

the content will remain relevant as more and more information literacy instruction moves into those formats. Though much of the discussion is theoretical, numerous citations (many annotated) provide the instruction practitioner with an entry point into the intimidating literature on teaching theory and practice.—*Timothy Hackman, University of Maryland.*

**Elizabeth H. Dow.** *Archivists, Collectors, Dealers, and Replevin: Case Studies on Private Ownership of Public Documents.* Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2012. 144p. \$65 (ISBN 9780810883772). LC2012-008889.

Imagine this scenario: you're an archivist at a state university charged with the archival responsibilities for the papers of current and past university presidents. While looking through a catalog from a manuscript dealer, you see a set of documents created by one of your former university presidents in the early 20th century. The documents deal with a controversial issue and have historic value, and you have always wondered why your collection was missing these manuscripts. Suddenly, you've found them, and they are in the hands of a dealer. The selling of historical documents isn't uncommon—indeed, Sotheby's reports selling between 5,000 and 8,000 such documents each year.

This scenario begs several questions: who owns government documents that have, for one reason or another, slipped into the hands of private dealers and col-

lectors? Should they be available in the private market, or should they revert back to the government agency/archive where they, historically, might belong? What are the legal and ethical issues involved?

Elizabeth Dow addresses this complicated issue in this new volume, *Archivists, Collectors, Dealers, and Replevin: Case Studies on Private Ownership of Public Documents.* (Replevin is a legal action brought by one party in an effort to recover specific items, such as manuscripts or documents, from another party.) Dow cites a personal interest in the topic: after she witnessed a certain amount of acrimony between archivists and manuscript dealers, she discloses that she's not only an archivist and archival educator, but she's married to a manuscript dealer with strong ties to the professional dealer network. It is from this perspective that she successfully argues both sides of this question.

Dow takes a systematic approach, beginning with an historical overview of the collecting and care of documents by state and institutional agencies, followed by tales of theft and neglect that cast untold numbers of documents adrift from their institutional homes, where they would end up in the collector's market. For example, prior to the mid-20th century development of legislation and retention schedules designed to keep public documents in the hands of government agencies, it was common for government officials to keep public documents and treat them as personal property.

The book then describes both the emergence of the archival profession and the nature of the collectors' market, providing a succinct table that outlines the curatorial differences between individual collectors, government archivists, and nongovernment institutional curators.

Having set the stage and introduced the characters, Dow then outlines specific cases involving replevin, how the courts decided these cases, and how complex and varied individual state laws are concerning replevin and government documents.

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As Dow notes, the “conflict between archivists and dealer/collectors comes down to a matter of perspective,” and she devotes an enlightening chapter examining the different perspectives and theoretical backgrounds of each group. She then creates a series of 17 case studies based on actual events and hypothetical situations, offering questions for consideration for each case, along with advice on how each case should be approached.

The volume concludes with a chapter on avoiding conflict and replevin, reminding archivists to adhere to archival best practices for security and documentation of their collections. Finally, she wraps up with advice on how to avoid replevin and, if it becomes necessary, how best to approach a replevin case.

This book does an admirable job of illustrating many aspects of a complicated legal situation, providing archivists, collectors, and dealers with insight, analysis, and practical advice. Well-written and to the point, this volume is highly recommended for archivists and dealers alike. —  
*Gene Hyde, Radford University.*

***Interdisciplinarity and Academic Libraries.*** Eds. Daniel C. Mack and Craig Gibson. Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, 2012. 238p. alk. paper, \$62 (ISBN 9780838986158). LC2012-018651.

It is not often that one encounters a collection of essays so thoroughly aligned in their approach and perspective as to merit reading the collection from cover to cover; yet such is the nature of this recently published collection in ACRL's Publications in Librarianship series (no. 66). Edited by Daniel C. Mack, Head of the George and Sherry Middlemas Arts Humanities Library at Penn State, and Craig Gibson, Associate Director for Research and Education at the Ohio State University, this work brings together 14 authors from across the landscape of academic librarianship, including administrators, department heads, catalogers, technologists, reference and instruction

librarians, subject specialists, and professors of library science. Each author brings his or her unique perspective to the effects that interdisciplinary work has wrought on higher education and, specifically, academic libraries; and each essay seemingly builds upon the foundation laid by those that came before it, a credit to the editors' choice of organization.

Mack introduces the collection by defining interdisciplinarity and its related work: multidisciplinary, cross-disciplinarity, and transdisciplinarity. A number of significant factors have led to the rise of interdisciplinary work in higher education and thus merit the importance of forming this collection of essays, namely: the internationalization of the academy, the increasingly global perspective of the university, the growth and proliferation of external partnerships, the conglomeration of electronic resources across disciplines, the evolution of search and retrieval systems that must account for multiple approaches to knowledge management, the rise of born-digital materials and cloud computing, and, perhaps most important, the desire of institutions of higher education to solve the world's “grand problems.”

The first two chapters discuss the inherent nature of academic disciplines and how interdisciplinarity rises within them. Roberta J. Astroff (Chapter 1) focuses on many of the policing functions (such as epistemological, administrative) that keep disciplinary boundaries in check. Jean-Pierre V.M. Herubel (Chapter 2) continues this discussion with a concentrated examination of specific fields of knowledge and the interdisciplinary turn those fields took in recent decades.

Each of the following chapters inspects a specific aspect of library work and the effect interdisciplinarity has had on each. Jill Woolums (Chapter 3) looks at scholarly communication—the players, the opportunities, and the threats—and concludes with a list of roles for librarians in the new scholarly landscape. In Chapter 4, Ann Copeland discusses “the