

Legal Reference Books Review*

Diana C. Jaque** and Lee Neugebauer***

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Berring, Robert C., and Elizabeth A. Edinger. *Finding the Law*, 11th ed. St. Paul, Minn.: West Group, 1999. 393p. Paper, \$ 25.50.

Reviewed by Anne Morrison

¶1 The first edition of *Finding the Law* was published in 1931. Much has changed in the legal research process during the seventy years since then, even though the basics of legal research have remained fairly constant. The latest edition of *Finding the Law* acknowledges the recent changes that have occurred in law school curriculums as a result of the computer age.

¶2 Historically, legal research has been taught in law schools using the “case-book” method. Lawyers who graduated from law school anytime before 1980 learned in this manner, but during the 1980s and particularly the 1990s, the legal profession’s use of computer-assisted legal research expanded. This expansion has made a significant impact on the way legal research is taught in today’s law schools. Still, students must learn the methodology of legal research before they can understand how computers can assist them in their research tasks. *Finding the Law* is intended for new law students who, though they may want to research only on computers, still need to have knowledge about and understanding of legal materials as they are presented in their traditional formats. As they state in the introduction, Berring and Edinger have designed this book “to instruct the reader in the basics of the legal research enterprise” (p. 1).

¶3 The authors have made a concerted effort to keep the information in the new edition of *Finding the Law* as current as possible. The material is accurate as of February 1, 1999, and there is now a Web-based update for the text available through Berring’s Web site at Berkeley.¹ Another valuable new feature is appendix A, a comparison tool showing first a reprint of a case as published by the court, followed immediately by an “enhanced” casebook version of the same case. The casebook version shows the case as it would be printed from Westlaw, along with a detailed commentary that highlights the various parts of the case, explaining what has been “added” by West’s editors and how legal researchers can use these enhancements in their research.

¶4 The authors conclude their work with a chapter on overall research strategies and the integrated research process. Berring and Edinger wisely encourage law students to develop effective research strategies during law school (while LEXIS and Westlaw services are free), and suggest that they not allow themselves to form lazy or poor searching habits.

¶5 This book is an absolute must for any law library that serves law or paralegal students. Public law libraries should also have a copy in their reference collection for their pro se clientele. This work will benefit anyone who needs to

1. Robert C. Berring, Jr., *Latest Update to Finding the Law* (last modified Aug. 5, 1999) <<http://www.law.berkeley.edu/faculty/berrngr/findingthelaw/menu.html>>.

research American law. The authors have provided a well-balanced presentation of legal research basics and have updated the entire body of work to include not only print formats but also the electronic alternatives now available.

Garner, Bryan A. *The Winning Brief: 100 Tips for Persuasive Briefing in Trial and Appellate Courts*. New York: Oxford Univ. Pr., 1999. 444p. Paper, \$50.

Reviewed by Jan Bisset

¶16 Bryan Garner's previous works as author, *A Dictionary of Modern Legal Usage*² and *The Elements of Legal Style*,³ and editor, *Black's Law Dictionary*,⁴ are well known and widely used in our profession. Even though I don't write briefs or receive many reference questions about writing them, I would recommend adding his current book, *The Winning Brief*, to reference or legal writing collections. Many of the 100 tips he presents can be applied to any type of writing that needs to be persuasive—including, dare I say, library administrative memos and proposals. However, *The Winning Brief's* focus is on brief writing, and its quotations, explanations, and examples are designed to show how to achieve effective persuasive legal writing.

¶17 Garner developed this book for a continuing legal education presentation. The lack of written materials on the subject, "dissatisfaction with both the literature and the practice of brief-writing," and the urging of a friend to design a course exclusively for brief-writers culminated in *The Winning Brief* (p. x). His 100 tips are organized into ten categories covering composition, issues, paragraph and sentence structure, editing, punctuation, format, "sidestepping common quirks," "persuasive strategies," and "hitting your stride as a brief writer." Garner acknowledges that the tips function as "advice [he] feels strongly about and while . . . [n]ot all the tips are equal . . . they're all points that brief-writers need to work on" (p. x).

¶18 Presented by number, each tip, in large bold font, is followed by "Quotable Quotes" and an "Explanation." The quotes are generally taken from writing and grammar-style handbooks or manuals. The explanation, in one or more short concise paragraphs, is Garner's take on each tip. Illustrations and examples (good and bad) may also be provided. Not all tips are equal, and not all tips have illustrations or examples. Examples, showing before and after or unusually good or bad examples, vary from one liners to actual briefs and serve their purpose well. Two appendixes (A Motion to Dismiss and its rewrite), an index of works cited, and a subject index complete the contents.

