

helped along the way by generous annotations. The relationship between these two players shared a similar asymmetry as did Silver's: the rhetorically nimble Cockerell confronting the laconic businessman, Pierce. The Grolier volume works better for me than Silver's, though both are solid contributions to book history.

The book comes with abundant illustrations and an annotated list of Lilly's purchases from Rosenbach.—*Michael Ryan, Columbia University.*

**Bryan M. Carson.** *Finding the Law: Legal Research for Librarians and Paralegals.* Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2011. 281p. alk. paper, \$65 (ISBN 0810881055). LC 2011-009655.

Conducting legal research can be daunting for those who have not received extensive training on the American legal systems and related research materials. The sources used in legal research are often significantly different from those for other disciplines; at the same time, the legal process itself can be difficult for the uninitiated to follow, further complicating the research process. In this book, Bryan M. Carson, who has a background in law, librarianship, and education, aims to clarify the legal research process by combining historical background of the U.S. legal system, descriptions of legislative and judicial processes, and extensive lists of key legal resources in a single text that is clearly intended for those who are new to the legal field.

The book is divided into nine chapters on specific areas of legal research, with a final tenth chapter on the "Past and Future of Legal Research." Starting with an overview of American history with a focus on the formation of our current form of government, it then provides an introduction to understanding and finding legal materials to form a foundation for the more specific information in the later chapters of the book. To alleviate the confusion many feel upon first encountering legal citations, Carson includes useful diagrams of common types of legal cita-

tions to give users the tools to understand how legal references are cited and the information they convey about the legal process through which the documents were created. The second chapter also includes an extensive, and largely annotated, list of sources including both free and subscription Web sites and databases as well as additional print resources pertaining to legal research.

Each of the subsequent chapters of the book follows the pattern of providing an overview of the legal topic covered, followed by a list of the recommended sources on the topic. While not all sources are annotated, many are; and, of particular interest, the entries for selected electronic resources include tips on constructing searches. Each chapter also includes additional information on sources and substantive legal matters in footnotes found at the end of the chapter. The chapters cover all of the branches of government as well as international law and its place in our legal system and a chapter on the Freedom of Information Act, which includes an overview of how to file a FOIA request. The penultimate chapter of the book discusses state legal systems and walks readers through the process of researching legal matters in Kentucky and Massachusetts by way of example. The final chapter discusses the development of legal research to date and its future, including the changing nature of legal research as a result of increasing availability of digital resources.

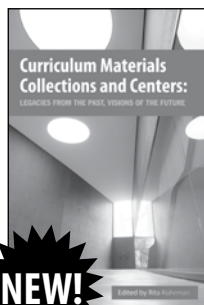
Throughout the book, Carson includes tips and advice written by or based on work from other experts, as in the case of the discussion of Massachusetts state legal research, which was written by a legal reference librarian from Massachusetts. This adds other perspectives and expertise to the book for a more well-rounded discussion of the topic. The book also includes a number of finding aids following the final chapter including a bibliography, an index, a table of cases, and a table of statutes, making it a practical option as a quick reference source.

While this book does cover a wide range of legal research topics at a high level, it is not comprehensive, nor is it intended to be. Instead, it is best suited to those librarians and patrons with little or no background in the law or legal research. It provides a good basic introduction to legal research, together with exten-

sive lists of sources on the topics covered, which will be valuable for those getting started in the field of legal research. The information included would also be of use to academic or public librarians who want to have a resource on hand for the occasional legal research question. — *Carli Spina, Harvard Law School Library.*



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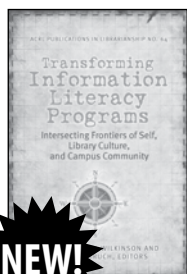
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