* for most librarians will mean the local collection, if not one's personal professional library. This book is an important achievement that most librarians will want to find near at hand.—Craig S. Likness, Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas.

Rethinking Reference in Academic Libraries. Ed. Anne Grodzins Lipow. Berkeley, Calif.: Library Solutions Press, 1993. 242p. \$32 (ISBN 1-882208-02-1).

This publication presents the proceedings and "process" documents of a three-day institute held in 1993 at the University of California, Berkeley and repeated at Duke University. According to organizer Anne Lipow, the impetus for the institute was the need to raise new questions and generate new ideas concerning academic libraries. Lipow chose to focus on reference librarians, a group she characterizes as a receptive and change-oriented audience. Audiotapes of the formal presentations from the Berkeley gathering are also available for purchase.

This book is divided into three parts: the proceedings, the process documents, and the appendices. Keynote speaker Jerry D. Campbell calls for participants to search for new foundations for reference and recognize that new models will have a profound impact on the library as a whole. This lead article is followed by equally eloquent contributions by an impressive array of library leaders, consultants, educators, administrators, and practitioners, including Terry Mazany, Charles Bunge, Suzanne Calpestri, Virginia Massey-Burzio, Frances O. Painter, Janice Simmons-Welburn, Karen Williams, Larry Oberg, and James Rettig.

Several themes are repeated and woven throughout: the fundamental importance of an ongoing, aggressive needs-assessment program; value-added services that librarians can offer; new partnerships and alliances outside of the library that benefit the user; a user-centered emphasis; and great expectations for new and innovative service models. Rettig summarizes the trends emerging as the old paradigms begin to crack: tiered service structures; floating reference librarians; going out to users; and user studies. The authors discuss in detail reference models in place at Brandeis, Johns Hopkins, University of Iowa, Virginia Tech, and the University of Arizona. Each model presents a slightly different framework, but all are predicated on multifaceted reference and information services in which the traditional reference desk is but one component, if it continues to exist at all. Part I concludes by reproducing the results from "brainstorming" sessions, outlining how the momentum of the institutes is being sustained, and offering views-in-progress concerning the evolving future of bibliographic instruction.

In Part II, institute organizers Lipow and Lou Wetherbee reproduce institute planning documents, including program principles, tips for replicating the institute, and major costs. Anyone wishing to recreate the institute at one's local library, as a consortial continuing education opportunity, or for a library school class would do well to consult this section.

Part III is comprised of useful appendices that support and extend the value of the proceedings. These include examples of homework contributions from Berkeley and Duke, an excellent bibliography, a twenty-first-century job description, a summary of reorganization efforts in reference departments across the country, and a year 2010 draft plan for the Duke University Libraries.

Rethinking Reference ties together many threads of discontent with current models of reference service found in the literature, at conferences, in electronic discussion groups, and at each of our own institutions. The excitement and in-

terest generated by the institute are preserved by Lipow and associates in this well-crafted publication. The text is interspersed with highlight boxes and bulleted thoughts, making it enjoyable and fruitful to browse or read cover to cover.

This book both engages the reader in a thoughtful examination of critical issues and suggests avenues and strategies for action. For reference managers, the publication offers a structure for customizing their own home-grown institute. Library administrators can build on the authors' wisdom and the institute's conceptual framework to initiate a far-ranging dialogue on current and future service models. Lipow and her colleagues have positively influenced and advanced reference service with this important publication.—*Lizabeth A. Wilson, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.*

SHORT NOTICES

Leipziger Jahrbuch zur Buchgeschichte.

Ed. Mark Lehmstedt and Lothar Poethe. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, 1991-. Approx. \$55/yr. (ISSN 0940-1954).

The city most closely associated with German publishing and the German book trade from the eighteenth century through World War II, Leipzig, is now trying to reclaim its identity and assert its role in a radically redefined political and economic environment. The establishment of this yearbook devoted to the history of the book, begun shortly after the fall of the Wall and now with three issues published, is a part of this effort. It is clearly also a manifestation of recent scholarly interest, until now most closely associated with France, in the book as a critical site of cultural history. The focus of the *Yearbook* tends to be German, though it aims for a wider reach, and only the occasional piece is in a language other than German. Following a consistent format, it includes four sections: articles—roughly ten per issue—addressing topics such as Rousseau's ideas concerning literary property as revealed in his correspondence with his publisher Marc-Michel Rey, a history of the early Brockhaus encyclopedia, Ger-