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Building Inclusive STEM Collections: Books by BIPOC Scientists

Hilary Wong
SUNY Cortland

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Building Inclusive STEM Collections: Books by BIPOC Scientists

**Hilary Dorsch Wong,
Instructional Services Librarian
SUNY Cortland**

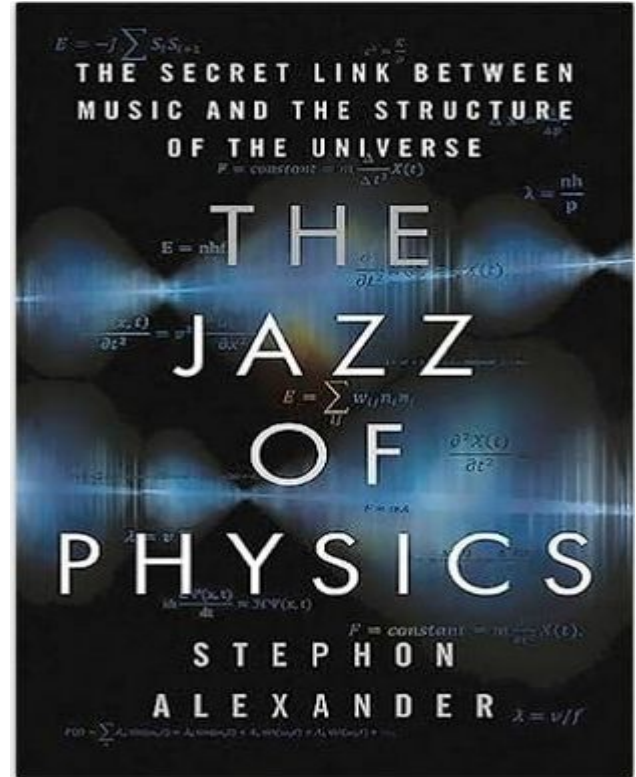
hilary.wong@cortland.edu

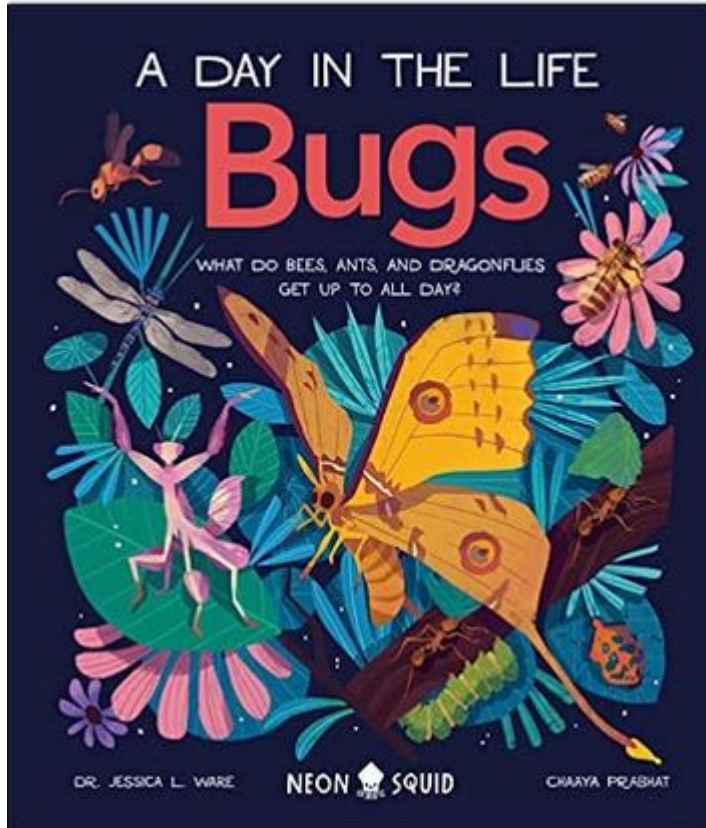
The Project

CHOICE (ACRL) Bibliographic Essay

Reviewed almost 70 titles BY BIPOC scientists, rather than ABOUT them

Collaborators: Profs. David Kornreich (Physics) and Katherine Hicks (Chemistry)





