

BMS BOOK NEWS

INTERACTION

Volume 21

March 2017

Issue 10

A monthly bulletin

ISSN 0972-3242

Publications Update

Book Marketing Services, 2-A Ramaniyam Building, 216-217 Peters Road, Royapettah, Chennai - 600 014



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

A Fragile Life

Accepting Our Vulnerability

Todd May

It is perhaps our noblest cause, and certainly one of our oldest: to end suffering. Think of the Buddha, Chuang Tzu, or Marcus Aurelius: stoically composed figures impervious to the torments of the wider world, living their lives in complete serenity—and teaching us how to do the same. After all, isn't a life free from suffering the ideal? Isn't it what so many of us seek? Absolutely not, argues *Todd May* in this provocative but compassionate book. In a moving examination of life and the trials that beset it, he shows that our fragility, our ability to suffer, is actually one of the most important aspects of our humanity.

May starts with a simple but hard truth: suffering is inevitable. At the most basic level, we suffer physically—a sprained ankle or a bad back. But we also suffer insults and indifference. We suffer from overburdened schedules and unforeseen circumstances, from moral dilemmas and emotional heartaches. Even just thinking about our own mortality—the fact that we only live one life—can lead us to tremendous suffering. No wonder philosophies such as Buddhism, Taosim, Stoicism, and even Epicureanism—all of which counsel us to rise above these plights—have had appeal over the centuries. *May* highlights the tremendous value of these philosophies and the ways they can guide us toward better lives, but he also exposes a major drawback to their tenets: such invulnerability is too emotionally disengaged from the world, leading us to place too great a distance between ourselves and our experience. Rather than seeking absolute immunity, he argues most of us just want

to hurt less and learn how to embrace and accept what suffering we do endure in a meaningful way.

Offering a guide on how to positively engage suffering, *May* ultimately lays out a new way of thinking about how we exist in the world, one that reassures us that our suffering, rather than a failure of physical or psychological resilience, is a powerful and essential part of life itself.

Todd May is Class of 1941 Memorial Professor of the Humanities at Clemson University. He is the author of many books, including *A Significant Life* (University of Chicago Press), and the *Thought of Jacques Rancière, and Death*.

Mar. 2017 232pp HB Price: \$ 25.00

Our Latest Longest War

Losing Hearts And Minds in Afghanistan

Aaron B. O'Connell

The first rule of warfare is to know one's enemy. The second is to know thyself. More than fifteen years and three quarters of a trillion dollars after the US invasion of Afghanistan, it's clear that the United States followed neither rule well.

America's goals in Afghanistan were lofty to begin with: dismantle al Qaeda, remove the Taliban from power, remake the country into a democracy. But not only did the mission come completely unmoored from reality, the United States wasted billions of dollars, and thousands of lives were lost. **Our Latest Longest War** is a chronicle of how, why, and in what ways the war in Afghanistan failed. Edited by historian and Marine lieutenant colonel *Aaron B. O'Connell*, the

Good Offices Committee (Of FBPAI) Conversion rates for Books and Journals, effective 1st March 2017



British Pound Sterling @ ₹.87.00 US Dollar @ ₹. 69.40 Euro @ ₹. 74.30

essays collected here represent nine different perspectives on the war—all from veterans of the conflict, both American and Afghan. Together, they paint a picture of a war in which problems of culture and an unbridgeable rural-urban divide derailed nearly every field of endeavor. The authors also draw troubling parallels to the Vietnam War, arguing that deep-running ideological currents in American life explain why the US government has repeatedly used armed nation-building to try to transform failing states into modern, liberal democracies. In Afghanistan, as in Vietnam, this created a dramatic mismatch of means and ends that neither money, technology, nor the force of arms could overcome.

The war in Afghanistan has been the longest in US history, and in many ways, the most confounding. Few who fought in it think it has been worthwhile. These are difficult topics for any American or Afghan to consider, especially those who lost friends or family in it. This sobering history—written by the very people who have been fighting the war—is impossible to ignore.

