

envisions only individual citizens seem to participate meaningfully. After the display of so much legal expertise, her call for individual participation appears somewhat ingenuous, as she acknowledges the power of "powerful vested interests" and their lobbies only once. Disagreement with her conclusion need not, however, preclude librarians' using her analytic surveys of topics that are of great interest to librarians and other information professionals.—Jeffry Larson, *Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.*

**Rossman, Parker.** *The Emerging World-wide Electronic University: Information Age Global Higher Education.* Westport Conn.: Greenwood, 1993. 176p. \$17.95 (ISBN 0-275-94776-9).

The elements of this volume's vision of the future are mostly familiar. It comprises on one hand the expectations of the electronic zealot who expects a networked world to transform information processing and education totally, and on the other hand the internationalist's commitment to advancing the interests of humankind through broadly collaborative international projects. The author is "Vice-President of the Global Systems Analysis and Simulation Project (GLOSAS/USA) and Chair of the GLOSAS/Global University-Long-Range Planning Committee." This project goes back twenty years and at the time of writing (1991) had still not offered an actual course internationally; a veronica search of gopherspace finds that the enterprise is active but cannot confirm that

it is actually offering courses. It sponsored, for example, the first international conference on distance learning ever held in Moscow this past summer.

The volume is not, however, hostage to the fortunes of the author's enterprises. It is a creditable journalistic survey of recent (at the time of writing) discussion of the possibilities for creating broad-based educational enterprises running beyond national boundaries. The particular synergy it seeks arises out of the power of electronic information to forge links between geographically remote locations and the political commitment to create such links in the first place. The faith that the work represents is a familiar mix of the internationalist and the peace activist. A fair amount of what is mentioned is vaporware, and the intellectual and cultural contexts are slightly disconcerting (e.g., H. G. Wells fantasizing about the "World Brain"). Soothing buzzwords (the Pacific rim, lifelong learning) are regularly heard. The basis in reality is fairly slight: a sense of economic pressures is only lightly present, and I find no discussion of intellectual property laws and the commercialization of electronic information and how that might affect the pious daydreams here. The chapter on "Connecting the World's Research Libraries" contains fresh material of interest to all those who have not yet heard of or familiarized themselves with the workings of OCLC, but to few others.—James J. O'Donnell, *University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.*

#### COLLEGE & RESEARCH LIBRARIES INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Biosis	95, 112
Ebsco	93
Greenwood	99
Library Technologies	100
PAIS	cover 2
Personal Bibliographic Software	cover 3
Readmore	132, 143
Todd	cover 4
H. W. Wilson	185, 187