¶19 Given that I don't write briefs, I asked one of our associates (one half of an attorney couple) to assess the substantive portions of the text. Her initial comment: "I was accused of being a geek in my own home!" Reaction from her office

2. BRYAN A. GARNER, *A DICTIONARY OF MODERN LEGAL USAGE* (2d ed. 1995).

3. BRYAN A. GARNER, *THE ELEMENTS OF LEGAL STYLE* (1991).

4. *BLACK'S LAW DICTIONARY* (Bryan A. Garner ed., 7th ed. 1999).

colleagues was much the same. Nevertheless, she felt that *The Winning Brief* helped solidify what she had previously learned and now practices in her own brief writing.

¶10 This book's intended audience is practitioners or those who write trial and appellate briefs. A quick look at OCLC's FirstSearch reveals that academic, private, court, and county law libraries own this title. A search conducted on Google also brought up quite a few listings for the book in recent acquisitions lists from academic law libraries. The appeal of the subject, notwithstanding the possible accusation of geekiness, to all types of law libraries and the quality of Garner's past works are persuasive in themselves. With that, I'll end this review by noting a rule I have lived by for years: less is more—or "Tip No. 94: Plan on coming in well under the relevant page limit" (p. 363).

Langley, Winston E. *Encyclopedia of Human Rights Issues Since 1945*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1999. 422p. \$65.

Reviewed by Ruth Levor

¶11 Let's do a word association. The trigger word is "encyclopedia." The response? Maybe the adjective "comprehensive"? Many dictionaries do use "comprehensive" in their definitions of the word encyclopedia, and the description on the back cover of the *Encyclopedia of Human Rights Issues Since 1945* claims that it is comprehensive.

¶12 Why then does the first paragraph of its users' guide include the disclaimer: "The work does not seek to include every human rights issue but does attempt to cover major issues, incidents, events, people, organizations, and instruments" (p. xxv). This important disclaimer, of course, is more accurate than either the description on the back cover or the overly ambitious title of this book. While purporting to be an encyclopedia, this work is haphazard at best in its coverage of latter twentieth-century human rights developments. What does the entry for "Vietnam War" contain, for example? Merely two cross references, to "Kent State Tragedy" and "My Lai Massacre," but no text, no discussion of any other "human rights issues" associated with the war, no mention of Agent Orange, Ho Chi Minh, or General William Westmoreland! As another example, there is no separate entry for Native Americans, and they are given only a fleeting mention under "Indigenous Peoples." To call this modest volume an encyclopedia then is pretentious indeed.

¶13 If the book is, on the other hand, a selective, rather than encyclopedic, catalog and explanation of the major human rights developments of the second half of the twentieth century, what are the criteria for selection of entries and what purpose does the work serve? Is it to provide a well-balanced understanding of the evolution of the world's response to human rights abuses? If so, the guidelines for inclusion should have been carefully chosen and thoroughly explained to the reader. After all, any discussion of human rights and abuses of human rights is

inherently sensitive and controversial, as is the mere decision to label an action as abusive of human rights or to discard it as not significant. However, the only explicit criterion for the inclusion of any topic as an entry in this encyclopedia is the impact of that topic on the human condition, a nebulous standard indeed.

¶14 The only other criterion mentioned is that decisions on inclusion of entries about certain countries were based on their incidence of major human rights issues, but no measurement sources (such as reports by Amnesty International, the United Nations, or the U.S. State Department) are specified. The content of actual country entries is sporadic: Argentina's, like Vietnam's, contains only cross references (to "Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo" and "Nunca Mas"); there is no entry for Japan, but there is a discussion of the Tokyo War Crimes Trials (with no cross references); by contrast, the Sharpeville Massacre receives no separate discussion but is cross-referenced to "South Africa," and the same is true for "Tienanmen Square" and "China."

¶15 The encyclopedia's adherence to the stated time framework (since 1945) is somewhat questionable. The year 1945 is identified in the introduction as a watershed for recognition of *international* responsibility for human rights and of the need to address abuses on an international level rather than solely through national legal proceedings. Clearly, as discussed in the book's introduction, a major impetus sparking the growth of this recognition was the Holocaust and the atrocities performed in the name of Nazism. The topic "Nazis" is included in the index as playing a role in the discussions of ethnic cleansing, forced labor, genocide, Poland, racism, rape, refugees, Stalin, and sterilization. However, the entry for "Nuremberg War Crimes Trials" (1945–1947) mentions no form of the word "Nazi" and is not cross-referenced to Nazis in the index. Furthermore, there is no mention, either as an entry or an index topic, of the term "concentration camp," clearly not solely a pre-1945 phenomenon.