Aaron B. O’Connell is a veteran of the war in Afghanistan and the author of *Underdogs: The Making of the Modern Marine Corps*. Previously, he was associate professor of history at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Most recently, he served in the Obama administration as Director of Defence Policy and Strategy on the National Security Council.

Mar.2017 400pp HB **Price: \$ 30.00**

Supersizing Urban America **How Inner Cities Got Fast Food** **with Government Help**

Chin Jou

More than one-third of adults in the United States are obese. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that there are over 112,000 obesity-related deaths annually, and for many years, the government has waged

a very public war on the problem. Former Surgeon General Richard Carmona warned in 2006 that “obesity is the terror within,” going so far as to call it a threat that will “dwarf 9/11.”

What doesn’t get mentioned in all this? The fact that the federal government helped create the obesity crisis in the first place—especially where it is strikingly acute, among urban African-American communities. **Supersizing Urban America** reveals the little-known story of how the U.S. government got into the business of encouraging fast food in inner cities, with unforeseen consequences we are only beginning to understand. *Chin Jou* begins her story in the late- 1960s, when predominantly African-American neighborhoods went from having no fast food chain restaurants to being littered with them. She uncovers the federal policies that have helped to subsidize that expansion, including loan guarantees to fast food franchisees, programs intended to promote minority entrepreneurship, and urban revitalization initiatives. During this time, fast food companies also began to relentlessly market to urban African-American consumers. An unintended consequence of these developments was that low-income minority communities were disproportionately affected by the obesity epidemic.

In the first book about the U.S. government’s problematic role in promoting fast food in inner-city America, *Jou* tells a riveting story of the food industry, obesity, and race relations in America that is essential to understanding health and obesity in contemporary urban America.

Chin Jou is a lecturer in American history at the University of Sydney.

Mar. 2017 248pp HB **Price: \$ 25.00**

Quote

“There are worse crimes than burning books. One of them is not reading them”.

- Ray Bradbury



Art and the Global Economy

John Zarobell

Art and the Global Economy analyzes major changes in the global art world that have emerged in the last twenty years including structural shifts in the global art market; the proliferation of international art fairs, biennials and blockbuster exhibitions; and the internationalization of the scope of contemporary art. *John Zarobell* explores the economic and social transformations in the cultural sphere, the results of greater access to information about art, exhibitions, and markets around the world, as well as the increasing interpenetration of formerly distinct geographical domains. By considering a variety of locations—both long-standing art capitals and up-and-coming centers of the future—**Art and the Global Economy** facilitates a deeper understanding of how globalization affects the domain of the visual arts in the twenty-first century.

With contributions by Lucia Cantero, Mariana David, Valentin Diaconov, Kai Lossgott, Grace Murray, Chhoti Rao, Emma Rogers and Michelle Wong.

John Zarobell is Assistant Professor of International Studies at University of San Francisco. He has held curatorial positions at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. A regular contributor to the web-based journal *Art Practical*, he has written for numerous exhibition catalogues and has curated exhibitions of modern and contemporary art. He is the author of *Empire of Landscape: Space and Ideology in French Colonial Algeria*.

Aprl. 2017 344pp PB **Price: \$29.95**
HB **Price: \$ 85.00**

Does Policy Analysis Matter? **Exploring Its Effectiveness in** **Theory and Practice**

Lee S. Friedman

How well can democratic decision making incorporate the knowledge and expertise generated by public policy analysts? This book examines the historical development of policy analysis, as well as its use in legislative and regulatory bodies and in the federal executive branch. The essays show that policy-analytic expertise effectively improves governmental services only when it complements democratic decision making. When successful, policy analysis fosters valuable new ideas, better use of evidence, and greater transparency in decision processes.

Lee S. Friedman is Professor of the Graduate School at the Richard & Rhoda Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley.

