other college libraries. However, the community college library is different in that it must support the goals and programs of the unique institution of which it is a part.

A discussion of the historical development of community colleges in the United States precedes chapters on personnel; administrative organization; technical services; learning materials and equipment; microforms; user services; cooperation and extension of service; standards and guidelines; planning the building; and "Movements and Developments with Strong Impact." Details abound, including everything from comments on on-approval order plans to a discussion of examples of television operations.

Statistical tables, library floor plans, and organization charts illustrate the text. Bibliographies are included at the end of each chapter. Frequent references to the practices in community college libraries across the country are interspersed in the text. The chapter on standards and guidelines deals specifically with efforts of the Association of College and Research Libraries to formulate national standards for community college libraries, and there is frequent reference to the 1972 Guidelines throughout the text. Reference is also made to state standards such as those in Washington, California, and Illinois.

Although the text is factual for the most part, Dr. Veit interjects his own opinions or recommendations from time to time. In the chapter on technical services, the following statement appears (p.93): "It is more difficult to maintain a multi-media catalog than separate catalogs for book and non-book media.” Similarly, in the chapter on learning materials and equipment, the following is stated (p.103): "A community college should very closely consider the implications of becoming a government publications depository, especially a federal depository.”

Some information in the text is unavoidably dated. It is hoped that the reader will consult library literature to learn recent developments in the operation of the Ohio College Library Center, for example, or to secure current evaluations of dial-access systems.

Dr. Veit has painstakingly assembled a wealth of information which should admirably serve the needs of the uninitiated.—Alice B. Griffith, Library Director, Mohawk Valley Community College, Utica, New York.


I should admit to begin with that the papers of a conference are not my favorite literature, but since I was prevented by circumstances from attending this conference and had heard good things about it, I agreed to review the publication. I’m glad I did.

Held under the sponsorship of the Jamaica Library Association, with the government of Jamaica and the Jamaica Library Service as cosponsors, the conference was designed to “focus the attention of the public, of government and of other agencies upon the role and value of libraries and upon the nature of the profession of librarianship ...” with the hope of “winning for them a greater measure of moral and financial support in these tasks”—a noble purpose for the Caribbean area where such support is certainly needed. Each of the ten sessions was devoted to a different topic: public, national, university, and special libraries; libraries for youth; library education; technology; UNESCO; cooperation; national plans; and professional associations. Typically, an internationally recognized representative of the specialty was invited to speak on the topic in general, followed by a Jamaican representative who discussed the local and/or Caribbean situation. The discussion which ensued in each session was synopsized by the editors from tape recordings.

Without exception, the papers are well constructed and informative. It may, therefore, be misleading to single out any for
comment, but this reviewer found particularly interesting the contribution by Dr. Margareet Wijnstroom, General Secretary of IFLA, on library developments in North West Europe; the survey of public libraries in the Commonwealth Caribbean by Joyce Robinson, Director of the Jamaica Library Service; the clear and incisive analysis of academic library problems in developing areas such as the Caribbean, by Kenneth Ingram, Librarian, University of the West Indies, Jamaica; and the excellent update on library cooperation in the West Indies with its extensive bibliography, by Dr. Alma Jordan, Librarian, University of the West Indies, Trinidad. As is true typically of conference papers, one has a sense of reading a collection, since they are not chapters by a single author. But the variety here imparts a real and attractive sense of looking in at an international conference, where not only the facts but the attitudes differ.

Finally it must be said, the whole event is a credit to Kenneth E. Ingram, then chairman of the program subcommittee, later chairman of the conference, president of the Jamaica Library Association, and editor, along with Mrs. Jefferson, his assistant in Jamaica, of the papers. The outline of topics, the choice of speakers, the synopsis of the discussion periods, and the overall editing of the papers and of the publication itself have put together a happening that anyone would be proud of.—G. A. Harrer, Director of Libraries, University of Florida.


The author, who has been associated with the science and engineering libraries at Columbia University since 1964, covers most major topics of concern to those involved in such libraries. The first half of the book deals with the nature of technical libraries at universities—organizational patterns and location, administration, staffing and personnel management, collections (including weeding), facilities and equipment, and relationships with other groups (e.g., other university library units; other library systems; and industrial, governmental, and other organizations). He discusses basic principles and practical issues, with pros and cons, and frequently gives examples from a variety of institutions, supported by data and numerous bibliographic citations. The approach is practical, direct, and quite up to date. The style is primarily narrative, rather than categorized or outlined. Cost data are as of 1973 and need to be adjusted to 1976 inflated rates.

There are some topics which are scarcely mentioned. For example, there is little about the selection, acquisition, storage, and servicing of microforms, especially technical reports, although there is a brief discussion of microform readers and printers.

Library personnel, from the subprofessional working in such a library to the university librarian, and even faculty library committee members, would benefit from a reading of this book, through the insights it provides of the complexities involved in the administration and functioning of these units. Library school students expecting to work in such libraries can find out what to expect.

In spite of the wide variety of organizational patterns of practices in such libraries throughout the United States, the author has managed to convey the essence of the common problems and suggests solutions and warns of pitfalls to avoid.

The second half of the book consists primarily of selected examples of basic titles representing various types of sci-tech literature. Each category is preceded by a discussion of its characteristics. All monographic titles are annotated to show scope. The first category is guides to the literature, of which there now are a number of excellent titles in most sci-tech disciplines. Other categories include annual reviews, technical reports, patents, directories, standards, translations, theses, tables, data banks, and audiovisual aids, as well as handbooks, periodicals, abstracting services, etc. The titles show care in selection, and