conceptual tool for analyzing phenomena, particularly those as emotionally charged as these; would that the author had made that step here.

This is not entirely a theoretical question, as a consideration of a different set of cases could easily show, for liberal regimes have enthusiastically carried out genocide, ethnocide, and their own versions of libricide, but of course they have used different techniques, not considered in Professor Knuth’s account. Such a consideration would amply illustrate Mark Twain’s observation about the three inestimably precious virtues of American democracy: freedom of thought, freedom of speech, and the wisdom to exercise neither. Libricide is obviously an important phenomenon, which calls for an analysis acknowledging this reality.—Michael F. Winter, University of California, Davis.


This book is about change in academic librarianship. It is organized in nineteen chapters. Most of the chapters include a list of references or suggested further readings. Several of the authors’ names are not recognizable as frequent contributors to academic library literature. The new ideas and perspectives are refreshing. Relevant quotations are used at the beginning of the chapters; the quotes used at the end of chapters are not always relevant to the respective chapter, but nonetheless they are enlightening. Those quoted range from Indiana Jones to Edna St. Vincent Millay.

Various topics on change in academic librarianship/libraries are addressed in this easy-to-read volume. I, however, suggest that companion reading to this book include Paul Wasserman’s The New Librarianship: A Challenge for Change (New York, 1972) and Spencer Johnson’s Who Moved My Cheese? An A-mazing Way to Deal with Change in Your Work and in Your Life (New York, 1998). Wasserman’s landmark volume will set the theoretical and philosophical stage for change in librarianship. Notwithstanding the publication date of Wasserman’s work, it remains highly relevant to today’s changing landscape of librarianship. Johnson’s best-seller is a simple (but powerful) parable that reveals profound truths about change. Both these works complement Raish’s volume but, more important, they add a prerequisite understanding about the genesis and development of change and its aftereffects.

Raish and the contributors to the book are to be commended for their inclusion of wit and a sense of humor. Without this slant, the reader could prematurely conclude that the seriousness about the “sky is falling on academic librarianship” is a bit too much. The book is loaded with negative twists. The use of the word monsters in the title and introduction could turn off some readers. The chapter titles “Slipping Sanctuaries” (chapter 2), “Reference Librarians As Wild Animals” (chapter 4), “Giving Away the Keys to the Kingdom” (chapter 14), and “Will Time Tame This Tyrant” (chapter 19) contain unfortunately negative connotations. Chapter 6 (“Ketchup Has Always Been a Vegetable”) is an example of a nonspecific title. Some chapters (e.g., chapter 13, “From Custodian to Navigator: The Amazing Heroic Journey of the New Information Specialist”) are more straightforward. Regrettably, the book does not have an index; thus, the reader has to seek specific information by wading through the entire volume.

When editor Raish contacted the potential contributors, he asked them to focus their respective essay on one generic
Based on the generality of his request, it is surprising to see how little redundancy there is among the chapters. Chapters 9, 10, and 11 provide critical thinking and conjecture on the current status and future prospects of information literacy. These three chapters reflect a comprehensive grasp of this important topic.

Change in academic librarianship continues to occur at an unprecedented rate and no slowdown is expected. The better we understand this phenomenon and its ramifications, the better library service we can provide students and faculty. To enhance our comprehension of change at various levels in the academic library, we must hear what is on the minds of both library administrators and practicing frontline librarians. This book does well in offering these precious insights.—Donald E. Riggs, Nova Southeastern University.


Nearly every practicing librarian and information professional benefits from digitized cultural resources. Academic librarians welcome the ease of access and depth of coverage provided by JSTOR and other databases. Another aspect of our professional lives, albeit an unsavory one, involves how libraries, museums, and archives remain stable and sustainable in the current climate of economic hardship. As Diane Zorich reports in this timely survey, fiscal woes also affect organizations and agencies that implement and maintain digital cultural heritage initiatives (DCHIs). Not only are DCHIs having a tough time weathering the current economic climate, many are facing a potential crisis of economic sustainability.

A Survey of Digital Cultural Heritage Initiatives and Their Sustainability Concerns is part of the Council on Library and Information Resources’ (CLIR) series of studies of cultural heritage initiatives and digitization projects. As a response to issues raised in Charles Henry and Stanley Katz’s working paper, “American Cultural Heritage Initiatives: A National Review,” CLIR commissioned experienced museum consultant and digital cultural heritage expert Diane Zorich to lead this study. Surveys were conducted in the fall of 2002, and the final report was written in May 2003.

This study surveyed a representative sample of agencies, institutions, and groups associated with all aspects of DCHI, which Zorich broadly defined as organizations or programs that develop or implement digital products, or address pertinent DCHI-related issues such as standards, intellectual property, best practices, or policies. A total of thirty-three organizations and five funding agencies were selected to present “a cross-section of the cultural community.” This group included libraries, museums, archives, performing arts organizations, scholarly associations, publishing groups, standards developers, and humanities centers.

The bulk of this monograph is a review of the survey’s findings. Within the DCHI sample were a variety of mission statements, products, services, organizational and governing structures, business models, and sources of financial support. The smaller section on funding agencies focused on why agencies fund DCHI organizations, how the economy has affected funding agencies, and how sustainability has been encouraged and evaluated. A final, brief section presents recommendations and a summary.

Not surprisingly, the poor state of the economy “was a near-universal lament