Categories

Scientific Literature

Popular Science

Memoirs/Histories

Children's Books

Mini-categories

- Study/Teaching
- Diversity in STEM
- Poetry

Criteria

- Books must be written by scientists who identify as being from a historically marginalized racial/ethnic group
- Books needed at least one BIPOC author or editor, or to have numerous articles by BIPOC scientists
- Books about Diversity in STEM or lives of famous BIPOC scientists included ONLY if written by BIPOC scientists
- Written in the past 10-15 years (*Choice*)

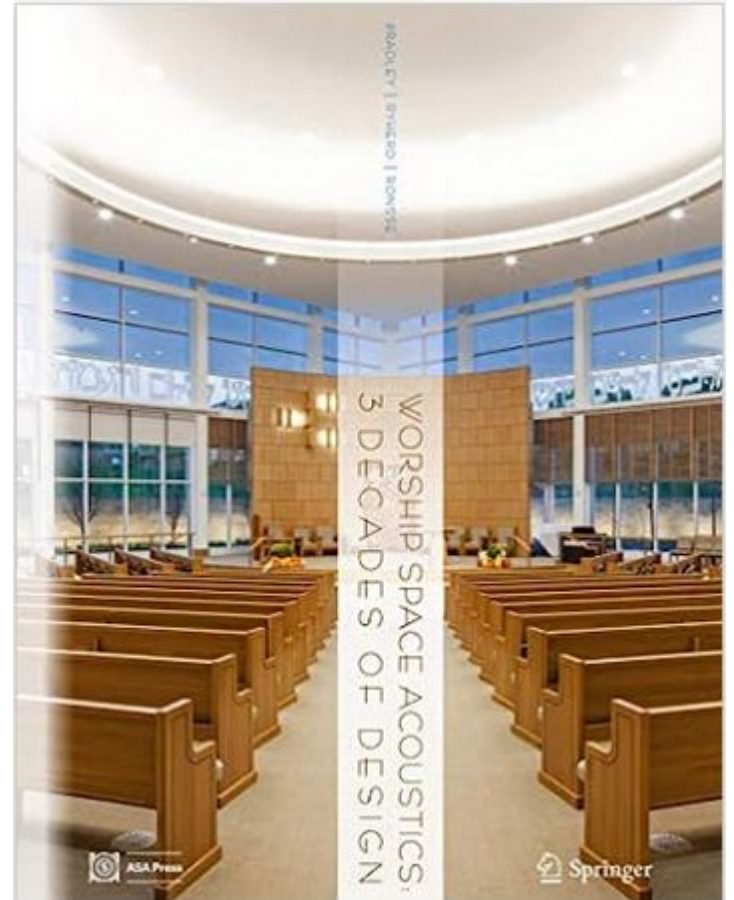
Factors

Discovery systems aren't built for this

No assumptions about an author's race/ethnicity

