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Science Librarianship at America's Liberal Arts Colleges

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FERNANDA JONAS

*Science Librarianship at
America's Liberal Arts
Colleges Science
Librarianship at America's
Liberal Arts Colleges
Science Librarianship at
America's Liberal Arts
Colleges* Psychology Press

Psychology Press
Gain valuable insights into
the smaller but more
personalized work of
liberal arts college science
librarianship with these
interesting and instructive
stories. A striking number
of outstanding scientists
got their initial
encouragement at small
liberal arts colleges. Their
success is due to both the

efforts of their professors
and the work of the liberal
arts college science
librarians who served
them assiduously. In
Science Librarianship at
America's Liberal Arts
Colleges, science
librarians vividly describe
the life and times of small
liberal arts college science
libraries and the workday
life of librarians serving

scientists from a main campus library. They describe their efforts to defend expensive science collections in the face of tight budgets, to singlehandedly monitor and select literature in all areas from astronomy through zoology, and to compete with the humanities and social studies for library shelf space. This unique volume is the first to publish prose studies of actual libraries and librarians and provide an intensely personal look at science librarianship at

these institutions. The contributing librarians present a range of views on subjects including the historical motivation for their science libraries, physical descriptions of library layouts, statistics on holdings and purchasing trends for science materials, daily tasks and sense of mission concerning library patrons, use of new technology, and future directions for science libraries at small liberal arts colleges. Science Librarianship at America's Liberal Arts Colleges

covers a variety of subjects of interest to science librarians at liberal arts colleges, directors of liberal arts college libraries, and library school graduate students. Some of the major topics discussed include: what working liberal arts college science librarians actually do each day how they sustain the enthusiasm of America's few science majors how they satisfy the library collections and services demands of faculty accustomed to and recruited from the large

library facilities of such universities as Harvard or Stanford how they use their smaller collections to prepare students for the riches of a Johns Hopkins or Duke when students go on to medical school or graduate school why they

choose the tensions and challenges of small liberal arts colleges over the better pay and recognition of larger universities and corporations how campus finances, politics, traditions, and geography play a role in establishing

a separate science library how to weed, store, and move voluminous science collections how elite, small liberal arts schools are prioritizing budgets in an age of conversion from print sources to electronic access

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