Book Review. Legal Information Management Index

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Researchers accustomed to the use of quotation marks in certain types of citations will notice immediately the complete omission here of that convention. No other stylistic changes are evident. Since this format is followed with methodical consistency, this is only a minor issue; in fact, the absence of quotation marks lends something to the lean, crisp look of the citations. Another minor complaint is that while the introduction claims that citations to government documents include document numbers, this is true only in the case of United Nations documents, which are identified by publication number and sales number. United States government documents, represented in many sections, are given the fullest citations this reviewer has seen in print, but Superintendent of Documents numbers are not provided. Finally, a slightly clearer explanation of the criteria for inclusion of items in the bibliography would be helpful, especially concerning secondary works chosen or eliminated.

Policy makers and others engaged in the administration and development of human rights law will need this book, and large research libraries with a demand from graduate students and other researchers for sophisticated materials in international law and affairs will find it an essential purchase.

This is a prodigious scholarly achievement, unquestionably the most comprehensive bibliography yet published on human rights law. Multilingual and cross-cultural in scope, it establishes the compilers' point that human rights is a new branch of international law.


Reviewed by Linda K. Fariss

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This index provides access to articles, bibliographies, surveys, and reviews relating to legal information management and law librarianship that are found in over 125 periodicals published in the U.S. and abroad. It indexes not only articles found in widely distributed journals such as Law Library Journal, but also the newsletters of the various chapters and special interest sections of the American Association of Law Libraries.

The Legal Information Management Index is divided into three sections: Key Word Index, Author Index and Review Index. The Key Word Index is an alphabetical entry created from the significant words in the title of each article indexed. Words that are more significant when joined with another word are hyphenated and treated as a single word entry. For instance, if the words technical services appeared in an article title, they would be hyphenated (technical-services) and treated as a single key word entry. The
Author Index lists all authors of articles in alphabetical order by author’s name. The Review Index is organized alphabetically by the title of the work being reviewed.

The index is published bimonthly with an annual cumulation. Beginning with Volume Two, the publishers changed to a looseleaf format. This change makes it much easier to store and browse the bimonthly issues.

Although of less interest to the librarian in fields other than law, the law librarian should find it to be an extremely useful publication. Instead of having to look through several indexes to find articles on legal information topics, the librarian can now find most of the information indexed in one source. In addition to indexing legally oriented journals, general library journals such as American Libraries, Journal of Library Administration and Technical Services Quarterly are also included. These are materials that the law librarian may not see on a routine basis, although they contain much information of interest to them. Law librarians will be especially happy to see the inclusion of newsletters in this index. The newsletters of the American Association of Law Libraries special interest sections and chapters contain a great deal of valuable information. However, much of this has been lost in the past due to lack of indexing. The Legal Information Management Index should serve to fill this void.

At this time only English language journals are indexed. It would be very beneficial if the publishers would undertake to add non-English language periodicals in the future. However, for now, librarians should be happy that most legal information management literature can be accessed through a single source. It is highly recommended for any librarian who has need to access articles on legal information management or law librarianship.

Map Collections in the United States and Canada. (4th Edition) (a directory)
Edited by David K. Carrington and Richard W. Stephenson
New York: Special Library Association, 1985, 178 pages (paperback)

Reviewed by Thornton P. McGlamery


Map Collections is a compendium of information describing 804 entries. It is arranged alphabetically by city within state or province. The layout of the descriptive data is very much the same as in the previous edition. All data included have been taken directly from questionnaires with the exception of a few Canadian entries. Each entry contains an address, telephone number, a contact person, and an itemized description of the collection.

The fourth edition of Map Collections in the United States and Canada is a welcome friend to the Map Library. Its predecessors were useful, in fact indispensable. I've known from some time that the 4th edition was pending, and looked forward to adding it to my collection. I was not disappointed.