Mar. 2017 215pp PB **Price: \$ 29.95**
HB **Price: \$ 85.00**



Columbia University Press

**Rational Investing
The Subtleties of Asset
Management**

Hugues Langlois and Jacques Lussier

Many investors believe that success in investing is either luck or clairvoyance. In **Rational Investing**, finance professor *Hugues Langlois* and asset manager *Jacques Lussier* present the current state of asset management and clarify the conundrum of luck versus skill. The core of **Rational Investing** is a framework for smart investing built around three performance drivers: balancing exposure to risk factors, efficiently diversifying bad luck, and taking advantage of relative mispricings in financial markets. With clear examples from model multi-asset-class portfolios, *Langlois* and *Lussier* show how to implement performance drivers like institutional investors with access to extensive resources, as well as nonprofessional investors who are constrained to small-scale transactions. There are few investment products, whether traditional or alternative, discretionary or systematic, fundamental or quantitative, whose performance cannot be analyzed through this framework. *Langlois* and *Lussier* illuminate the structure of financial markets and the mechanics of sustainable investing so any investor can become a rational player, from the nonprofessional investor with a basic knowledge of statistics all the way to seasoned investment professionals wishing to challenge their understanding of the asset management industry.

Hugues Langlois is assistant professor of finance at HEC Paris and a cofounder of IPSOL Capital.

Jacques Lussier is president of IPSOL Capital. Before, he was chief investment strategist at Desjardins Asset Management. He is the author of *Successful Investing is a Process* (2012).

He presided CFA Society Montreal and is a board member and president of the investment committee of Retraite Québec, the public pension plan.

Mar. 2017 240pp HB **Price: \$ 40.00**

Assessing Empathy

Elizabeth A. Segal, Karen E. Gerdes, Cynthia A. Lietz, M. Alex Wagaman, and Jennifer M. Geiger

Empathy is a widely used term, but it is also difficult to define. In recent years, the field of cognitive neuroscience has made impressive strides in identifying neural networks in the brain related to or triggered by empathy. Still, what exactly do we mean when we say that someone has—or lacks—empathy? How is empathy distinguished from sympathy or pity? And is society truly suffering from an "empathy deficit," as some experts have charged??

In **Assessing Empathy**, *Elizabeth A. Segal* and colleagues marshal years of research to present a comprehensive definition of empathy, one that links neuroscientific evidence to human service practice. The book begins with a discussion of our current understanding of empathy in neurological, biological, and behavioral terms. The authors explain why empathy is important on both the individual and societal levels. They then introduce the concepts of interpersonal empathy and social empathy, and how these processes can interrelate or operate separately. Finally, they examine the weaknesses of extant empathy assessments before introducing three new, validated measures: the Empathy Assessment Index, the Social Empathy Index, and the Interpersonal and Social Empathy Index.

Elizabeth A. Segal is a professor in the School of Social Work at Arizona State University. She is the author of *Social Welfare Policy and Social Programs: A Values Perspective, fourth edition* (2016)

Karen E. Gerdes is professor emerita in the School of Social Work at Arizona State University. She is also a co-author

**Words to use
instead of "Very"**

Very noisy	deafening
Very often	frequently
Very old	ancient
Very old-fashioned	archaic
Very open	transparent
Very painful	excruciating
Very pale	ashen
Very perfect	flawless
Very poor	destitute
Very powerful	compelling
Very pretty	beautiful
Very quick	rapid
Very quiet	hushed
Very rainy	pouring
Very rich	wealthy
Very sad	sorrowful
Very scared	petrified
Very scary	chilling
Very serious	grave
Very sharp	keen
Very shiny	gleaming
Very short	brief
Very shy	timid
Very simple	basic

of *An Introduction to the Profession of Social Work: Becoming a Change Agent*, fifth edition (2016).

Cynthia A. Lietz is senior associate dean of the College of Public Service and Community Solutions and professor at the School of Social Work at Arizona State University.