Hard to ILL some books

Scientific literature is primarily through articles, not monographs



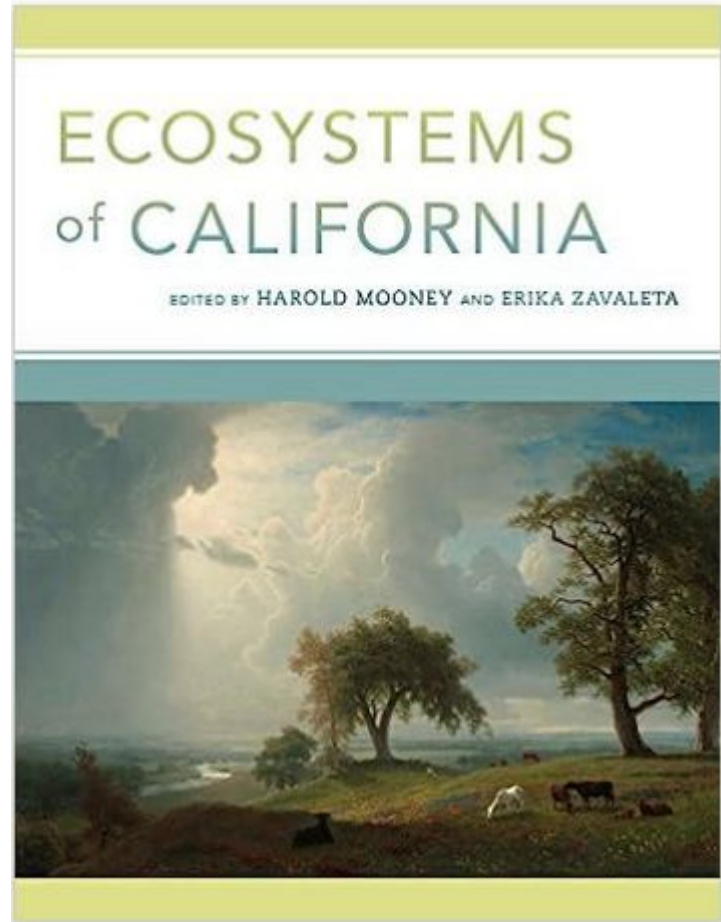
Professional Organizations

BIPOC Specific (ex. National Society of Black Physicists)

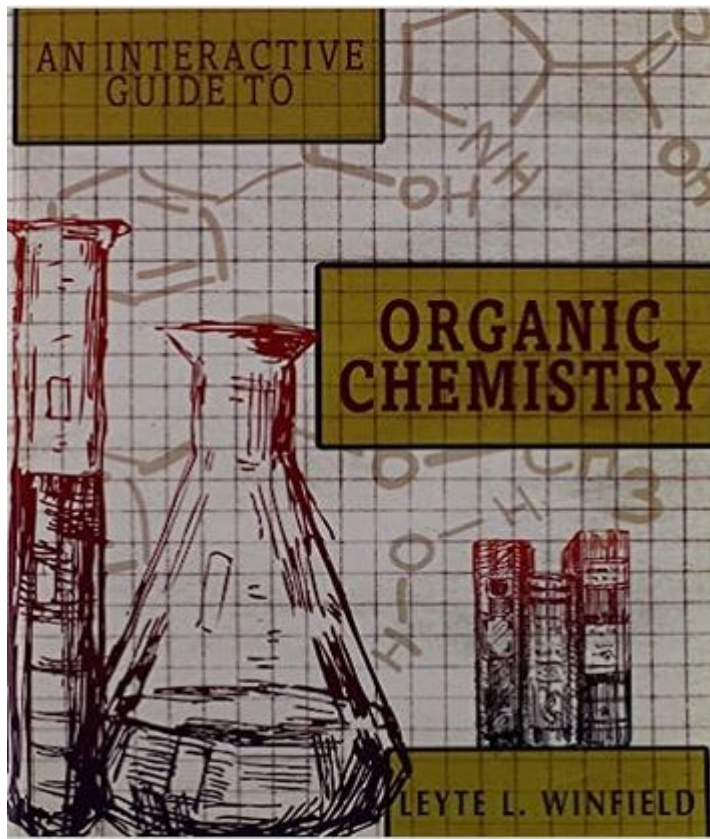
- Search for officers/leadership

General (ex. Ecological Society of America)

- DEI committees—search for members
- No assumptions!



Professional Organizations: Listservs



Asked to forward a message about our project

When organizations forwarded it, got a great response

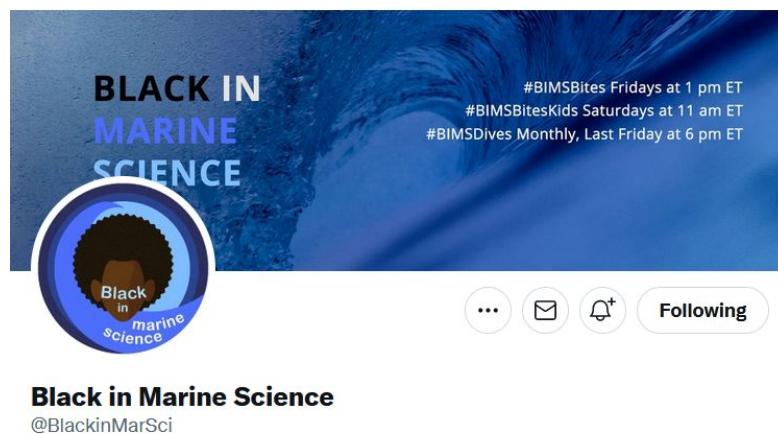
Communication directors or secretaries good contacts

