

Chisholm, Margaret, and McDonald, Dennis D., eds. *Reader in Media, Technology and Libraries*. (Reader Series in Library and Information Science) Englewood, Colo.: Microcard Editions Books, 1975. 530p. \$18.95. (LC 75-8050) (ISBN 0-910972-51-6)

Many librarians are acquainted with Margaret Chisholm's long-standing interest and involvement with media. Her selection as editor of this most recent volume from the well-known Reader Series in Library and Information Science is fortunate. She has done an excellent job in pulling together pertinent articles relating to media, technology, and libraries.

The work is divided into fifteen separate sections, which together consider the several aspects of media and its utilization and application in librarianship. Chisholm's introductory statements to each of these sections are perceptive and adequately introduce the topics under consideration.

The editor's underlying philosophy relating to media and libraries as well as the tone of the entire volume is established in her introduction to the section on "Definition and Terminology." She notes that one of the fundamental problems of the media field has been the lack of agreement on basic terms such as "media."

The term "media" as related to information includes all those forms in which information is stored and transferred. This includes all print forms and all audiovisual materials. A traditional manner of distinguishing the different formats is to use the term book and non-book or print and non-print. Neither of these terms non-book and non-print is satisfactory. Both terms are negative. . . . The term non-book forces the creation of a schism between the book or a form and all other material and this is precisely what must not happen. There must not be a division between the book and other forms of media.

This is a wise word of counsel for librarians and "audiovisualists" alike who all too frequently look for differences in the treatment of media rather than similarities.

The scope of this work is relatively broad. A total of seventy-six articles is divided among the fifteen different sections. Many will find particular interest in the sec-

tion, "Media: State of the Art," which not only includes articles relating to audiotape cassettes, microforms, videotapes, and so forth, but also to holography, demand publishing, facsimile transmission, and compressed speech, topics that are pertinent yet not widely discussed among librarians. A few case studies relating to the planning, development, and operational aspects of media systems have been included. Among the specific systems described are those located at Federal City College, Evergreen State College, and Oral Roberts University.

It is not possible, for this reviewer at least, to select any one article, or any ten articles for that matter, that stand uniquely alone in being superior. Each reader will have different tastes and different interests, but most assuredly they will be met by reading this work. Indeed, Margaret Chisholm has been successful in bring together "in convenient form the key elements required for a current and comprehensive view" of media, technology, and libraries, thus meeting the primary objective of this series. This is a welcome and much-needed addition to the literature of librarianship.—*David B. Walch, Director of Academic Services, State University College at Buffalo.*

Black, Donald V., and Cuadra, Carlos A. *Directory of Academic Library Consortia*. 2d ed. Santa Monica, Calif.: System Development Corporation, 1975. 437p. \$25.00. (Available from Baker & Taylor, Drawer Z, Momence, IL 60954.)

The first edition of the *Directory of Academic Library Consortia*, prepared by Diana D. Delanoy and Carlos A. Cuadra, was published by System Development Corporation in 1972. It listed and described 125 cooperative organizations meeting rigid standards, such as having a membership consisting of more than 50 percent academic libraries and including as participants at least two autonomous institutions. Using more relaxed criteria (e.g., only one member of a consortium need be an academic library), Kean Mantius identified 135 additional consortia and summarized the organization and activities of each in his *Supplement to the Directory of Academic Library Consortia*, also issued in 1972.

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Donald V. Black and Carlos A. Cuadra have developed this 1975 edition by merging, updating, and expanding material found in both 1972 publications. Descriptions of consortia that went out of existence by 1974 were deleted, and data on over a dozen new cooperative groups were added. The resulting volume contains entries for 264 consortia, providing for each the following information: name and date of founding; geographical area served; members and dates of joining; purposes and objectives; current activities; projected activities; conditions of participation; annual budget and sources of funding; staffing; advisory boards; publications; location of headquarters; and contact person.

There are several significant academic library networks that are not listed in this second edition (e.g., PALINET, SLICE, SOLINET, the SUNY library system, and the Research Libraries Group). Similarly, entries for some organizations are over four years old and now obsolete. Nevertheless, this book can be useful to those interested in learning about cooperative groups. Indexes to consortia by activities (ranging from acquisitions to workshops), by names of organizations (including parent bodies and acronyms), and by geographical areas served simplify the location of information. Unfortunately, this new *Directory of Academic Library Consortia* lacks the detailed analyses of data, comparisons, and statistical tables found in both the first edition and its supplement.—Leonard Grundt, Professor and Chairperson, Library Department, Nassau Community College, Garden City, New York.

Media in Higher Education, The Critical Issues: Ideas, Analysis, Confrontation. Pullman, Wash.: Information Futures, 1976. 111p. \$13.85.

In February 1976 Information Futures sponsored a "conference-seminar" on media in higher education. The purpose of the meeting was to identify and discuss—not solve—problems in the field of media in higher education. This publication is a result of that conference.

Most of the nine papers in this collection cover familiar ground; seven papers deal with "issues," and there are introduc-