¶16 Choices such as these are heavily influenced by the perspective of the author, and discomfort with those choices is equally heavily influenced by the perspective of the individual reader. However, at the very least, this reviewer believes that these choices promote confusion by fragmenting references to pivotal segments of human rights history. The time division takes on an artificial cast that narrows the global view of the human rights context and further diminishes the encyclopedic scope of the book.

¶17 In addition to the more than four hundred entries in the main body of *Encyclopedia*, there is a list, by year but not by individual date, of significant events from the adoption of the U.N. Charter in 1945 to the signing of the Anglo-Irish agreement on Northern Ireland in 1998. The first appendix lists the seven human rights groups that are the subjects of entries in the book and reproduces in black and white a poster on "The United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education 1995–2004." The print on the reduced size poster is very small and difficult to make out. The list of human rights organizations does not begin to scratch

the surface in describing the enormous network of entities involved in promoting and protecting human rights worldwide. The other two appendixes reproduce the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, along with original citation information. Sixty-two pages are devoted to these documents, which are easily obtainable in the original and in many other sources. There is also a three-page glossary just before the index.

¶18 The author is a professor of political science and international relations at the University of Massachusetts-Boston. He has edited three separate one-volume compilations: *Human Rights: Sixty Major Global Instruments*,⁵ *Women's Rights in International Documents*,⁶ and *Women's Rights in the United States: A Documentary History*.⁷ The first is a handy collection of original texts of instruments treating discrimination, war crimes, slavery, imprisonment, asylum, refugees, employment, marriage, children, and other miscellaneous topics. The second is a slim volume containing reproductions of two dozen international documents accompanied by brief editorial commentary. The third is intended for high school and college students and is a compilation of documents selected in collaboration with a co-editor and a board of experts to trace the history of women's rights in the United States.

¶19 *The Encyclopedia of Human Rights Issues Since 1945* is also written at a high school or college freshman level, as is indicated by a testimonial on the back cover touting its usefulness for Model U.N. and other high school activities. Whether or not it is sufficiently balanced to warrant use even at that level, it is certainly not appropriate for legal research, either for professional or lay researchers, because it barely addresses their needs.

¶20 Legal researchers who are investigating human rights issues most often need to examine primary documents—such as treaties, conventions, protocols, and other agreements, and their “legislative history”—as well as the domestic laws of individual nations. Such researchers also need information on the history of different governments' positions and human rights records as well as on the activities of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and on how to locate them. Finally, researchers need current information about news events and the status of national laws and international agreements.

¶21 A volume that allows the researcher to find much of the information in the first two categories in one place and that hence would more truly warrant the appellation “encyclopedia” is Edward Lawson's *Encyclopedia of Human Rights*.⁸ Weighing in at nearly five pounds and costing \$325, this hefty tome is nevertheless pound for pound and dollar for dollar a better acquisition than the Langley

5. WINSTON E. LANGLEY, *HUMAN RIGHTS: SIXTY MAJOR GLOBAL INSTRUMENTS* (1992).

6. *WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS* (Winston E. Langley ed., 1991).

7. *WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY* (Winston E. Langley & Vivian C. Fox eds., 1994).

8. *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF HUMAN RIGHTS* (Edward Lawson & Mary Lou Bertucci eds., 2d ed. 1996).

book, if only for the sheer number of primary documents it contains from the United Nations, the International Labor Organization, the Organization of American States, the Organization of African Unity, and the Council of Europe. Each documentary entry is thoroughly cross-referenced to related material and cited to the primary source. Original entries are of a scope and level appropriate to legal research and contain specific dates, citations, and in many cases, names and contact information for nongovernmental human rights organizations. The first of the two appendixes is a very helpful chronological list of international instruments concerned with human rights, ranging from the ILO Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention of November 12, 1921, to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of June 25, 1993. The second appendix provides the status of international human rights conventions, at least as of five years ago. Representative of the depth of coverage of this encyclopedia is the fact that it has an entry on lawyers and international agreements about their conduct and treatment, an addition since the first edition.

¶122 For a more modest, less expensive (\$44) overview of twentieth-century human rights, take a look at *Historical Dictionary of Human Rights and Humanitarian Organizations*.⁹ Its focus is on grass-roots organizations and United Nations bodies and their work, but it does include some topical and biographical entries as well as a time line of twentieth-century human rights events.

