

Through a persuasive analysis of women's networks of community, politics, kinship, and friendship, the book offers insight into women's consciousness as librarians. While adding breadth and depth to the existing literature on the educational and professional history of women librarians, this book also challenges the myth that the "feminization of librarianship" is a factor contributing to the profession's downgraded image. Christine Jenkins in her essay also confronts what Geraldine Joncich Clifford described in the preface as "misconceptions about women librarians' roles in defense of intellectual freedom."

The volume contains two parts. The first is full of colorful and informative accounts of heroines and tireless workers whose contributions often have been omitted or overlooked in the chronicles of library history. Each article illustrates the activism and enterprise of women from Jean Blackwell Hutson to Adelaide Hasse to Julia Brown Asplund to Anne Carrol Moore, describing the vanguard that definitely shaped the librarian profession. Of all the articles, my favorites, "Dorothy Porter Wesley: Bibliographer, Curator, and Scholar" and "Librarian, Literary Detective and Scholar: Fannie Elizabeth Ratchford," reminded me of myself. All articles include endnotes, and some include bibliographies of sources.

Not every woman worthy of inclu-

sion is found among the chapters in this monograph. The editor states in chapter one that "There are still many early library women to identify and study, including women of different races and ethnicities and lesbian women." But one can hardly find fault with this effort. It also is argued that the burgeoning field of women's history in librarianship should do more than tell stories of sexism and oppression. Instead, writes Geraldine Joncich Clifford, "in order to advance the historiography of librarianship beyond the herstory phase of feminist scholarship, it is necessary to do more than introduce female contributors into the saga. Rather, the ideological foundations and structural operations of differentiated gendered experience also need to be revealed and explained."

Which is just what part two aims to do—rescue women from the margins to which conventional histories have assigned them. It contains articles, from four women librarians, that grapple with misperceptions and lack of awareness inherent in *HIStory*, by considering the experiences and institutional status of women. Clearly, the need exists for more studies of this kind, especially research that compares the experiences of men and women librarians.

This is an essential book, one that will be of enduring value to students, researchers, and anyone interested in a fuller, richer understanding of library history. There is a detailed subject index and a delightful cited author index. Also, I am pleased that placement of the notes is at the end of each chapter. One minor flaw is the small print, which detracts from the book's readability. Nevertheless, I wish the widest possible readership for such a good work.—*Gladys Smiley Bell, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.*

Reed-Scott, Jutta, principal author. *Scholarship, Research Libraries, and Global*

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Publishing: The Result of a Study Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Washington, D.C.: Association of Research Libraries, 1996. xx, 159p. \$30. ISBN 0-918006-78-3. LC 96-13725.

The message is here and the message is clear: U.S. and Canadian research libraries do not now have the resources to acquire the foreign publications that are increasingly necessary for scholarly research, and unless they begin to collect cooperatively, they will not be able to acquire essential foreign publications. This report traces the decline in foreign acquisitions, identifies its causes, shows that research libraries are building identical core collections, and sketches solutions to the problem. This report should be read and studied by all area studies librarians, library directors, and scholars whose research depends even remotely on foreign publications. A crisis looms.

This monograph is a result of the Association of Research Libraries' (ARL) Foreign Acquisitions Project, a four-year study of trends in "global information resources" funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The purpose of the project was to develop "a clearer understanding of the forces influencing North American research libraries' ability" to build and maintain collections of publications produced outside the United States and Canada. The pressure of budgets, the fluctuations in exchange rates, the tremendous increase in foreign publications in English and indigenous languages, and the associated costs of acquiring, cataloging, and preserving foreign publications are all significant factors in the decline of foreign acquisitions. The solution to this problem is, according to this study, cooperative action at a time when advances in communications allow libraries "to redesign their modes of providing service."

Jutta Reed-Scott, senior program officer for preservation and collection de-

velopment at ARL, shows how support for foreign area and language collections in North American research libraries has waxed and waned, from expansion in the 1960s, when funding was much more fluid, to subsequent retrenchment in the 1970s and 1980s. One of the key points she makes, quoting a 1984 report issued by the Association of American Universities (AAU), is that area collections are crucial to area studies scholars, but marginal to the primary concerns of many universities. As area studies faculty and librarians well know, "marginal" areas are the most easily and most readily cut when universities face a budget crunch, which is more and more an annual ritual. What is even more disturbing than the realities of impending and experienced cuts is the fact that libraries that temporarily curtail acquisition of foreign publications cannot catch up. Not only are libraries unlikely to be funded in the future as in the past, but the publications the libraries missed, particularly those from developing countries, will not be available for acquisition. And "area studies" encompasses virtually the rest of the world: Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, Russia and Eastern Europe, and Western Europe.

However, the real crunch comes when we realize, as this study notes, that U.S. and Canadian libraries are building identical collections, leaving the unique items out of their collections because "only a handful of libraries—and foremost among them the Library of Congress—have invested in building comprehensive collections of global resources for all world areas." Reed-Scott notes that "With some notable exceptions, cutbacks in foreign acquisitions are driven by local demands, with little consideration of the effects on the entire North American access system for highly specialized resources." The truth of this statement does not take into account that local demands—the faculty,

students, and other researchers at each institution—are what drive acquisitions, and that no library in the United States, even the Library of Congress, is the national library.