M. Alex Wagaman is assistant professor at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work and co-author of *Practice Behaviors Workbook for Social Welfare Policy and Social Programs: A Values Perspective*, third edition (2012).

Jennifer M. Geiger is an assistant professor at the Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Feb. 2017 192pp PB **Price: \$ 30.00**
HB **Price: \$ 90.00**

Laugh please...!!!

Dad puts finger print(Thumb) on son's mark sheet.

Child asked father: Being a chartered accountant, Why did you put finger print instead of signature on my progress card.

Father replied: Idiot, after looking at your marks, the teacher should not think that I am educated.

* * *

Lady: Ambulance service? It's urgent please.

What happened, Madam?

Lady: Coffee fell on my saree while drinking.

Are you really looking for an ambulance for this madam?

Lady: Actually my husband laughed at me.

Got it Madam, 'll be there in two minutes.



Princeton University Press

Finding Fibonacci: The Quest to Rediscover the Forgotten Mathematical Genius Who Changed the World

Keith Devlin

In 2000, *Keith Devlin* set out to research the life and legacy of the medieval mathematician Leonardo of Pisa, popularly known as Fibonacci, whose book *Liber abaci* has quite literally affected the lives of everyone alive today. Although he is most famous for the Fibonacci numbers—which, it so happens, he didn't invent—Fibonacci's greatest contribution was as an expositor of mathematical ideas at a level ordinary people could understand. In 1202, *Liber abaci*—the "Book of Calculation"—introduced modern arithmetic to the Western world. Yet Fibonacci was long forgotten after his death, and it was not until the 1960s that his true achievements were finally recognized.

Finding Fibonacci is *Devlin's* compelling firsthand account of his ten-year quest to tell Fibonacci's story. *Devlin*, a math expositor himself, kept a diary of the undertaking, which he draws on here to describe the project's highs and lows, its false starts and disappointments, the tragedies and unexpected turns, some hilarious episodes, and the occasional lucky breaks. You will also meet the unique individuals *Devlin* encountered along the way, people who, each for their own reasons, became fascinated by Fibonacci, from the Yale professor who traced modern finance back to Fibonacci to the Italian historian who made the crucial archival discovery that brought together all the threads of Fibonacci's astonishing story.

Fibonacci helped to revive the West as the cradle of science, technology, and commerce, yet he vanished from the pages of history. This is *Devlin's* search to find him.

Keith Devlin is a mathematician at Stanford University and cofounder and president of BrainQuake, an educational technology company that creates mathematics learning video games. His many books include *The Unfinished Game: Pascal, Fermat, and the Seventeenth-Century Letter That Made the World Modern*.

Feb. 2017 256pp HB **Price: \$ 29.95**

Why Stock Markets Crash: Critical Events in Complex Financial Systems

Didier Sornette

With a new preface by the author

The scientific study of complex systems has transformed a wide range of disciplines in recent years, enabling researchers in both the natural and social sciences to model and predict phenomena as diverse as earthquakes, global warming, demographic patterns, financial crises, and the failure of materials. In this book, *Didier Sornette* boldly applies his varied experience in these areas to propose a simple, powerful, and general theory of how, why, and when stock markets crash.

Most attempts to explain market failures seek to pinpoint triggering mechanisms that occur hours, days, or weeks before the collapse. *Sornette* proposes a radically different view: the underlying cause can be sought months and even years before the abrupt, catastrophic event in the build-up of cooperative speculation, which often translates into an accelerating rise of the market price, otherwise known as a "bubble." Anchoring his sophisticated, step-by-step analysis in leading-edge physical and statistical modeling techniques, he unearths remarkable insights and some predictions--among them, that the "end of the growth era" will occur around 2050.

Sornette probes major historical precedents, from the decades-long "tulip mania" in the Netherlands that wilted suddenly in 1637 to the South Sea Bubble that ended with the first huge market crash in England in 1720, to the Great Crash of October 1929 and

Black Monday in 1987, to cite just a few. He concludes that most explanations other than cooperative self-organization fail to account for the subtle bubbles by which the markets lay the groundwork for catastrophe.

