

analyzing data, and reporting results. Authors of subsequent chapters trace the implementation of these processes in a variety of curricula and institutions. Each chapter is focused on a particular strategy, implemented in a particular course or curriculum, at a single institution. For example, one chapter is devoted to an overview of the assessment of information literacy (IL) in an introductory education class at Spokane Falls Community College, whereas another focuses on assessment of IL in a history class at California State University at Northridge. The first of these projects utilized a Web page checklist, whereas the latter used a questionnaire to obtain information from students. These examples are valuable because they demonstrate that there is a chance to do assessment in nearly every curriculum and working within almost any administrative structure.

Each chapter starts with a description of the institution, followed by a list of project participants, and provides a description of the project and its results, challenges, and conclusions. Examples of assessment tools are included at the end of each chapter. Sample assessment strategies include rubrics, questionnaires, source-rating exercises, Web evaluation forms, and analyses of research papers.

Although many of the strategies utilized to work with different academic constituencies are innovative, the research methodologies are not groundbreaking. The goal is to show that with some fundamental assessment skills and a rudimentary knowledge of statistics, even folks who do not think of themselves as experts in assessment or research design can generate meaningful information for their organization. Most academic librarians should find at least one example in this book that will cause them to say, "I could do that at my institution!" It is in this way that this book will have its great-

est impact. —*John P. Renaud, University of Miami.*

**Levinson, Nan.** *Outspoken: Free Speech Stories.* Berkeley: Univ. of California Pr., 2003. 359p. alk. paper, \$29.95 (ISBN 0520223705). LC 2003-3000597.

The jacket blurbs by Howard Zinn, David Cole, Candida Royalle, and James O. Freedman extol this collection of twenty profiles and cases as variously "heart-warming," "inspiring," "imaginative," "compelling," and "relevant." They are. And the UC Press itself declares that "in an engaging, anecdotal style, Levinson explores the balance between First Amendment and other rights, such as equality, privacy, and security; the relationship among behavior, speech, and images; the tangle of suppression, marketing, and politics; and the role of dissent in our society." That's an accurate description.

Levinson, a Boston journalist, Tufts University lecturer, and free-speech advocate, never waivers in her commitment to First Amendment values but also doesn't avoid complexity and nuance. As she admits, "I began this book as an ... absolutist and finish it as something less comfortable." There are stories about a variety of people, from government officials, schoolteachers, and occupational health researchers to firefighters, teenage Webmasters, and black conscientious objectors, who wrote, spoke, read, drew, filmed, performed, or thought something that mightily disturbed someone else. So much so that the offended parties—among them, police, bureaucrats, and pressure groups—sought to silence the perpetrators, the boat-rockers and dissidents, by such means as jail, expulsion, firing, defamation, and de-funding, not to mention outright censorship such as removing a mural, denying distribution to a documentary film, and banning gay-positive literature from a high school.

Levinson demonstrates, in great detail, that free speech does not come cheap. And sometimes, as in the horrific case of Mike Diana's conviction and spirit-muzzling punishment for publishing an "obscene" comic-zine, it doesn't come at all. She further illustrates that First Amendment heroes, although often principled and resolute, are more likely to experience stress and pain than exhilaration and fulfillment. In the aggregate, these tales may surely inspire appreciation for outspokenness and how crucial it is within a democratic society, but it also may represent a caution about the frequently dire consequences—job loss, vilification, heavy legal expenses, physical danger, and even prison—that behaving outside the box can entail. Thus, her tome could function equally as a clarion call to courageous dissent—or a warning to shut up.

Two unintended ironies emerge. In chronicling the ordeal of author Margaret Randall to regain her U.S. citizenship, which the INS tried to thwart based largely on Randall's political beliefs, Levinson reports that the once-expatriate writer lived for a while in Cuba, where she compiled an oral history of women there. "Even if it were possible, homogeneity of thought, though passingly seductive, is hardly desirable," observes Levinson with respect to America and its speech-bridling McCarran-Walter Act, which was invoked against Randall. However, there's no comment concerning Randall's apparent fondness for the Castro regime and the explicit enshrinement of "homogeneity," not diversity, in the Cuban Constitution. Second, although the ALA enjoys at least one favorable mention, there's no recognition that ALA itself nowhere, in its policies and standards, firmly and unmistakably affirms the right of library staff to freely express their views on professional and policy issues in the workplace. (Librarians seem to fiercely support free speech for

nearly everyone and everything—except themselves.)

