

***Rightsizing the Academic Library Collection* by Suzanne M. Ward Chicago: American Library Association, 2015. 148pp. ISBN 978-0-8389-1298-0.**

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Rightsizing, also known as weeding, may strike fear in the hearts of librarians. If you are contemplating this heavy issue for your academic institution or if you are already in the throes of a project, take a deep breath, and pick up a copy of *Rightsizing the Academic Library Collection*. This short five chapter book will inspire you to feel more confident in tackling what might feel like an overwhelming project.

First, if your institution is debating the issue of whether or not a weeding project might be worth doing, then chapters one and two provide background information and a review of other strategies. These chapters are insightfully written, and the ideas and topics may help you create a well thought out response that will encourage the lagers to jump on the wagon. Well, they might not jump on the wagon, but they will hopefully be encouraged by the benefits of embarking on the journey of rightsizing the collection.

If your institution however has already mandated that the physical collection needs to be reduced in order to accommodate other spatial needs, chapters three and four will become dogged ear, highlighted, and sticky note filled. These chapters provide the step by step, detailed instructions with examples on the entire process to successfully complete the project on time. Ward's topics include: planning, gaining administrative support, collaboration across departments and across campus, how to get the most out of the project, tight deadlines, workflows and workloads, reducing stress levels of those involved, and the importance of the after party.

Though this process is not a one size fits all and parts of the process may not apply to all institutions, the steps provided can be modified, omitted, or scaled up or down to meet the specific needs of the project. Ward makes a compelling argument for rightsizing an academic collection.