Although the book is written by academic librarians and is dedicated to the efforts made by an urban academic library, its usefulness applies to all types of libraries wanting to create or build on diversity programming and outreach efforts.—*Marcy Simons, University of Notre Dame.*

The Dr. Elliott & Eileen Hinkes Collection of Rare Books in the History of Scientific Discovery. Ed. Earle Havens. Baltimore, Md.: The Sheridan Libraries, Johns Hopkins University, 2011. vii, 105, [1] p. $35 (ISBN 9780983808602).

This beautifully designed and illustrated publication is a fitting tribute to Dr. Elliott Hinkes, an alumnus of Johns Hopkins University, whose wife and son in 2010 donated to the university's Sheridan Libraries his small but carefully chosen collection of rare books pertaining to scientific discovery. A discerning connoisseur who sought the best available copies of books and journal articles in his fields of interest, Dr. Hinkes developed a collection of more than 250 titles dating from the late 1400s to 1953. He chose copies notable for their distinctive bindings, associations, or provenance.

The Hinkes Collection focuses on astronomy and physics, but it also includes important works dealing with biology, chemistry, meteorology, and optics, among other subjects. Here one finds truly seminal texts that advanced man's knowledge of the world and its place in the universe. Although most of the collection dates from the time of the Industrial Revolution to the mid-twentieth century, a few important books published during the Renaissance connect the reader with some of the best "scientific" minds of Greek and Roman antiquity. Included are Hartmann Schedel's *Liber Chronicarum* (Book of Chronicles), published in Nuremberg in 1493; the third edition, in Latin, of Aristotle's views on cosmology, *De Caelo*; and works by Aristarchus of Samos, Archimedes, Euclid, and Ptolemy. The works of Renaissance scholars include the 1566 Henricpetri Basle edition, with pages never cut, trimmed, or bound, of Nicolaus Copernicus's *De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium*, perhaps the most important item in the Hinkes Collection. The writings of Tycho Brahe, Johannes Kepler, and Galileo Galilei document their key astronomical observations, but none as colorfully as Johann Gabriel Doppelmayr's *Atlas Coelestis*, published in Nuremberg in 1742. More modern works in the collection range from four titles by Isaac Newton to offprints of scientific papers by Ernest Rutherford and Albert Einstein. The discovery of the structure of DNA by James Watson and Francis Crick is described in three articles published in *Nature*.

Although the book contains a bibliography of the Hinkes Collection, its value lies chiefly in the erudite essays that place the collection in the context of the evolution of scientific thought and how it was disseminated. In addition to the preface, Dr. Havens, The William Kurrelmeyer Curator of Rare Books & Manuscripts in The Sheridan Libraries, describes the significance of the earliest titles in "Printing the Book of Nature: Renaissance, Scientific Revolution, & the Advent of the Printing Press." This is followed by "Reading & Interpreting Works of Scientific Discovery, from the Enlightenment to the Modern Era," by Hanna Roman, a professor in the Department of German and Romance Languages and Literatures, and Simon Thode, a graduate student in the Department of the History of Science and Technology at Johns Hopkins. Twenty-five color illustrations enhance the impact of these thoughtful, well-documented articles.

A theme that runs throughout the book, including the preface by Winston Tabb, Sheridan Dean of University Libraries & Museums, is the value of the Hinkes Collection to students at Johns Hopkins. Clearly, these books and journal articles are not viewed as trophies that enhance the reputation of the libraries or as ornaments to be admired for their artistry

(although many of them are indeed beautiful). Already the books are being used to expose students not only to the ideas of the greatest scientific thinkers but also to the ways in which these ideas were communicated and shared among colleagues. This is clearly illustrated in the annotations by Ernest Rutherford on the covers of the offprints of his articles: "With the author's compliments." Students in the humanities as well as scientific fields are benefiting from the collection. This would no doubt please Daniel Coit Gilman, the first president of Johns Hopkins, who led the university in its development as a true research institution. In his inaugural address, Gilman shared his vision for the future of the university: "But soon I hope we may add what Erasmus said at Oxford: 'It is wonderful what a harvest of old volumes is flourishing here on every side; there is so much of erudition, not common and trivial, but recondite, accurate and ancient, both Greek and Latin, that I should not wish to visit Italy, except for the gratification of traveling.'" Thanks to the generosity of the Hinkes family and the wisdom of the curators who received the gift of the Hinkes Collection, students and other researchers at Johns Hopkins will not need to travel to experience the wonder and satisfaction of learning about the history of scientific thought, printing, and other topics through these powerful primary sources.—*Maurice C. York, East Carolina University.*