¶123 The most important function of an encyclopedia of human rights is to lead the researcher to useful documents and to thoughtful analyses of the human condition worldwide. Any of the other encyclopedias mentioned would probably serve that purpose better than the *Encyclopedia of Human Rights Issues Since 1945*.

Matthijssen, Luuk. *Interfacing Between Lawyers and Computers: An Architecture for Knowledge-Based Interfaces to Legal Databases*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Kluwer Law International, 1999. 268p. Paper, \$99.

Reviewed by Beth Smith

¶124 In my five-plus years as a law librarian, I have spent countless hours helping people construct search statements for full-text databases. I've often wondered what these people would have done without the assistance of a law librarian. How would they have figured out which terms to use? Would they have any clue about which Boolean connectors would work? Luuk Matthijssen, a student of business informatics at Tilburg University in the Netherlands and the author of *Interfacing Between Lawyers and Computers*, had no legal training and no law librarian to assist him as he searched a database of Dutch statutes for help with a dispute with his landlord. After much time and frustration, Matthijssen finally found his

9. ROBERT F. GORMAN & EDWARD S. MIHALKANIN, *HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS* (1997).

answer. Being a student of informatics, he was curious about why this particular search was so difficult. He worked backwards to create a search statement that would have found the relevant statute; this search statement turned out to be non-intuitive. His frustration over the difficulty of the search motivated his Ph.D. research project, which eventually became this book.

¶125 Matthijssen's Ph.D. project considered the problem of legal information retrieval and the limitations of Boolean searching. When searching legal databases, it is difficult for the inexperienced searcher to select the correct terms and combine them into a query. Answers can often be found in legal databases with the assistance of knowledgeable human mediators, such as law librarians. The librarians act as intelligent intermediaries between the person with a problem and the information. The book explores the possibility of creating an automated intelligent intermediary that would take the place of human mediators. Matthijssen's solution is the creation of something called a "task-based hyperindex" to legal databases.

¶126 Matthijssen's book is challenging to read. Although a student of information technology may be interested in working through the whole book, the six-page summary at the end would suffice for the rest of us. This would be good reading for a library school student, but I can't imagine that it would be useful for most law library patrons.

Moore, John L. *Elections A to Z*. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, Inc., 1999. 560p. Paper, \$95.

Reviewed by Carol Bredemeyer

¶127 *Elections A to Z* is part of Congressional Quarterly's Encyclopedia of American Government series. Companion volumes include *The Presidency A to Z*,¹⁰ *Congress A to Z*,¹¹ and *The Supreme Court A to Z*.¹² *Elections A to Z* contains 200 entries covering concepts such as one person/one vote and open primaries, as well as topics that have affected elections over the years such as literacy tests, Jim Crow laws, political consultants, and issue voting. Cross references are judiciously included.

¶128 There are no entries for individuals—this would have made for too much material and hard choices would have been required if only selected individuals were to be included. There are numerous photographs and illustrations—one of the most unusual is of Thomas Dewey with the Oregon Cavemen Club. There are entries for all the political parties, including third parties.

¶129 A chronology of presidential elections is interesting, but it has gaps, including two of approximately thirty years. Perhaps the author thought nothing

10. THE PRESIDENCY A TO Z (Michael Nelson ed., 2d ed. 1998).

11. CONGRESS A TO Z (David R. Tarr & Ann O'Connor eds., 3d ed. 1999).

12. KENNETH JOST, SUPREME COURT A TO Z (2d ed. 1998).

interesting happened in those years. Little is said, for example, about the years before and after the Civil War or the years prior to Franklin Roosevelt's first presidential victory in 1932. Additionally, no mention is made of the fact that Al Smith was the first Roman Catholic to run for president in 1928.

¶30 Nine pages are devoted to political scandals, beginning with the 1802 accusation that Thomas Jefferson fathered several children with Sally Hemmings, one of his slaves, and concluding with the Senate impeachment trial of Bill Clinton.

¶31 What will make *Elections A to Z* the political junkie's bible are the tables scattered throughout the volume and the appendixes. There are lists of party chairmen, the location and date of each party convention, presidential and vice-presidential candidates, the number of ballots needed to nominate a candidate, and the cities that have hosted the most conventions. The reader will also find a table of the dates and location of debates, including participating candidates and the moderator. A distribution of Congresses by party includes the number of incumbents reelected, defeated, or retired. There is also the obligatory list of election-related Web sites.