Any investor or investment professional who seeks a genuine understanding of looming financial disasters should read this book. Physicists, geologists, biologists, economists, and others will welcome **Why Stock Markets Crash** as a highly original "scientific tale," as *Sornette* aptly puts it, of the exciting and sometimes fearsome--but no longer quite so unfathomable--world of stock markets.

Didier Sornette is professor of entrepreneurial risks at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, professor of finance at the Swiss Finance Institute in Geneva, and the director of the Financial Crisis Observatory at ETH Zurich.

Feb. 2017 448pp PB Price: \$22.95

The Best Writing on Mathematics 2016

Mircea Pitici

This annual anthology brings together the year's finest mathematics writing from around the world. Featuring promising new voices alongside some of the foremost names in the field, **The Best Writing on Mathematics 2016** makes available to a wide audience many articles not easily found anywhere else—and you don't need to be a mathematician to enjoy them. These writings offer surprising insights into the nature, meaning, and practice of mathematics today. They delve into the history, philosophy, teaching, and everyday occurrences of math, and take readers behind the scenes of today's hottest mathematical debates.

Here *Burkard Polster* shows how to invent your own variants of the Spot It! card game, Steven Strogatz presents young Albert Einstein's proof of the Pythagorean Theorem, Joseph Dauben and Marjorie Senechal find a treasure

trove of math in New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Andrew Gelman explains why much scientific research based on statistical testing is spurious. In other essays, Brian Greene discusses the evolving assumptions of the physicists who developed the mathematical underpinnings of string theory, Jorge Almeida examines the misperceptions of people who attempt to predict lottery results, and Ian Stewart offers advice to authors who aspire to write successful math books for general readers. And there's much, much more.

In addition to presenting the year's most memorable writings on mathematics, this must-have anthology includes a bibliography of other notable writings and an introduction by the editor, *Mircea Pitici*. This book belongs on the shelf of anyone interested in where math has taken us—and where it is headed.

Mircea Pitici holds a PhD in mathematics education from Cornell University and is working on a master's degree in library and information science at Syracuse University. He has edited *The Best Writing on Mathematics* since 2010.

Mar. 2017 408pp PB Price: \$32.95

Website of the month...



<http://www.gutenberg.org/>

Project Gutenberg offers over 53,000 free ebooks: choose among free epub books, free kindle books, download them or read them online.

The Site says, We carry high quality ebooks: Most Project Gutenberg ebooks were previously published by bona fide publishers. We digitized and diligently proofread them with the help of thousands of volunteers.

Global Health Informatics Principles of eHealth and mHealth to Improve Quality of Care

Leo Anthony G. Celi, Hamish S. F. Fraser, Vipin Nikore, Juan Sebastián Osorio and Kenneth Paik

The widespread usage of mobile phones that bring computational power and data to our fingertips has enabled new models for tracking and battling disease. The developing world in particular has become a proving ground for innovation in eHealth (using communication and technology tools in healthcare) and mHealth (using the affordances of mobile technology in eHealth systems). In this book, experts from a variety of disciplines--among them computer science, medicine, public health, policy, and business--discuss key concepts, frameworks, examples, and lessons learned in designing and implementing digital health systems in the developing world.

The contributors consider such topics as global health disparities and quality of care; aligning eHealth strategies with government policy; the role of monitoring and evaluation in improving care; databases, patient registries, and electronic health records; the lifecycle of a digital health system project; software project management; privacy and security; and evaluating health technology systems.

Leo Anthony G. Celi, originally from Manila, Philippines, is an attending physician at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, an Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School, and Clinical Research Director of the Laboratory of Computational Physiology at the MIT Institute for Medical Engineering and Science. Leo Anthony Celi and Kenneth Paik codirect Sana at the MIT Institute for Medical Engineering and Science.

