BOOK REVIEWS


The paradigm for library acquisitions and collection development has shifted from a subjective “just-in-case” model to an evidence-based “just-in-time” one. All libraries must be open to this shift and examine how use-driven acquisitions (UDAs) can improve their collections and their usage, and all-important patron satisfaction. Whether or not your library is currently using a UDA model or looking to implement one, librarians will find this excellent work a worthy and necessary guide that can be read sequentially or can be used as a reference for edification on specific aspects of UDAs.

The authors have experience in the trenches, as they state in the preface: “We bring unique perspectives to this book since we are acquisitions, e-resources, and collection management librarians who have extensive experience working with UDA plans in academic libraries as well as a leading book vendor” (p. xiii). As such, they offer in-depth information on the ins and outs, positives and negatives of UDA, and, most importantly, guidance to enable readers to successfully implement and manage these systems.

This seemingly exhaustive book is divided into four main parts: “Part I: Developing Use-Driven Acquisition Plans,” “Part II: E-Book UDA Plans,” “Part III: Targeting Libraries and Collections,” and Part IV: “Evaluation and Emerging Strategies.” All twelve chapters end with key points and a list of further readings, and most conclude with library case studies. Insightful tables are found throughout the book.

Three chapters in part I cover the basic elements and features of each use-driven model and how to manage them, budget strategies to integrate use-driven plans into collection development, and advice on working with vendors and content providers. In part II, three chapters offer insightful information on e-books, a proven popular format for UDA. Both demand-driven acquisitions (DDA) and evidence-based acquisitions (EBA) models are described. A chapter is devoted to “Shared and Consortial Plans” and includes tables outlining “Reasons to Launch Shared E-Book UDA Plans” and “Phases of Implementation.” In part III, four chapters discuss “Patron-Driven Acquisition of Print Materials,” “Interlibrary Loan—Purchase on Demand (PoD),” “Streaming Video,” and “Patron-Driven Acquisition in Public and Special Libraries.” In part IV, chapter 11 provides an “Assessment of UDA Plans.” The authors emphasize the importance of assessment when deploying a UDA plan. The final chapter, chapter 12, presents a series of projected “Future Directions.” As the authors state, “we are confident that use-driven acquisitions will become ubiquitous in libraries and be an ongoing element of collection development management strategies” (p. xv).

Medical and health sciences librarians must determine their own parameters for their implementation and growth of UDA models. This work serves as a practical guide that will help at all steps along the way.

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Comprehensive Women’s Health provides the reader with an extensive and rich explanation of mental health issues affecting special populations and diverse cultures. The first chapter, “Surviving Their Lives, Women’s Mental Health in Context,” does a fine job explaining the purpose of the book: “The evidence presented in this chapter makes a strong case for concluding that mental health practitioners need to understand women’s distress in the context of the complexity of their lives and with an appreciation of the ways gender, ethnicity and other social inequalities affect service responses. In short, they need to take a gender-informed approach to working with women” (p. 7). This book is appropriate for use as a textbook, as a reference resource in an academic or hospital library,
or further exploration of issues relating to women’s mental health.

Professors Castle and Abel have arranged the book, written by various specialists in the field, into twenty-five chapters that are organized in five sections. The first section covers the social, genetic, and environmental aspects. Chapters one through seven form this section and cover issues such as the effects of ethnic and cultural differences on mental health care, women as caregivers (an important distinction given that “Throughout the world, women are the primary providers of care and support to the chronically ill” [p. 28]), maternal caregiving, and developmental disorders in girls.

Hormonal and reproductive effects are the focus of the second section. Issues considered are the effects of hormones on the female brain; sexual, reproductive, and antenatal care of women with mental illness; mood; anxiety; and compulsive disorders in pregnancy and how to treat them. This section strongly asserts a need for change in the organizational response by mental health service providers and policy makers: “Sexual and reproductive health must be addressed within policies and training; sexual safety needs to be considered alongside physical safety” (p. 92).

The third section explores the sex differences in borderline personality disorder (BPD), women offenders and mental health, and women and addiction. Chapter 13 is the most engaging chapter in this section because it thoroughly covers the characteristics of women offenders: what distinguishes them from men and ways of understanding their needs. The chapter authors also discuss treatment interventions, both in and out of prison, and how to gain a greater understanding of this special population.

The fourth section talks about depression, anxiety and related disorders, and psychotic disorders in women. One of the more interesting chapters in this section discusses the cultural impact on body image in women. Although there has been an oversaturation of this subject in much of the media, this chapter digs deep and has given me a rooted understanding of the psychological underpinnings of body dysmorphic disorder. Chapter 17 reveals surprising statistics about how many women are afflicted with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD): “One of the most influential of these studies, the National Comorbidity Study (NCS), estimated that the lifetime prevalence of trauma exposure was 51% and 61% for men; however, lifetime rates of PTSD were estimated at 10% for women and 5% for men” (p. 209).

The fifth and last section examines psychotic disorders in women, focusing two chapters on schizophrenia and one on the special issues associated with BPD. The BPD chapter looks at reproductive health for patients with BPD, management of BPD in pregnancy, and management of BPD in the postpartum period. Chapter 22 deals with how prevalent schizophrenia is in women, how it presents itself to clinicians, and what the broader issues are for mothers with schizophrenia. The next chapter explores the various treatments available to women with schizophrenia. The book concludes with an exhaustive chapter on dementia in women, asserting that more women than men develop dementia, but they also are “disproportionately affected by virtue of being caregivers to others with dementia. In the United States, 65–75% of caregivers are women” (p. 342).

The reader who is eager to learn more about each topic and the collection development librarian will delight in the fact that all chapters conclude with an exhaustive list of cited works. But what I appreciate most about this book is that it pays attention to special populations like lesbian women, women of color, aging and elderly women, and incarcerated women, which exemplifies to me its status as comprehensive. This book would be a trusted addition to any library collection as a textbook about mental health issues or as a reference resource.

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Ragains and Wood’s elegant treatment of information literacy instruction (ILI) is saturated with the new (2015) framework from the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL). According to the editors, this book has been designed for use by instructional librarians in academia (middle school to postdoctoral level), library administrators, and public librarians to assist them in instructing and supporting their patrons in research. Organized in three parts, this volume reflects these themes: “Supporting Specif-