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Review of "Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management (3rd ed.)," by Peggy Johnson

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REVIEW OF "FUNDAMENTALS OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT (3rd Ed.),"
By Peggy Johnson. *Chicago: ALA Editions, 2014, 554 pp., ISBN:* 978-0-8389-1191-4, $77.00.

In the opening of her latest book, Peggy Johnson states that "Nearly all aspects of collection development and management in all types of libraries are being reshaped by technology and the ubiquity of the Internet," which is as true a statement now as it was ten years ago when the first edition of *Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management* was published. This new introduction to our technology-driven field proves as comprehensive as it promises to be at the outset.

This is not a book that is meant to be read cover to cover, but one which academic, public, school, and special librarians in the United States and Canada would be wise to pick up and consult throughout the early stages of their career. The lists of professional resources and references to more in-depth works make this a one-stop shop for any library and information science student interested in collections or an instructor looking to supplement his or her curriculum with required readings. As a collections librarian at an academic library with no prior coursework in collection management, I found the majority of this book to be either fascinating from an historical perspective or crucial from a practical perspective.

Johnson provides an historical and theoretical introduction to the field, covering all the fundamental areas of collections work in libraries, including administration, policy making, development, management, licensing, marketing, analysis, preservation, and organizational cooperation. Each chapter is divided into sections based on library type and ends with a fictional (but entirely plausible) case study for applying the concepts that have been discussed. Had I read this while I was an LIS student, the case studies in particular would have better prepared me for the decisions I make every day. *Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management* would fit the diverse professional goals of any LIS cohort. While LIS education may be a great place to gain a philosophical and theoretical framework for librarianship, it can be a lousy place to gain real-world experience and knowledge. Johnson's book does an excellent job filling the gaps between theory and practice.

It is clear that Johnson spent most of her career in academic libraries, making this book useful to all collections librarians, but especially useful to academic librarians. While Johnson claims that scholarly communication should be a concern of all librarians, the chapter on the topic does not provide much actionable information for those working in non-academic environments, nor does it convincingly argue that the few ideas mentioned would be worth pursuit. The history, detail, and vocabulary of scholarly publishing and open access might lose an otherwise busy public, school, or special librarian. To be fair, the overemphasis of academic libraries only really occurs in the first and last chapters. The seven other chapters, as well as the appendices, do make up for this relatively insignificant fault. For academic librarians, however,

this is an engaging and detailed section that provides a holistic view of the environment and marketplace of research literature with several key concepts and initiatives that all professionals with collections, acquisitions, liaison, or administrative responsibilities need to know.

In the last five years, librarians have grappled with an increasing need for weeding and consolidating collections to create space for innovative programming, new models for integrating patron-driven acquisitions and other just-in-time collection development, closer scrutiny of budget lines and strategic plans, more cooperation between libraries and partner organizations to manage and preserve collections, and larger support for open access publishing and archiving. All of this has in one way or another been the result of technological advances made available to academic, public, school, and special libraries, justifying the need for an updated textbook to stay astride with these developments.

Johnson's newly revised edition follows the same structure as the second edition with new sources, supplemental reading lists that contain no references older than 2008, and all-new case studies. Johnson's impressive attention to history, detailed summaries, and extensive suggested reading lists provide the context and foundation for any library student or early-career librarian to be well-supported for a career in collection management.

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