

wada describes the ways legacies of colonization have shaped how governments and higher education relate to each other and the impact on OER adoption. Abdu addresses the status of OER in the African countries of Zimbabwe, Nigeria, and South Africa.

In chapter 15, Barbara Murphy and Claire Terrell show readers how to create equity when working with a music curriculum organized predominately around European white male composers. The authors argue that the “discussions of non-Western music and music theories rarely occur within music theory classes.” They detail how diversity is necessary in both performance ensembles and music theory. Along with a discussion of race and gender biases, the authors share as an example the OER website “Music Theory Materials,” which encourages selections for “women and BIPOC composers.”

The final chapter describes a community OER institute in Caribbean Studies. The primary vision of this institute was “to foster an enhanced community of practice for digital humanities and digital pedagogy specific to the needs and concerns of Caribbean studies.” The institute identified barriers to OER and DH in the discipline, beginning with limited bandwidth and access to platforms in the regions. The authors describe three platforms (The Diaspora Project, the Dutch Caribbean Digital Platform, and Chronicling America) and the ample OER included for digital Caribbean Studies. They point to open source platforms like Omeka as crucial for engaging students. After the institute, participants created an open access site for their OER work, “designed to work as a nexus that links institute information and products in a meaningful way to increase their accessibility and to amplify participant contributions.”

The authors point to limitations brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and hurricanes as basic needs preempted teaching needs. A larger shift toward global social justice will lead to more OER opportunities in Caribbean studies.

The chapters in this book seek to persuade the reader that OER has its place in social justice concepts in PreK through grade twelve, higher education, and beyond. Higher education reform is daunting, but this book can show the path toward societal change. Overall, the best part of this book showcases how decolonizing openly licensed materials and owning OER platforms are a critical aspect of the OER field. — *Beatrice Canales, San Antonio College*

Thriving as a Mid-career Librarian: Identity, Advocacy & Pathways. Brandon K. West & Elizabeth Galoozis, eds. Chicago, IL: ACRL Press, 2023. 358pp. Paperback, \$92 (ISBN: 978-0-8389-3941-3)



After being in the same position for more than seven years and potentially achieving tenure, academic librarians may be asking themselves “What is next?” or “What more is there for me and my career in librarianship?” *Thriving as a Mid-Career Librarian: Identity, Advocacy & Pathways* aims to provide some perspectives and guidance to answer those questions. By focusing specifically on mid-career academic librarians, this book provides inspiration for those who are interested in continuing to grow, change, and ultimately thrive in their roles. Guidance and inspiration are provided through a variety of perspectives and situations that are described through a blend of personal stories and academic research that allows readers to

gain an understanding of how professional lives can change over time. The editors asked authors to “do one or more of the following in their chapters: include marginalized perspectives, address intersectionality, and/or reflect on privilege” (viii).

Chapters are organized into four sections. Section 1, “Staying Engaged in Your Career,” focuses on how authors sustain themselves at mid-career. Authors discuss mentorship, pursuing additional advanced degrees, and creative thinking about career ladders. Andrew Weiss’s chapter “Boredom and the Tenured Academic Librarian: How Being Bored Is an Essential Component of a Successful Career” empowers readers to find new ways to engage themselves in their work, arguing that boredom is normal and can be a beneficial aspect of a long-term career.

Section 2, “The Role of Identity in Shaping Mid-career Librarianship,” is one of the best sections in this book. This section “aims to amplify the stories of librarians who are experiencing mid-career with marginalized identities or abilities” (ix). While all chapters provide unique perspectives and guidance, two are particular standouts. Marta Bladek’s “Working toward Promotion to Full Professor: Strategies, Time Management, and Habits for Academic Librarian Mothers” argues for more tenured faculty librarians to aim for full professor rank due to gender disparities and the benefits full rank provides. Andy Hickner’s “Learning to Thrive—Not Just Survive—as a Librarian with Mental Illness” offers a perspective into Hickner’s own struggle with mental health and how workplace culture and personal practices can improve the lives of librarians with mental illness.

Section 3, “Being Your Own Advocate,” focuses on strategies for navigating different work environments and, as the title suggests, navigating for yourself. While most of the chapters focus on advocating for yourself and your needs, admittedly a necessary skill, I especially liked Megan Palmer, Rachel Keiko Stark, Maggie Albro, and Jenessa McElfresh’s “Addressing Incivility as a Mid-career Librarian: How to Advocate for a Bully-Free Library.” In contrast to the other chapters in this section, this chapter provides strategies for advocating on behalf of others in your workplace. Strategies include direct intervention, education, and long-term strategic planning.