Seligman, Scott D. *Chinese Business Etiquette: A Guide to Protocol, Manners, and Culture in the People's Republic of China*, rev. ed. New York: Warner Books, 1999. 304p. \$14.99.

Reviewed by Ruth Levor

¶38 *When Dealing with the Chinese*,¹³ the predecessor to the revised edition of *Chinese Business Etiquette*, was published a decade ago, "comrade" was still the common form of address among the Chinese; to use it now would indicate sarcasm or a reference to a recently deceased old revolutionary! In the intervening decade, Western customs and ideas have begun to penetrate the "great wall" of cultural separation that has surrounded China for centuries. Big Macs and KFCs now dot the urban landscape, and market forces have dictated a growing tolerance for Western manners. Nevertheless, the cultural chasm between East and West remains deep and wide, and ignorance of the Chinese norms of etiquette might still lead to serious breaches of accepted conduct and jeopardize business relationships.

¶39 Chinese standards for behavior are rooted in more than just tradition or custom; they were codified over 2,500 years ago by Confucius. The Confucian codes defined the hierarchies and ranks within families and other social institutions and specified the proper conduct, rituals, and ethical principles required within these structures. These norms are so ingrained within the Chinese psyche that it is said no foreigner can ever fully absorb them, while among the Chinese

13. SCOTT D. SELIGMAN, *DEALING WITH THE CHINESE: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO BUSINESS ETIQUETTE IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC TODAY* (1989).

people, deviation from them is rarely forgiven. However, as China moves away from its centuries of isolation, the Chinese are coming to realize that their rules of conduct are not universally practiced. Although they may tolerate foreigners' ignorance of these rules, they themselves continue to behave in ways that are often confusing to uninformed foreigners. Saying something is "inconvenient" or "under discussion," for example, is more acceptable than an outright refusal, and telling a lie may be more acceptable than disrupting social equanimity.

¶140 Reading a guide to Chinese mores before engaging in business or social interchange is virtually essential to forestall the commission of inadvertent insults and to enhance the chances of success in concluding negotiations. Of the many such guides that have been written in the last several years,¹⁴ *Chinese Business Etiquette* is the most straightforward and provides the best overview of the high points that any visitor to China, even the casual tourist, would want to know in order to conduct oneself graciously and respectfully among the Chinese, whether in China or abroad.

¶141 Seligman's language is clear and direct, concise without being at all terse. Several of the other guides are wordy and adopt a more scholarly or technical tone. On the other hand, *Business China*, one of the *Passport Books*, a much slimmer volume, may be handier, but its brief generalizations about business conduct are quite sweeping and, taken out of context, often appear condescending.

¶142 The perspective of the particular author also has a significant influence on each guide's usefulness for the reader. Seligman, an American, has lived and taught in mainland China and Taiwan off and on for the past twenty-five years, mostly as a representative of the U.S.–China Business Council. He is proficient in Mandarin and in written Chinese and has a very positive attitude toward the Chinese people. Other authors of similar guides are variously, Chinese-born expatriates, Chinese-born U.S. residents, American or British entrepreneurs or managers, academicians, journalists, or sociologists. While there are certain constants in their descriptions of Chinese behavior, each has a slightly different focus and outlook. Those with more than a passing interest in the Chinese may want to read and collect others in addition to the Seligman book, particularly *Chinese Business Negotiating Style*, which includes more illustrative material, both graphic and textual. Also, while Seligman makes brief reference to differences between mainland Chinese and those living in Taiwan and Hong Kong, the most in-depth discussion of the latter two is found in De Mente's *Chinese Etiquette & Ethics in Business*.

¶143 Just as the subtitle of *Chinese Business Etiquette* identifies the major

14. See, e.g., KEVIN B. BUCKNALL, KEVIN B. BUCKNALL'S CULTURAL GUIDE TO DOING BUSINESS IN CHINA (1994); BOYE DE MENTE, CHINESE ETIQUETTE & ETHICS IN BUSINESS (2d ed. 1994); TONY FANG, CHINESE BUSINESS NEGOTIATING STYLE (1999); STEPHANIE JONES, MANAGING IN CHINA: AN EXECUTIVE SURVIVAL GUIDE (1997); PEGGY KENNA & SONDRALACEY, BUSINESS CHINA: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING CHINESE BUSINESS CULTURE (1994); HUANG QUANYU ET AL., A GUIDE TO SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS RELATIONS WITH THE CHINESE (1994).

