In conclusion, this book is helpful to newer librarians or even graduate students in librarianship who are working to become great teachers and can also be used as a tool to help more experienced teachers breathe new life into different areas of their teaching. While it is wonderful in its practicality, this book is a starting point or a beginning into the world of being a teaching librarian. Librarians who wish to become great teachers should continue to read and explore the literature, as well as attending presentations, conferences, or seminars on these topics as they grow as teachers. All in all, the audience for this book is written for librarians who have anxiety and possibly stage fright in regard to their roles as teachers.—Elise Ferer, Drexel University


While each discipline surely has its own body of literature produced expressly for its followers, guides written about a particular profession for those not practicing it are much rarer. Such is Archives in Libraries, with its subtitle What Librarians and Archivists Need to Know to Work Together succinctly summing up the authors’ thesis. While it is, as the authors state, primarily aimed at explaining archives and archivists to librarians (it’s published by the Society of American Archivists), it can work the other way around as well. It’s also quite usable as a guide for administrators in charge of archives, especially for those who may not have an archival background. The volume can even double as a general introduction to both library and archival science as well as a compass for those feeling the pull of both professions and not sure which way to go or which path to follow.

The authors are well matched and suited for the subject, being a trio of professionals who in their careers have crossed and recrossed the line separating libraries and archives, one that has grown more tenuous over time. Two authors are associated with Simmons College: Bastian, a professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the School of Library and Information Sciences; and Webber, an Associate Professor of Practice there. Sniffin-Marinoff is University Archivist at Harvard University. Blending three voices into one, they sketch the histories and activities of the two professions and summarize the trends and developments moving the once-distinct tracks toward convergence.

Since that future point will never come, the professions will never totally overlap, making a book like this valuable and necessary. With great analytical skill, the authors deftly summarize in table form the distinctions and similarities of the two professions; it’s hard to imagine it being done more concisely. Of equal interest and value are the periodic vignettes they provide, dramatizing particular situations that highlight professional differences, misconceptions, and opportunities. Various professionals, including academic archivists and library directors, as well as archivists in local history collections and at public libraries, were interviewed for the book; their comments, in shaded boxes, are interspersed at appropriate locations within the text. Endnotes follow each chapter, and there is a full bibliography and index. Sources on archival standards, with notation to a fuller web address, comprise a two-page appendix. Occasional graphics, in flow chart form, also adorn the text.

The topics covered in this slim volume (the thin paper stock covers curl almost immediately) proceed logically and are covered in a swift yet thorough manner. From a first chapter on common ground, encompassing missions, professional roots, identity and values, the discussion proceeds to language, or vocabularies, common to both professions, that can cause cohesion as well as confusion. What follows is a summary on the education of archivists and librarians, historically, and with an eye to the future.

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Part 2 considers the work, explicating exactly what archivists do, breaking down the profession's core activities into discrete tasks and chapters, often contrasting how librarians and archivists proceed differently to accomplish a goal that others may facilely believe to be the same and to take a similar amount of time. Information such as this feeds and leads directly into a chapter discussing what needs to be known by all involved when a library starts an archives or an archival program. Part 3, Considering the Issues, takes up matters such as archival (and library) ethics, again using the tabular format, as done in some preceding chapters, as a graphic representation of the overlaps and distinctions, as articulated by the American Library Association and the Society of American Archivists. The next chapter focuses on issues that draw the two professions together—information literacy, digital access, and digital preservation.

In the concluding chapter, the authors focus on convergences and divergences. They summarize the literature and trends that tend to suggest the former, while noting the real-world applications and the fear of the loss of identity to promote the latter. As sort of a Dr. Dolittle Pushmi-Pullyu creature, they reference the concept of a “dual archivist/librarian” or a “hybrid archivist librarian,” noting that, in the real world, archives are physical spaces within libraries, and books are often in archives. In these arenas, the professionals in charge, although often trained in one discipline, may have to perform duties of both. If they need help, they can certainly find it here within the pages of this book.—Harlan Greene, College of Charleston


This comprehensive and largely practical text on research services in an academic library explores the components of the liaison or subject librarian working in a research capacity with the campus community and consistently designing and offering library services that meet researcher needs. The author is a Faculty Liaison Librarian who previously authored *Providing Effective Library Services for Research*. She is also a noted expert in information literacy, cocreating the Society of College, National, and University Libraries (SCONUL) Seven Pillars of Information Literacy featured in the book. She hails from the United Kingdom, and many of the examples discussing programs and initiatives are from U.K. academic libraries. These examples are potentially applicable across academic libraries worldwide while offering a valuable glimpse into international librarianship.

As the book offers practical tips, there is also valuable discussion regarding the current and future role of the librarian. This reflection provides a springboard to the later content, which details offering research services such as open access, data management, and new research impact as well as new ways of offering the traditional services such as instruction and collections. Throughout the book, the author emphasizes the importance of the librarian role as a partner in the research process instead of as the traditional support and offers a substantive rationale for applying the role of partner to reflect a more active role in the research process.

As an addition to Facet Publishing’s *Practical Tips for Library and Information Professionals* series, the book functions as an on-demand source without having to read the book from start to finish, which increases the practicality of the book as a useful and recurring reference tool. There are 8 sections and 78 brief chapters, which include author discussion and “best for” suggestions outlining scenarios and the optimal audience to maximize reader application. There are also descriptions; figures featuring documents, charts, and images; suggested readings; and links to access additional information online.

After the introduction and section summaries sections, the content of the book begins with a theoretical section 3 on landscapes and models for identifying who research-