A directory of all cited organizations, as well as free-speech groups and Web sites, would have been useful. And the work notably lacks graphics, for instance, showing a page or cover from Diana's *Boiled Angel*, Richard Taylor's antiauthoritarian graffiti, and the speculum-wielding Annie Sprinkle in performance. Indeed, including a few such photos and reproductions in a university press volume would itself be a powerful affirmation of untrammelled expression.

Robert Hauptman has bewailed the increasing absence of bibliographies in academic and scholarly tomes (*Chronicle of Higher Education*, Feb. 12, 1999) and I've bemoaned the frequent lack of indexes (*Unabashed Librarian* no. 124, 2002). Well, this book comes equipped with both. Nonetheless, the bibliography would have been enhanced by adding Jeff Schmidt's *Disciplined Minds: A Critical Look at Salaried Professionals and the Soul-battering System That Shapes Their Lives* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2000), which examines repression at work and how to resist it. And the index completely omits dozens of obvious names and topics (e.g., antiporn feminists, culture wars, masturbation, flock workers' lung, *Dirty Secrets*, *60 Minutes*, satanism, swearing, insubordination, Elvis Presley, anarchism, *Progressive*, Gerald Damiano, documentary film censorship, U.S. Public Health Service, Church rock radioactive waste spill, United Nuclear Co., Billy Graham, Ma Rainey, vibrators, Langston Hughes, *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*), as well as underciting others (e.g., Bill Clinton, Walt Whitman, democracy, moral panics).

The Library of Congress's Cataloging-in-Publication entry contains no contents note and therefore fails miserably to convey the book's broad scope and thematic richness.

A hoped-for sequel will perhaps profile the experience of Marine Staff Sergeant Jimmy Massey, transferred from Iraq to the U.S. for *psychiatric evaluation* after he questioned the indiscriminate killing of Iraqi civilians.

To conclude, these are some choice Levinson quotes:

- "Censorship aims to stop discussion and disagreement by punishing those who have the nerve to answer back to authority or fashion."

- "Censorship has two main thrusts: efforts to keep people from saying things deemed dangerous or disturbing, and efforts to keep information secret."

- "People seldom thank you for exposing their shortcomings, and punishment for breaking rank is often harsh; those who blow the whistle are routinely ostracized, silenced, and stripped of power."

- "It is easier to laud dissidents somewhere else, harder to champion those who challenge home truths, but protection of unpopular beliefs is what the First Amendment is all about."

- "We can defeat ideas only if we know about them, and the more we know, the better prepared we are to address the circumstances that make them appealing."

- "Arbitrarily applied rules are a method of control and a popular one in a democracy where it is preferable for people to police themselves."

- "Ironically, as our tolerance of variety in sexual conduct increases, so does our punishment of sexual expression."

- "Art may not change us, but it can show us a way to change our mind. It allows us to muck about in the unimaginable, no small gift, and to do that requires license in all senses of the word—permission, liberation, boldness, immoderation, unruliness, any of which can be alarming."

- "For fundamentalists, dissenting words and ideas are not just dangerous but Satan's playthings."

- "It's easier to ban books than to ensure that everyone knows how to read them, or to arrest parents for photographing naked kids than to stop domestic brutality."

- "Thoughtful adults regularly equate distastefulness of expression with danger and warn of contagion, as if adolescent attitudes were a communicable disease."

- "Research institutions worry that if they get a reputation as unfriendly to industrial research, corporations will take their projects—and money—elsewhere."

Honesty, decency, candor, fairness are ... familiar refrains in this book—along with the sickening realization that they will not necessarily be honored. — *Sanford Berman, ALA Honorary Member, Edina, Minnesota.*

*Knowledge Organization and Classification in International Information Retrieval.* Ed. Nancy J. Williamson and Clare Beghtol. Binghamton, N.Y.: Haworth, 2003. 244p. alk. paper, paper \$22.46 (ISBN 0789023555); cloth \$37.46 (ISBN 0789023547). LC 2003-27498.

This book is a collection of fourteen articles simultaneously copublished as *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly*, vol. 37, no. 1/2 (2003). These articles address various issues related to the linking of the world to information resources via the Internet, multinational intranets, and domain portals and gateways.

Editors Nancy J. Williamson and Clare Beghtol, two prominent authors in the

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