components of etiquette—protocol, manners, and culture—so is the text logically divided by chapter into the major aspects of transactional and social behavior, such as “The Business Meeting,” “The Chinese Banquet,” and “Gift-Giving.” With consistent clarity, the chapter subheadings identify the individual sections in a way that makes it easy to anticipate the subject matter and to refer back when necessary. For further ease, the subheadings, with page numbers, are listed in the table of contents. (A well-done index further facilitates access to specific points of information.) No time to read an entire chapter? Turn to the end of each chapter for a “recap” list of etiquette tips (e.g., “The Ten Commandments of Banqueting” or “A Dozen Tips on Business Meetings”). Three new chapters have been added to the revised edition. They reflect the author’s increased appreciation for the vastly meaningful concepts of *lijie* (politeness), *guanxi* (connections), and *mianzi* (face) in interactions among and with Chinese people.

¶144 The appendix is a fairly standard discussion of Chinese pronunciation and “tones” (intonations that drastically affect the meanings of words). There is also a glossary of the Chinese terms that are used in the book. Seligman asserts that Chinese appreciate foreigners’ attempts to speak their language—not this writer’s experience, but then he is a Princeton graduate and a Sinophile, and I naught but a refugee of a short-lived prevacation attempt with a language-teaching CD!

¶145 For collection purposes, *Chinese Business Etiquette* is a worthwhile selection to accommodate patrons who do business with the Chinese, represent the Chinese as clients, represent others in China, engage in diplomacy with the Chinese, attend conferences with the Chinese, teach students from China, or interact with the Chinese in the course of their scholarship or just socially. Law firms, corporate libraries, and other libraries that serve practitioners who deal with the Pacific Rim should have the book in their collections for patrons who need a quick read and a crash course in cultural exchange. Academic libraries and others who need to delve more deeply into the cultural, historical, or political setting might consider purchasing the De Mente, Fang, or Huang books as well.

Semenza, Jenny Lynne, *The Librarian’s Quick Guide to Internet Resources*. Fort Atkinson, Wis.: Highsmith Press Handbook Series, 1999. 92p. Paper, \$19.

Reviewed by Lynn K. Hartke

¶132 *The Librarian’s Quick Guide to Internet Resources* is a title that really excited me when I first saw it. Libraries and librarians must keep up with the electronic age. I am always interested in new resources that give tips, list useful Web sites, and provide other Web-related information to assist the hard-working librarian. This book is very good for public libraries, prison libraries, libraries without a large budget, or libraries with pro se patrons. I hesitate to say the book is not for academic libraries, but the highly sophisticated Internet searcher in universities, law firms, and law school libraries may find it too simplistic. Even so, I believe the book would be a good addition to any reference collection. It crosses many

fields and subjects, which is increasingly important as the law, like the world, is becoming more interdisciplinary. The book pulls together a vast number of sites and must have been time-consuming to compile.

¶133 Author Jenny Lynne Semenza is employed by Idaho State University as a reference librarian. She has taught workshops on different aspects of the Internet and is team leader for her university's Web site.

¶134 In the introduction Semenza explains the aim of the book and how she selected the sites that are covered, lists the symbols used, and describes what she means by authority. I liked this feature very much as it gives the user a framework for what is in the book. The features I felt were the most useful are found in part 1, namely, the table that explains the differences between search engines and the method of searching each, pointing out the differences and similarities. Someone who is not familiar with the Internet will find this section very helpful as the author covers many Internet tools and procedures. Bookmarking on Netscape and Microsoft Explorer, search strategies, and other Web basics are discussed in a manner that almost anyone can understand. Semenza includes some of the bigger search engines, but does not include Google, Profusion, or Findlaw (the last of which is of great interest to those in law libraries). A glossary, in which the author explains terms, tools, and procedures in a way Internet beginners can grasp, is also included.

¶135 Part 2 is an easy-to-use compilation of Web sites, arranged alphabetically by topic. The author has selected topics that range from children's activities to mythology and from almanacs to specialized search engines. The topics are further subdivided alphabetically by site name, not Web address. Each entry has the Web address, a brief description of the site, and, if applicable, search tips, grade level (i.e., K-3), suitability for linking, and identification of who controls the site. Generally, only basic and well-known Web sites are included for the selected topic areas. The aim of the author was breadth, not depth, so anyone wanting more specialized information on a subject may find the book lacking. Semenza has included "see also references" with the main topics, however, so that the reader can find related Web sites.

