

Academic Charisma and the Origins of the Research University, by William Clark (662 pages, January 2006), focuses in one chapter on how the development of the academic library from the Renaissance to the Romantic Era mirrored the transition of university faculty from erudite philosophers to scholarly researchers, the major theme of the book. Clark carefully traces library catalogues from Baroque shelf lists to systematic subject catalogues and author access in the 18th and early 19th century, particularly in northern Europe. An enlightening look at what disputations, examinations, research seminars, appointments, advanced degrees, and scholarship represented in a bygone era, this volume is a challenging but worthy read. \$45.00. University of Chicago. ISBN 0-226-10921-6.

Cryptozoology Poems, by Victor Pearn (18 pages, February 2006), constitutes the only chapbook of verse devoted to animals that may or may not exist, from Canada's ogopogo to the disputed recent discovery of a colony of ivory-billed woodpeckers ("a symbol of the lost wilderness"). \$8.50. Victor Pearn, 4980 Meredith Way 101, Boulder, CO 80303. Pearn, best-known for his 2001 collection *American Western Song*, has also written his first novel, *Point Guard*, a nostalgic tale of a champion high-school basketball team in central Illinois in 1957, which sells for \$24.95 (ISBN 0-9777318-0-4).

Designing Better Maps: A Guide for GIS Users, by Cynthia A. Brewer (203 pages, September 2005), is a good practical introduction to basic cartography for anyone using ESRI's ArcGIS mapping software. Brewer, an associate professor of applied cartography at Pennsylvania State University, outlines the essentials of good map design for those who

need to learn effective layout, type, color, symbols, and legends. \$24.95. ESRI Press. ISBN 1-58948-089-9.

A History of Old Age, edited by Pat Thane (320 pages, November 2005), conveys a remarkably vivid record of the image of old



age, as portrayed by the great writers and artists in Europe and America. The seven contributors to this exceptional volume have selected numerous paintings, sculptures, and photographs, ranging from the poignant

and dignified to the grotesque and pitiful, that are representative of attitudes toward aging from ancient Greece and Rome through the 20th century. The commentary is scholarly, insightful, and filled with well-chosen statistics and quotations from contemporary authors. \$49.95. Getty Publications. ISBN 0-89236-834-9.

Indexing Books, by Nancy Mulvany (315 pages, 2d ed., November 2005), should be on every aspiring indexer's reading list. Much expanded from the first edition in 1994, this guide examines every aspect of the indexing process, including decisions on what to include and how to structure the entries, as well as details on alphabetization, personal names, formatting styles, editing and review, and indexing tools. The skilled indexer employs techniques of knowledge management and organization similar to those used by professional librarians. However, as Mulvany warns, "Book indexing is something you will either enjoy or detest; there is little middle ground." The well-organized and handy 25-page index was written by Victoria Baker. \$45.00. University of Chicago. ISBN 0-226-09280-1.

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Library Collection Development Policies: Academic, Public, and Special Libraries, by Frank W. Hoffmann and Richard J. Wood (328 pages, September 2005), examines the typical elements in collection development policies (such as evaluative criteria, resource sharing statements, and acquisition methods) and offers many examples of each from academic and special libraries. A section on virtual collections (electronic resources and resource sharing) discusses the issues involved with nontraditional acquisitions. \$65.00. Scarecrow. ISBN 0-8108-5180-6.

The Quiet Hero, by Gary W. Toyn (240 pages, March 2006), is the story of George E. Wahlen, a Navy pharmacist's mate who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery under fire in saving lives at the Battle of Iwo Jima in February–March 1945. Over the years, Wahlen avoided interviews and publicity about his war experiences. His wife only learned of his medal years after he received it, and his children knew few of the details until Weber State University produced a video profile of his life. Now he has told the full story to journalist Gary Toyn. This well-illustrated account of the intense battle that Wahlen and his fellow Marines went through is in stark contrast to Joe Rosenthal's calm yet heroic photo of the raising of the flag on Mount Suribachi. With a foreword by Sen. Bob Dole and an introduction by Sen. Orrin Hatch. \$21.95. American Legacy Media. ISBN 0-9761547-1-4.