Black in X groups (#BlackIn___)

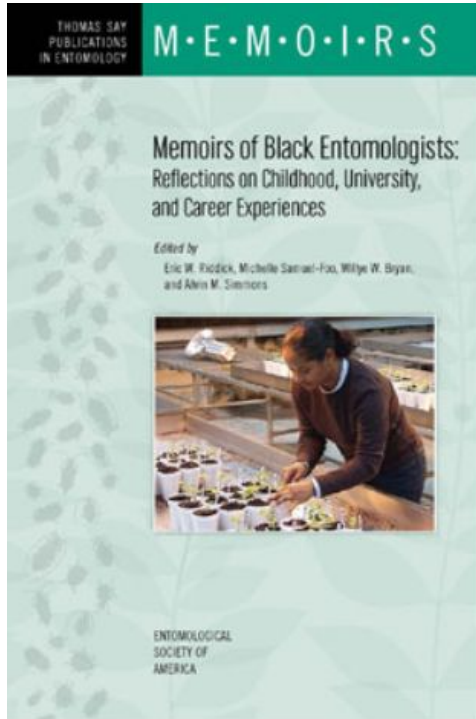
Especially active on Twitter

Leadership leans early career (unlikely to have published books)

Feature more established Black scientists in tweets, blog posts, or podcasts



Publications about BIPOC scientists as such



Featuring BIPOC scientists in a given field

Articles in Scholarly journals

Books

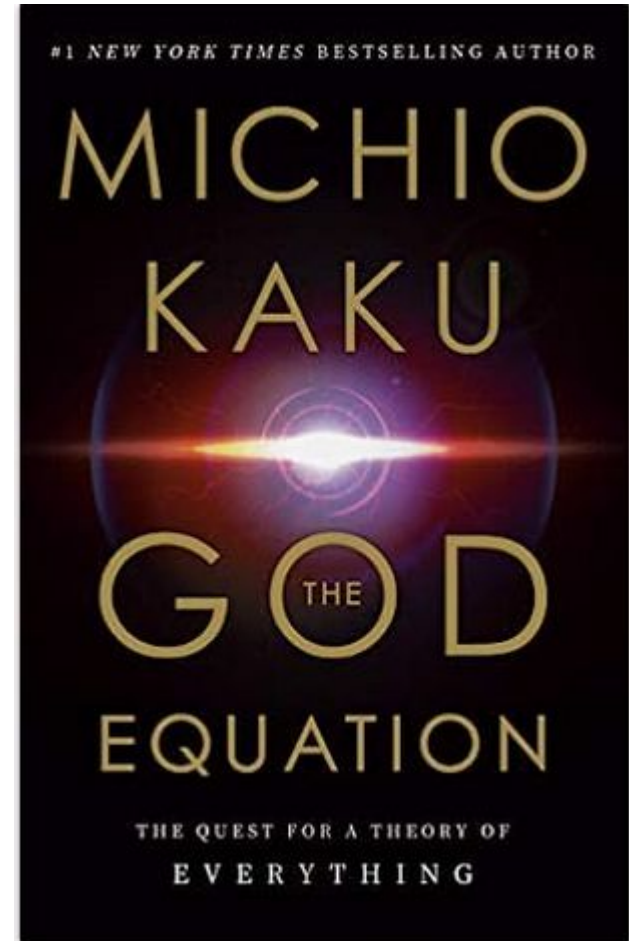
Limitations

Trial and Error

Dependent on luck and goodwill

Uneven distribution (racially/ethnically and topics)

Not even close to a definitive list



Bibliography

<https://tinyurl.com/5cab2uns>



A selection of my favorites: <https://tinyurl.com/5n9y3s4b>

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