¶136 In addition to the two main sections of the book, three indexes and a glossary are included. The indexes allow one to find sites by organization, subject, or Web site. Also, updates to the book and changes to the URLs will be available at the Highsmith Press Web site, although only as long as the book is in print.

¶137 *The Librarian's Quick Guide to Internet Resources* is an excellent reference book for most public, prison, school, undergraduate, or small libraries. For larger institutions with more experienced Internet users, law libraries with pro se patrons, or highly specialized collections, the book would complement a reference collection but should not be the only Internet reference source. The book provides Internet basics for the novice and sites for the experienced searcher on a broad range of topics. All in all, it is worth the \$19.

Stim, Richard. *Getting Permission: How to License and Clear Copyrighted Materials Online and Off*. Berkeley, Calif.: Nolo.com, 2000. Various pagings. Paper, \$34.95.

Reviewed by Jan Bissett

¶146 I liked this book, I liked it a lot. Copyright and licensing issues have always held a strange fascination for me, even though I'm not sure I always understand the finer points. *Getting Permission* is about just that, getting copyright or licensing permissions for various sorts of works in different formats. Intended for those who need to get permission, it guides the user through the permissions process and provides sample forms, possible contacts, and a discussion of copyright and legal research.

¶147 Organized into sixteen chapters, two appendixes, and an index, *Getting Permission* presents material clearly and in an easy-to-read format. Each chapter begins with an outline, followed by the discussion; important points or questions are emphasized in shaded text boxes. A liberal sprinkling of sample forms, letters, releases, worksheets, and agreements within the chapters complement the text. Tear-out forms are provided in the appendix and most of those forms are also included on the accompanying disk. Instructions for use of the disk are also provided as one of the appendixes.

¶148 *Getting Permission* includes an overview and introduction to the permissions process as well as chapters devoted to specific permissions or uses: text, photographs, artworks, music, Web sites, academic/educational permissions, trademarks, and art and merchandise licenses. Chapters on public domain, fair use, assignments, releases, and "help beyond this book" complete the areas covered. Whether permission is needed, what types of works you are using, and how you plan to use the work are the issues addressed by Stim, the author of an additional five intellectual property titles published by West Group and Nolo.com.

¶149 Promotional literature accompanying the volume and on Nolo.com's Web site tout *Getting Permission* as "the most comprehensive book available on Web site permissions. . . ." (Nolo.com press release, January 31, 2000). The twelve-page chapter on Web site permissions is devoted to those who have developed their own Web sites, transfer information to and from a Web site, or link to other Web sites. The linking discussion did clarify some of the questions that I've had on the topic. Chapters on specific permissions also provide information about using a particular format on the Web, i.e., the chapter on artwork permissions includes a discussion of clip art; the chapter on music permissions includes a discussion of MP3s, Webcasting, and audio streaming.

¶150 Equally valuable for reference purposes, but not as commercially appealing as anything overtly Web-related, are the resources listed in many of the chapters. Directory-type entries, selected Web sites, and reference book titles are provided to help readers obtain the right contacts for permissions. The author has also created a companion Web site to update information such as Web site addresses

found in the resource listings. The academic and educational permissions materials chapter works nicely as an adjunct to ALA's *The Copyright Primer for Librarians and Educators*.¹⁵ The discussion of academic coursepacks and proposed educational guidelines on fair use, including digital copyright, is informative and straightforward.

¶151 Two things I didn't see in this volume surprised me, both of which might be things that only a librarian would notice. There is no preface and no discussion of vendor database licensing agreements or their corresponding copyright or download policies. In lieu of a preface, the introductory chapter does provide an excellent overview of the permissions process. Overall, these are minor quibbles and shouldn't detract from this source. According to OCLC FirstSearch records, *Getting Permission* is owned by many county and public libraries, as well as a smattering of private law libraries. The resources lists alone qualify this volume for a place in a reference collection.

Svengalis, Kendall F. *Legal Information Buyer's Guide and Reference Manual*, 4th ed. Barrington, R.I.: Rhode Island Law Press, 2000. 750p. Paper, \$99.