The Weather Makers, by Tim Flannery (357 pages, March 2006), presents a chilling account of global warming and its effects on the atmosphere, the ocean, countless species of animals and plants, coral reefs, tundra, severe weather, agriculture, cities, and the future of civilization. Australian evolutionary biologist Flannery demonstrates emphatically that carbon dioxide emitted in gigatons from the burning of fossil fuels, especially coal, is the factor that will cause massive earth changes by the end of the 21st century unless we do something serious about it now. His scientific descriptions are succinct, easy to

understand, and well-documented; they are also eerily accurate. As I was reading the book in late March, I noticed alarming news headlines on the destruction of Caribbean coral reefs, the unexpected warming of Antarctic air masses, and drastic changes in Arctic ecosystems that are frustrating Inuit hunters and starving polar bears. At the very least, it's time to use energy-efficient appliances, buy a hybrid-fuel car, and elect green-friendly officials, Flannery writes. \$24.00. Atlantic Monthly. ISBN 0-87113-935-9.

The Worst Hard Time, by Timothy Egan (340 pages, January 2006), tells the story of the worst ecological disaster in American history (so far), the extended drought and dust storms (“dusters”) that dev-



Guest reviewer

The Whole Library Handbook, edited by George Eberhart (576 pages, January 2006), serves as a one-volume encyclopedia of library history, demographics, folklore, humor, current events, and popular wisdom. Now in its fourth edition, and edited by ALA's George Eberhart, the new volume offers a wide range of essays on current topics, facts, and statistics, as well as engaging discussions on new issues and library technology. Each chapter gives a succinct overview of the topic, then goes into useful, but not overwhelming detail incorporating historical perspectives, glossaries, and lists of resources. For example, the section on materials deals with literary genres and archival collections as well as computer games and zines, noting relevant titles and examples. Everything you need to know about book banning, blogging, diversity, library operations, and funding are covered in clear language, often with humor and a light touch. American Library Association. ISBN 0-8389-0915-9.—*Lisa Janssen, ljanssen@ala.org*

astated the Southern High Plains in the 1930s and turned what was once a grassy land where the buffalo and pronghorn roamed into an infertile sandpit. Egan follows the experiences of several families who stayed on the land in Boise City, Oklahoma; Dalhart, Texas; and Baca County, Colorado, despite conditions that are scarcely imaginable today—the blowing dust from unanchored topsoil seeping inexorably into homes, clothes, food, and noses; the great storms that blocked sunlight and dumped tons of pulverized sand as far east as Chicago and

New York; the crackling static electricity in the gritty air that shorted out car engines and could knock two men down if they shook hands; the many deaths of children from dust pneumonia when black dirt filled their lungs. For Americans it was a grim lesson in ecology that prompted President Franklin D. Roosevelt to launch the first governmental soil conservation program in the world. An extraordinary tale of frustration and human endurance. \$28.00. Houghton Mifflin. ISBN 0-618-34697-X. ❧

Call for book proposals

ACRL invites proposals for monographs and collections of essays that address significant issues facing the library profession and its role in higher education.

ACRL Publications in Librarianship is a series of monographic and edited volumes that has reported on scholarly thinking in academic and research librarianship since 1952. While it currently has a number of projects under consideration, the editorial board is always interested in proposals and manuscripts. Below is a short sampling of potentially significant topics. Each one is open to broad interpretation.

Assessments: discussions of how the declining emphasis on inputs reshapes professional standards, accreditation reviews, outcome measures, and/or the kinds of user surveys that are worthwhile.

Institutional relationships: discussions of aligning collection development strategies with the university's overall development and institutional standing, of assessing the effectiveness of information literacy programs, and/or of creating partnerships ("civic engagements") with the broader community.

Services and collections: discussions of specialized library units, such as digital collections centers and geographic information systems centers; budgeting for electronic collections; and/or the state of art of

collection building in particular disciplines or types of librarianship.

Scholarly communication system: analytical discussions of the open-access movement, of the "endangered species" problem in monograph publishing, and/or other issues involving our relationships with other co-stakeholders in the scholarly system.

Library administration and education: discussions of the changing workforce; of recent MLS graduates; of non-librarian professionals in academic libraries; of the skills needed by library directors who oversee large IT units; and/or the role of library education programs in preparing academic professionals.

This list is merely suggestive—contemporary academic librarianship involves an indefinitely large range of significant topics. The editorial board will consider any topic of broad interest.

This series has fairly short turnaround times for manuscript reviews and for getting successful proposals to press. It pays attention to the marketing of titles. Its books have a large automatic audience: hundreds of libraries have blanket ACRL acquisition orders and many librarians order their own copies, or buy them at conferences.

For more information, including the series recent titles, please see its Web site: www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/booksmonographs/pil/publications.htm.