Hamish S. F. Fraser is Associate Professor of eHealth in the Yorkshire Centre for Health Informatics at the

University of Leeds, UK. He was previously the director of Informatics at the Health Care NGO Partners In Health and an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard University. He cofounded the Open source EHR system OpenMRS, now used in more than 60 countries. His research focuses on the evaluation of eHealth systems Worldwide.

Vipan Nikore is an internal medicine physician at Trillium Health Partners, lecturer at University of Toronto, and was a visiting research scientist at the MIT Institute for Medical Engineering and Science.

Juan Sebastián Osorio is a biomedical engineer from Escuela de Ingeniería de Antioquia and Universidad Corporacion para Estudios en la Salud in Medellin, Colombia.

Kenneth Paik is a Research Scientist at the MIT Institute for Medical Engineering, where he teaches courses in global health informatics to improve quality of care and secondary analysis of electronic health records.

Apr. 2017 464pp PB **Price: \$ 45.00**

Tap Unlocking the Mobile Economy

Anindya Ghose

Consumers create a data trail by tapping their phones; businesses can tap into this trail to harness the power of the more than three trillion dollar mobile economy. According to *Anindya Ghose*, a global authority on the mobile economy, this two-way exchange can benefit both customers and businesses. In **Tap**, *Ghose* welcomes us to the mobile economy of smartphones, smarter companies, and value-seeking consumers.

Drawing on his extensive research in the United States, Europe, and Asia, and on a variety of real-world examples from companies including Alibaba, China Mobile, Coke, Facebook, SK Telecom, Telefónica, and Travelocity, *Ghose* describes some intriguingly contradictory consumer behavior:

people seek spontaneity, but they are predictable; they find advertising annoying, but they fear missing out; they value their privacy, but they increasingly use personal data as currency. When mobile advertising is done well, *Ghose* argues, the smartphone plays the role of a personal concierge—a butler, not a stalker.

Ghose identifies nine forces that shape consumer behavior, including time, crowdedness, trajectory, and weather, and he examines these how these forces operate, separately and in combination. With **Tap**, he highlights the true influence mobile wields over shoppers, the behavioral and economic motivations behind that influence, and the lucrative opportunities it represents. In a world of artificial intelligence, augmented and virtual reality, wearable technologies, smart homes, and the Internet of Things, the future of the mobile economy seems limitless.

Anindya Ghose is Professor of Information, Operations, and Management Science and a Professor of Marketing at New York University's Leonard N. Stern School of Business. In 2014, *Businessweek's* Poet & Quants named him as a "Top 40 Under 40 Professor." In 2017 *Thinkers50* identified him among the 30 management thinkers most likely to shape the future of how organizations are managed and led.

Apr. 2017 240pp HB **Price: \$29.95**



Yale University Press

Claretta Mussolini's Last Lover

R. J. B. Bosworth

Few deaths are as gruesome and infamous as those of Benito Mussolini, Italy's fascist dictator, and Claretta (or Clara) Petacci, his much-younger lover. Shot dead by Italian partisans after attempting to flee the country in 1945, the couple's bodies were then hanged upside down in Milan's main square in ignominious public display. This provocative book is the first to mine Clara's extensive diaries, family correspondence, and other sources to discover how the last in Mussolini's long line of lovers became his intimate and how she came to her violent fate at his side.

R. J. B. Bosworth explores the social climbing of Claretta's family, her naïve and self-interested commitment to fascism, her diary's graphically detailed accounts of sexual life with Mussolini, and much more. Brimful of new and arresting information, the book sheds intimate light not only on an ordinary-extraordinary woman living at the heart of Italy's totalitarian fascist state but also on Mussolini himself.

R. J. B. Bosworth is senior research fellow in history, Jesus College, Oxford. A renowned Italianist, he is the author of more than two dozen books on Mussolini, fascism, and Italy's twentieth-century experience.