Reviewed by Dina Dreifuerst

¶152 So, you want to see just how much your state reporters' update costs have increased in the last decade? Want to find the leading treatises in tort or bankruptcy law without poring through a dozen catalogs or Web sites? Now in its fourth edition, *The Legal Information Buyer's Guide and Reference Manual* is the law librarian's best friend in print because it answers these questions and many others.¹⁶

¶153 The author, Kendall Svengalis, is the long-time state law librarian for Rhode Island, and one of the most knowledgeable and reliable sources of information about trends in the legal publishing industry. If you're like me, you'll pick up his hefty book for quick cost comparisons or the opportunity to gape at price hikes over the last decade, but you'll come back to it for his wonderful, concise content summaries and the all-important "Cost Saving Tips" to aid those of us struggling to keep our library budgets in the black. For starters, the author suggests supplementing some material less frequently, or even repurchasing entire (used) sets every couple of years, rather than paying big money for annual pocket parts. On occasion, we are reminded that other publications or formats might better meet our needs. For infrequently accessed materials, Svengalis recommends an

15. JANIS H. BRUWELHEIDE, *THE COPYRIGHT PRIMER FOR LIBRARIANS AND EDUCATORS* (2d ed. 1998).

16. In reviewing an earlier edition of *The Legal Information Buyer's Guide and Reference Manual* for this journal, Adrienne Adan wrote: "This wonderful book is a major contribution to law librarianship and can be used as a reference tool in all areas of the library—the director's office, reference, acquisitions, and collection development." Linda Karr O'Connor, *Best Legal Reference Books of 1996*, 89 L. LIBR. J. 265, 278 (1989).

annually updated treatise in place of current-awareness publications with weekly supplementation.

¶154 In addition to traditional treatises and loose-leaf services, CD-ROM products are also covered. Perhaps the next edition of *The Buyer's Guide* will tackle the morass of Internet subscription databases, although I wouldn't blame the author if he chose not to wade into those murky waters. The chapter on online legal research databases does mention LOIS and VersusLaw, and the Internet chapter discusses Internet-based research in general terms. However, with so many other books devoted to these subjects, I'd rather see this particular publication stay focused on the kind of information we can't find anywhere else.

¶155 *The Buyer's Guide* also provides contact information, and even a little history, for a pretty comprehensive list of legal publishers and legal newspapers. There are a few names missing, but that is simply inevitable. And, new for this edition, the author has made arrangements with Law.com to handle book sales, and they seem to be processing orders in an orderly fashion.

¶156 Who should buy *The Legal Information Buyer's Guide and Reference Manual*? Ideally, every librarian responsible for budgeting, acquisitions, or both should have ready access to it, but I know how hard it can be to justify buying librarian-specific reference tools when we can't afford all of the legal treatises our patrons want or need. Personally, I find it invaluable, particularly when I'm up to my eyeballs in next year's budget request. If you can't buy it for your own library, then at least pop over to the Web site,¹⁷ where the author has posted his cost-saving tips, the table of contents, and a few other useful tools.

Villiers, Charlotte. *The Spanish Legal Tradition: An Introduction to the Spanish Law and Legal System*. Brookfield, Vt.: Dartmouth Publishing/Ashgate Pub. Co., 1999. 164p. \$78.95.

Reviewed by Amy Atchison

¶157 The intent of *The Spanish Legal Tradition* is to inform readers about the history of the Spanish legal system and the structure of the Spanish government. It does not attempt to answer such questions as how to find a Spanish statute or how to verify that a Spanish statute or case is still good law. Thus it is not a guide on how to find Spanish law but rather on how to understand the law, and it succeeds at this purpose. However, because it discusses the legal system, it refers to some legal publications and publishers, a fact that may assist researchers in finding Spanish legal information.

¶158 The book's primary focus is Spanish constitutional law, with particular attention paid to the Spanish Constitution of 1978. The author believes that researchers cannot understand specific Spanish laws without first understanding

17. Rhode Island LawPress (visited June 21, 2000) <<http://rilp.web2010.com>>.

the constitution, so the book focuses on the origins, development, and current state of the constitution. The chapters are brief and include the following topics: Institutions within the Constitution, Sources of Law, Constitutional Rights, Public Administration and Administrative Law, Autonomous Communities, Criminal Law, Private Law, Procedural Law, and Spain and the European Union. There is a list of references for further reading at the end of each chapter, but most of these references are in Spanish.

¶159 The preface indicates that the intended audiences are law students from the United Kingdom interested in studying in Spain and comparative law attorneys unfamiliar with the Spanish legal system. Each chapter introduces readers to Spanish legal terminology that may be relevant to their research. The Sources of Law chapter is particularly useful for its description of Spain's legislative process. The Procedural Law chapter also contains a useful discussion of the hierarchy of Spain's court structure.

¶160 Libraries that collect foreign legal materials should purchase this title for their collection. However, because it does not qualify as "ready-reference," libraries may want to shelve it with the Spanish materials rather than in their reference collections.