Reed-Scott calls for “fundamental changes in the ways major research libraries of the U.S. and Canada acquire and maintain foreign area and language collections.” This is to be achieved through “coordinated strategies for ensuring the success of the aggregate holdings in the face of reductions at the institutional level.” Her vision is that libraries will not only collect collaboratively but also will share access and distribution, thus ensuring comprehensive collections of foreign materials while containing costs. They would do this by reallocating local budgets to support access and delivery, a proposal that many libraries, and their patrons, might find very difficult to accept.

Three demonstration projects have been set up by ARL in partnership with AAU. They target Latin American acquisitions, German-language materials, and Japanese-language scientific and technical resources as samples of the diverse challenges—due to the “economic, cultural, political, and linguistic characteristics of these three cultures”—that will be encountered in efforts to achieve the goal of collaborative acquisitions and access. ARL also is working with the American Council of Learned Societies to involve scholarly societies both to build consensus for the strategies of this program and to assess and address their need for foreign research materials. Another very important component of the program focuses on promoting the education and development of area librarians. The 1995 conference on the development of area librarianship, held at Indiana University, highlighted the projected shortage of area librarians and the “diminished priority” of ARL directors in filling area librarian positions. The time to identify, educate, and train area specialists is

now, well before implementation of the collaborative plan called for in this study, but little is being done in the United States on a national or even a local level, nor are foreign area library committees actively addressing this issue, with one or two exceptions.

The second part of this study, “Framing the Problem,” concerns shifts in area and international studies and information needs; how the internationalization of curricula and research is changing the way researchers work; the growth in global publishing between 1980 and 1990; the economics of international research resources (increases in the cost of materials coupled with fluctuations in the value of the dollar and a decline in both internal and external funding for libraries); and the increasing diversity of resources.

Part three of this study reports on the collecting patterns of North American research libraries and provides summaries of the separate surveys of area studies collections prepared by the area studies library committees. Most of the surveys have been published in full elsewhere, and some are available on the ARL gopher. Because many of the surveys were prepared for this project, they trace the common themes of trends in the geographic area that is the focus of the individual committees, trends in publishing costs, state of collections, cooperative efforts, and the impact of electronic resources. Only two of the fifteen summaries mention the need for support for librarians. The next section gives information on cooperative collection development programs that already are in place and functioning.

The final section of this book focuses on AAU/ARL initiatives in foreign language and area studies publications, with a review of the initial three demonstration projects, and presents the ARL vision for the future. The appendix contains ARL's strategic plan for improving

access to global information resources in U.S. and Canadian research libraries. This is followed by a bibliography of references used in the text.

Aside from the information given in this study on the ARL initiative, there is a wealth of useful information that would be very time-consuming to gather separately, particularly the summaries of area studies library committees, the surveys on international publishing, and the information on the economic realities of maintaining area study collections. This study is well organized, very readable, and very important, and is supported by numerous useful figures and tables. Its title, however, barely hints at its contents, nor does it indicate that the study is a response to an imminent crisis that is being addressed by a very far-reaching project. Those who want to keep up on the development of this program can subscribe to *ARL-Announce* on the Internet, but ARL also needs to be even more aggressive in getting the word out to librarians and faculty than it has been up to now. And the issue of recruiting and training the next generation of area studies librarians must be brought to the fore as the strategic plan is implemented. The project and this study already have made a significant contribution by including Canadian libraries.

Three new developments support the concerns of this project: first, the U.S. government announced in January 1997 a proposal to make substantial cuts in the funding for the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS), which would further diminish the resources on foreign countries that American scholars use for research; second, in January, the Mellon Foundation awarded this project a substantial grant that will allow for Southeast Asia and Africa demonstration projects and will enable ARL to move faster in promoting coordinated collection management; and third, U.S. libraries with South Asian collections have

formed three regional consortia to address some of the same concerns addressed in this study.—*Raymond Lum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.*

Wallerstein, Immanuel, et al. *Open the Social Sciences: Report of the Gulbenkian Commission on the Restructuring of the Social Sciences.* Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Univ. Pr. (Mestizo Spaces), 1996. 105p. alk. paper, \$37.50 cloth. ISBN 0-8047-2726-0. \$10.95 paper. ISBN 0-08047-2727-9. LC 95-45759.

Although the distance between the covers is not great, this book should play a major role in setting the agenda for discussion on the future of the dominant social science paradigm. Immanuel Wallerstein, distinguished professor of sociology, president of the International Sociological Association, and director of the Fernand Braudel Center for the Study of Economics, Historical Systems, and Civilizations at the State University of New York, Binghamton, is perhaps the preeminent scholar of the social sciences in relation to world systems and their study. Wallerstein, along with ten other scholars of world renown (six from the social sciences, two from the natural sciences, and two from the humanities), has brought to the fore several consequential issues for deliberation regarding the existing disciplinary structure of the social sciences.

In the first section of this book, the authors carefully outline the social and historical construction of the social sciences as a form of knowledge that was organized around two separate antinomies—one between the past and the present, and the second between the descriptive (nomothetic) and the interpretive (idiographic) disciplines. Cartesian dualism, the heart of contemporary inquiry, posited the bifurcation between the human, metaphysical world and the natural world. The Newtonian view of this natural world saw the universe operating like clockwork, mechanically tick-