Section 4 grapples with a question many of us face: Should we be the boss? Perhaps it is a requirement when discussing options at mid-career, but there is a section on moving into leadership and administration. This section differs from other resources on the topic in that the authors do not push library leadership as the “right” next step in librarianship. Authors provide a range of ways to lead, from informal leadership (chapter 23) to an example of rotating department heads (chapter 21).

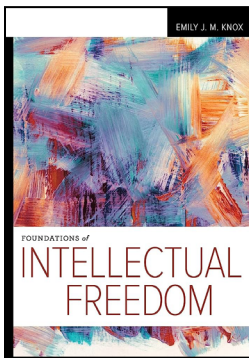
An important thread throughout the chapters is the vastly different experiences one can have as a mid-career librarian. The editors specifically chose to include the word “thriving” in the title because they believe, and the authors agree, that everyone deserves to feel that they are thriving at work, and this collection offers several different ways to thrive. There is no “right way” to move forward during mid-career, but taking time to think through and articulate your values and interests will help identify ways to thrive—even if that means changing positions or institutions.

While this is an excellent resource, a few issues should be acknowledged. As in the field of librarianship, there are many more cis, white, hetero authors than those from other groups, even though the editors tried to make room for marginalized voices. I look forward to future editions that may include more underrepresented authors adding important perspectives to the mid-career conversation. In section 3 (and sprinkled throughout the book), many authors described using their privileges to advocate for others. However, only one chapter explicitly discussed advocating for others. Perhaps this topic is outside the scope of this book, but with

so many authors mentioning advocacy for others I would have liked to see more explicit discussions.

Each chapter may not resonate with every mid-career librarian, but there are certainly at least several chapters that will provide encouragement and ideas for a path forward. Anyone struggling in mid-career should explore the ideas in this book. “Early career” librarians who like to plan ahead and want to see how the future may look would also benefit from browsing some chapters. Although this is the kind of book readers may approach by choosing only the sections whose titles interest them or relate to their experiences the most, librarians at all levels can gain a lot by reading through all the chapters. — *Clarissa Ihssen, American University*

Foundations of Intellectual Freedom. Emily J. M. Knox. Chicago: ALA Neal-Schumann, 2023. 144 p. Paper, \$54.99 (978-0-8389-3783-9).



Foundations of Intellectual Freedom is an introduction to the concept of intellectual freedom, encompassing its history and intersections with concepts including freedom of expression, censorship, privacy, and copyright. The book follows the outline of the eight-week course Intellectual Freedom and Censorship, taught by author Emily J. M. Knox at the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. While this text is an excellent accompaniment to that course, it will also be useful for any information professional wanting to develop a foundational understanding of information freedom and recent conversations in the field. In addition to the discussion within each chapter, each chapter

ends with an annotated bibliography of recent or important related works a reader may want to review. The titles in the annotated bibliography come at the discussion from a variety of angles and viewpoints. Each chapter also includes a bibliography of cited references. While Knox notes that the focus of the text is intellectual freedom in the context of the United States, she also includes information about internationally focused organizations. She notes that the conversation about intellectual freedom at the time of publication is influenced by the realities of an ongoing pandemic, the insurrection of January 6, 2021, and an increasing number of book challenges.

Knox begins by defining intellectual freedom, noting that some definitions focus more on access to information, others are more concerned with freedom of expression, and still others are a mixture of the two. She also includes a discussion of the intersection of intellectual freedom and the foundations of intellectual freedom as a human right. This text provides a good theoretical grounding that includes library focused definitions and theories as well as those from fields outside of librarianship. This reviewer especially appreciated the inclusion of recent discussions about the intersections of intellectual freedom and social justice. Regarding the interplay of intellectual freedom and social justice, Knox notes that many of the recent critiques of intellectual freedom take place in the discourse of critical librarianship. Knox, however, argues in the book's opening chapter that social justice is not possible without intellectual freedom, maintaining that "it is only through the free circulation of ideas that citizens can understand what the terms 'white supremacist,' 'colonialist,' 'heteronormative,' 'ableist,' and 'classist' even mean" (12). While this reviewer appreciates and commends Knox's discussion of the variety of current viewpoints about social justice in libraries, a firmer definition of social justice might have aided the discussion later in the text about access to