Feb. 2017 320pp HB **Price: \$ 28.00**

High and Dry Meeting the Challenges of the World's Growing Dependence on Groundwater

William M. Alley and Rosemarie Alley

Groundwater is essential for drinking water and food security. It provides enormous environmental benefits by keeping streams and rivers flowing. But a growing global population, widespread use of industrial chemicals,

and climate change threaten this vital resource. Groundwater depletion and contamination has spread from isolated areas to many countries throughout the world. In this accessible and timely book, hydrology expert *William M. Alley* and science writer *Rosemarie Alley* sound the call to protect groundwater.

Drawing on examples from around the world, including case studies in the United States, Canada, Australia, India, and Sub-Saharan Africa, the authors examine groundwater from key scientific and socioeconomic perspectives. While addressing the serious nature of groundwater problems, the book includes stories of people who are making a difference in protecting this critical resource.

Director of science and technology for the National Ground Water Association, *William M. Alley* is a hydrology expert and authority on groundwater. *Rosemarie Alley* is a veteran science writer.

Feb. 2017 304pp HB Price: \$ 30.00

Secular Buddhism **Imagining the Dharma in an Uncertain World** *Stephen Batchelor*

As the practice of mindfulness permeates mainstream Western culture, more and more people are engaging in a traditional form of Buddhist meditation. However, many of these people have little interest in the religious aspects of Buddhism, and the practice occurs within secular contexts such as hospitals, schools, and the workplace. Is it possible to recover from the Buddhist teachings a vision of human flourishing that is secular rather than religious without compromising the integrity of the tradition? Is there an ethical framework that can underpin and contextualize these practices in a rapidly changing world?

In this collected volume of *Stephen Batchelor's* writings on these themes, he explores the complex implications of

Buddhism's secularization. Ranging widely—from reincarnation, religious belief, and agnosticism to the role of the arts in Buddhist practice—he offers a detailed picture of contemporary Buddhism and its attempt to find a voice in the modern world.

Stephen Batchelor is a teacher and scholar of Buddhism. He trained as a monk for ten years in traditional Buddhist communities and now presents a secular approach to Buddhist practice. The author of the bestselling *Buddhism without Beliefs*, he lives near Bordeaux, France.

Feb. 2017 296pp HB Price: \$ 27.50



Information Literacy in the Workplace *Marc Forster*

In today's information-driven workplace, the modern professional must know when research evidence or relevant legal, business, personal or other information is required, how to find it, how to critique it and how to integrate it into their existing knowledge base. To fail to do so may result in defective and unethical practice which could have devastating consequences for clients or employers. This demands highly focused and complex information searching, assessment and critiquing skills.

This book, through a range of perspectives from the personal to the organisational, shows how information literacy (IL) is essential to the contemporary workplace and to an understanding of how the modern professional experiences, and could potentially experience, the contemporary information environment. Using an evidence-based approach, **Information Literacy in the Workplace** demonstrates several aspects of IL's presence and role in the contemporary workplace, including IL's role in assuring competent practice, its value to employers as a return on

investment, and its function as an ethical safeguard in the duty and responsibilities professionals have to clients, students and employers.

Chapters are contributed by a range of international experts, including Christine Bruce, Bonnie Cheuk and Annemaree Lloyd, with a foreword from Jane Secker.

Content covered includes: • how the range of Information Literacy experiences in a profession or workplace can be investigated • a discussion of the value and impact of IL in the workplace • how IL is experienced remotely, beyond workplace boundaries • IL's role in professional development • IL's role in organizational learning and knowledge creation • how IL in the workplace can be developed in an evidence-based way how to unlock and create value using IL in the workplace.

Readership: This book will be useful for librarians and LIS students in understanding how information literacy is experienced by professions they support; academics teaching professional courses; professionals (e.g. medical, social care, legal and business based) and their employers in showing that IL is essential to best practice and key to ethical practice.

April 2017 208pp PB Price: £ 59.95

English Is a Great Language for Comedy....!!!

English is a great language for puns and word games. Enjoy the following jokes...

