



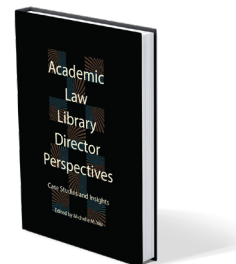
# Academic Law Library Director Perspectives: Case Studies and Insights

Edited by Michelle M. Wu

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**MORE THAN 30 ACCOMPLISHED AND SUCCESSFUL ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARY DIRECTORS SHARE THEIR EXPERTISE AND WISDOM!**

- Get insider information and advice from more than 30 law library directors who have firsthand experience in the field.
- Identify the types of skills needed in the position
- Gain insight into troubleshooting from experienced directors
- Determine whether or not he/she is interested in or suited for a directorship



## About This Title

Over the past 5 years, directors of law libraries have been retiring at a rapid rate and this pace is only increasing. Because of the increasing turnover, many new directors may have relatively little exposure to a director's responsibilities before assuming the role.

This book will serve as a guide and learning tool to help easily transition prospective and new law library directors into their position. It focuses on the elements of the directors position that are not explicit in any written description of the job and provides a better understanding of handling the unforeseen aspects of the position.

The guide is broken into four parts: Unwritten Roles, Service Contributions, Developing Issues, and General Advice. Most chapters focus on one of the director's roles (e.g., mentor, mediator, fundraiser, opportunity seeker, politician, or committee member). Each chapter starts with a case study to provide a realistic context in which to examine the subject, followed by analysis and commentary by experienced directors. When possible, more than one contributor comment was provided on a fact pattern to allow for a diversity of opinions and to highlight idea-generation over any specific solution. Other chapters cover basic issues such as privacy, finances, data, and when (and how) to say no.

The unique contributions set this guide apart from others. Thanks to more than 30 current or retired law library directors, the reader has valuable insight into the world of a law library director. The contributions are designed to highlight the multitude of perspectives and approaches used by directors and represent the full spectrum of academic law libraries. The collective wisdom is what makes this book both useful and practical.

"[...] the advice and knowledge included in this book is priceless."

"This book should be required reading for every law librarian, as well as law school administrators and faculty."

"No one involved in legal education today should miss the opportunity to read it."

# Academic Law Library Director Perspectives

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## About the Authors:

**Michelle M. Wu** is the Law Library Director and Professor of Law at Georgetown University. She received her J.D. From California Western School of Law and her Masters in Library Science from the University of Washington. Before joining the Georgetown Law faculty in 2010, Professor Wu served as associate dean for information services, director of the law library, and Professor of Law at Hofstra University School of Law. During her tenure there, she also served as interim Senior Vice Dean for academic affairs. Prior to that appointment, she worked at the George Washington University Law School and the University of Houston Law Center. While at the University Houston, she oversaw the disaster recovery process following Tropical Storm Allison, including projects to renovate the library, rebuild the collection, and restructure services.

Her research interests include copyright, intellectual property licensing, and information management. She co-edited *Beyond the Books: People, Politics, and Librarianship* with Leslie Lee (Hein, 2007) and has written numerous articles and contributed to many texts.

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