clude approximately 17,000 new and 16,000 changed subject headings made since January 2007. With this edition, *LCSH* will be enlarged to six volumes. The new, sixth volume, *LCSH Supplementary Vocabularies*, will include free-floating subdivisions, genre/form headings, and children's subject headings. Copies may be ordered at www.loc.gov/cds/contact.html. A limited number of *LCSH*, 30th edition (2007) are still available, at reduced prices: $195 in North America (33% off full price) and $245 (29% off full price) outside North America.

Book Reviews
Douglas King, Column Editor

Crash Course in Cataloging for Non-Catalogers:
A Casual Conversation on Organizing Information
by Allison G. Kaplan

Of the various activities performed by library staff, cataloging is often considered the most intimidating for new librarians and library technicians, especially in small community and school libraries. Guidebooks, handbooks, and freely accessible websites are available to serve as practical introductions to cataloging. However, they frequently have a limited scope focusing on a particular aspect of cataloging. Allison G. Kaplan, associate faculty associate in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin—Madison, attempts to take the edge off of understanding the underlying concepts of organizing information. By holding a "casual conversation" with her readers, she hopes to impart enough knowledge so that they may make informed decisions about their collections. As part of the *Crash Course* series, which is dedicated to rapid training in fundamental library activities, Kaplan aims to address the all-too-true reality of small community and school libraries run by individuals who have not received a formal education in library science.

In her introduction, Kaplan sets the conversational tone by utilizing practical and relatable scenarios in order to convince the reader of the benefits to learning the basics of cataloging. What follows is six chapters addressing classification, subject and key word headings, description, MARC and automated systems, local cataloging problems, and how to organize a collection. Each chapter serves as a basic introduction to the specified topic, and efforts are made to utilize cataloging jargon only as deemed necessary to properly present the material. Along with a number of examples and detailed explanations, every chapter contains a bulleted list of "Points to remember," a problem set, and an answer key allowing the reader to review and apply the learned concepts. The four appendices include a glossary, bibli-

ography, MARC record with corresponding *AACR* rules, and MARC record template followed by an index.

The author's ability to set and maintain a conversational tone throughout the text is successful, despite delivering subject matter that can be so easily technical and dry. Kaplan never loses focus on her audience. In fact, she even takes into consideration the realities of inadequate funding in community and school libraries by utilizing freely accessible resources as much as possible. It is this intensely specific audience focus that explains why Kaplan wrote two final chapters aimed at addressing local cataloging decisions for issues that are most commonly confronted by community libraries. The title of the text suggests a much broader focus as there are plenty of library staff that would be considered "non-catalogers." Yet, it quickly becomes clear that the audience is much more specific. Regardless of the somewhat misleading title, Kaplan is remarkably successful in teaching cataloging in a way that is accessible to a reluctant audience.

The book, while narrowly-focused, is still applicable to a broader community. Library science students who are struggling with the basic concepts of cataloging or new library technicians may find the text to be tremendously helpful and a surprisingly easy read. The audiovisual community, however, may not find the book to be of much use. Kaplan makes an effort to include examples of audiovisual materials as failure to do so would be to ignore a large portion of community libraries' holdings. However, it is often an afterthought, used to demonstrate the complexity of describing the material with very little explanation to accompany it. Still, it should be noted that Kaplan utilizes enough variety of audiovisual examples to serve as a reference in assisting a community or school librarian confronted with describing A/V materials.

Notwithstanding the inevitable change in rules on the horizon, *Crash Course in Cataloging for Non-Catalogers* is a useful and unique book that will remain relevant. The author addresses, at the very core, the theory of organizing collections, in a way that is user-friendly to library staff unfamiliar with such essential activities. Kaplan is also successful in justifying and convincing

the reader of the benefits of understanding the concepts of organizing information, the contributions in customer service to library patrons, and the ability to solve localized cataloging problems. While not a significant contribution to the audiovisual community, *Crash Course in Cataloging for Non-Catalogers* is a unique and noteworthy addition to the library community at large and is highly recommended for any library staff needing a basic introduction to understanding information organization.

Published in 2009 by: Libraries Unlimited, Westport, Connecticut. (xii, 140 p.) ISBN: 978-1-59158-401-8 (alk. paper; $30.00).

Reviewed by:
Sandy Rodriguez
Special Project Cataloger
University of Missouri—Kansas City

More Innovative Redesign and Reorganization of Library Technical Services
Edited by Bradford Lee Eden

Library technical services have been undergoing radical changes and are facing new challenges due to shrinking budget, reduced positions, new E-formats, and technology. Seeking innovative approaches and workflows in technical services areas are critical to meeting these challenges, solving problems and improving efficiency. Eden's *More Innovative Redesign and Reorganization of Library Technical Services* is a timely publication that provides more case studies and practical examples in technical services reshaping. This book follows his earlier volume *Innovative Redesign and Reorganization of Library Technical Services: Paths for the Future and Case Studies*, published in 2004.