- A bicycle can't stand alone, it is "two tired"
- A dentist and a manicurist married they fought "tooth and nail".
- A thief who stole a calendar... "got twelve months".
- A will is a "dead giveaway".
- Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's "all-right now".

Forthcoming....

Snow Loads: A Guide to the Snow Load Provisions of ASCE 7-16

Michael O'Rourke

Snow Loads provides a detailed, authoritative description of the snow load provisions of ASCE/SEI 7-16. With clear, concise language, *Michael O'Rourke* explains the theory and research that underpin the provisions and shows how to apply them to the design of new and existing structures that could collect falling or drifting snow. *Snow Loads* is an essential supplement to Standard ASCE/SEI 7-16 for all engineers, architects, and construction professionals who work on projects in regions subject to snow.

2017 184pp SC Price: \$ 75.00

Idiom of the month....

Play it by ear.....

You might also say, "let's see how things go".

Meaning: Playing something by ear means that rather than sticking to a defined plan, you will see how things go and decide on a course of action as you go along.

Example: "What time shall we go shopping?" "Let's see how the weather looks and play it by ear."

Origins: This saying has its origins in music, as "playing something by ear" means to play music without reference to the notes on a page. This sense of the phrase dates back to the 16th century, but the present use only came into being in mid-20th century America, primarily referring to sports. These days, the expression has lost this focus on sports and can be used in any context.

Health Watch...



What do Your Eyes Say About Your Health?



It is said that the eyes are the windows of the soul. While the origins of this saying may not be known, what is certain is that the eyes do tell us a great deal about our health. Below are eight vital signs to be on the lookout for:

1. Permanent sty

A sty can cause pain and irritation. This usually occurs due to a blocked sebaceous gland which generally tends to go away within a few days. But if it persists, it may cause some serious issues. If a sty pops up often or persists for a long time, it can be a symptom of sebaceous gland carcinoma. Be sure to visit a doctor.

2. Eyebrow loss

Eyebrow loss can occur for many reasons including age, stress or nutrient deficiency. Though it only affects 0.1% of the population, alopecia areate, or spot baldness may be a possible reason. Hypothyroidism, however, is a more likely cause. It occurs due to an acute shortage of thyroid hormones, which in extreme cases, can cause hair loss. If your hair is thinning, visit your doctor and have them check the state of your thyroid gland.

3. Blurred vision

Spending many hours on computers may cause your vision to become blurred, or your eyes to burn. In fact, vision problems are nowadays often associated with long screen-time use, and has been termed as 'digital eye strain' or 'dry eye syndrome'. If you recognize these symptoms, discuss with your doctor.

4. Blind spots

While it may be frightening to notice a blind spot in your vision, this often

points at a migraine with aura, especially if your blurry vision is accompanied by sparkling dots or wavy lines. If migraines become persistent, contact your doctor to decipher the problem.

5. Bulging eyes

If you constantly feel some sort of expansion in your eyes it could indicate a symptom of thyroid (or Graves) eye disease. This means that your thyroid is overactive. Difficulty closing the eyes could be one of the symptoms that may cause your eyes to bulge. As it occurs in 30% of cases, contact your doctor if you notice such symptoms.

6. Yellow whites

Yellow whites tend to appear in both adults and newborns with undeveloped liver function. It may also be connected with the state of a gallbladder or bile ducts. If you notice that the white part of your eye has turned yellow, visit your doctor to decipher the problem.

7. Cloudy vision

If you suffer from diabetes, you need to pay special attention to your health and vision is a key thing to keep tabs on. Diabetic retinopathy - a state caused by damage to blood vessels in the photosensitive retina tissue. It may be the reason for your 'cloudy' vision. Contact a specialist if you notice such a symptom.

8. Impaired vision

Any change in vision requires an instant response. If you notice that your vision has suddenly become impaired, clouded or disappeared for a moment seek medical help immediately as this could indicate a stroke.

.....*Courtesy: World Wide Web*