

**LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANSHIP: SIXTY YEARS OF CHALLENGE AND CHANGE, 1945–2005.** Bobinski, George. *Lanham, MD: Scarecrow, 2007, xii + 205 pp., \$40.00, ISBN 978-0-8108-5899-2.*

Libraries and librarians have come a long way over the past 60 years. Bobinski does a great job of examining a wide variety of library topics and trends, libraries and librarians, and changes in technology in about 200 pages. He also fills the book with an extensive array of fun statistics and highlights from library history, which include a list of MLS programs that have been accredited and discontinued since 1945 (pp. 116–118) and the status of public library bookmobiles – of which there were 873 as of 2002 (down from 1,125 in 1991 but still up from 603 in 1950) (p. 35).

Bobinski begins the book with a brief look back to 1945, when he was a page at his local library, and then proceeds to mention how far the profession and our society have come since that time. In Chapter 1, Bobinski discusses some major developments in the traditional core areas of librarianship. These include changing information formats, the organization of library information sources, changes in reference services, trends in library management, and the impact of technology. Chapter 2 does a great job at giving the reader a glimpse into how public, school, academic, special, presidential, and state libraries, as well as the Library of Congress, have changed and grown during the past 60 years. Chapter 3 covers the expansion and impact of library cooperation and the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), and the Research Libraries Group (RLG). Chapter 4 focuses on library funding, philanthropy, and the Council on Library and Information Resources. Library associations, intellectual freedom, and international relations are the topic of Chapter 5. Sadly, Chapter 6, on gender and ethnicity, and Chapter 7, on library buildings and preservation, are the shortest ones in the book. Both of these topics are very important, regardless of what type of library one is discussing, and the brevity of these chapters leaves the reader wanting to know more.

Chapter 8 goes into the growth, decline, and now regrowth of library and information science education programs, and there is also a brief discussion on library literature. Chapter 9 lists prominent leaders in the field and others who made a substantial and positive impact on libraries during 1945–2005 (p. 146). While I am not sure that everyone will agree with this list, Bobinski does make a good argument for these individuals. In Chapter 10, the summary and

conclusion, Bobinski writes about 15 major events and developments, current challenges, and the future status of libraries.

The book also includes three chronologies (major historical events, technological advances, and major occurrence and developments in libraries and librarianship), a bibliography, and index. By examining how far libraries and librarians have come in the past 60 years, it's easy to see the profession's rich history, but it's also easy to see that librarians are still growing, changing, and adapting to what technology and society throws at them. Hopefully that will never change. This book is recommended for academic libraries, especially those with library and information science programs.

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**TECHNOLOGY MADE SIMPLE: AN IMPROVEMENT GUIDE FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM LIBRARIES.** Bolan, Kimberly and Cullin, Robert. *Chicago: American Library Association, 2007, ix + 213 pp., \$40.00, ISBN 0-8389-0920-5.*

Technology innovation, implementation, and services are difficult enough for large libraries, let alone small and medium-sized libraries with very limited resources in budget, staff, and time. This handy guide is geared towards those small and medium libraries that are challenged to keep up with all of the changes and services that technology offers. It provides sound advice and practical solutions through decision-making processes. Even the table of contents is straightforward and direct in its presentation, with chapter titles such as Why do IT?, Assess IT, Know IT, Plan IT, Staff IT, Pay for IT, Implement IT, Teach IT, Regulate IT, and Evaluate IT.

There are so many neat ideas and concepts in this guide. One of the most important is the numerous graphs and figures that accompany many of the explanations and discussions. The authors write from different perspectives: Bolan has spent most of her career in small and medium-sized libraries, while Cullin has a strong technology