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Univ. of Maryland Librarian Wins Award for Best Article

Sharon K. Epps, Head of Access Services at the University of Maryland Libraries, is the winner of the **2009 Johns Hopkins University Press Award** for the best article in the most recent volume of the journal *portal: Libraries and the Academy*.

The Journals Division of the Press and *portal*'s Editorial Board Awards Committee selected Epps' article "African American Women Leaders in Academic Research Libraries," which appeared in Volume 8, Number 3 in July 2008.

"We are pleased to give prominent visibility to an article that addresses major professional concerns of leadership and diversity in higher education," says *portal* editor **Sarah M. Pritchard**, the Charles Deering McCormick University Librarian at Northwestern University.

The article identified the attributes, knowledge and skills that African-American women need to succeed as leaders at Association of Research Libraries (ARL) member institutions. Epps' research found that African-American women do not need different skill sets than non-minority library directors to be successful, but they may need additional attributes or more of certain attributes to overcome stereotypes and successfully navigate predominantly white academic research library environments,

The winning article is judged on the quality of research methodology, on how well it places library issues in a broader academic or higher education context, whether it makes a significant contribution to the professional literature, its timeliness, and the quality of its writing.

About The Johns Hopkins University Press

Founded in 1878, The Johns Hopkins University Press is recognized as one of the world's finest and most accomplished scholarly publishers. Today, in addition to a broad catalog of titles, The Press publishes more than 60 scholarly periodicals and more than 200 new books each year in the arts and humanities, technology and medicine, higher education, history, political science, and library science.