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UNLV faculty authors shed light on medieval science, airfield pavements, and juvenile justice

**Medieval Science and Technology**
by Dr. Elspeth Whitney
Greenwood Press, 2004

In *Medieval Science and Technology*, UNLV history professor Dr. Elspeth Whitney seeks to shed light on a little-known aspect of the Middle Ages.

“When I tell people that I study medieval science and technology, the response is often, ‘Oh, I didn’t know there was any,’” Whitney says. “I wrote this book in part to rectify this false impression and to convince readers that science and technology in the Middle Ages were vital, innovative enterprises that helped create the modern world.”

Her book, which is intended for a general audience, is the first to include an examination of both the history of medieval science and the history of medieval technology. In addition to discussing individual sciences from alchemy to zoology, Whitney presents an overview of the medieval scientific worldview and the social context of the practice of science and technology. The volume also contains biographies of important scientists and philosophers and a selection of representative scientific writing.

She asserts in the book that although medieval scientific methods were significantly different from those of modern science, it was in the Middle Ages that the institutional, technological, and intellectual frameworks responsible for the later success of western science were first developed.

**Airfield Pavements: Challenges and New Technologies**
Edited by Dr. Moses Karakouzian
American Society of Civil Engineers, 2004

**Juvenile Justice in the Making**
by Dr. David S. Tanenhaus
Oxford University Press, 2004

In *Juvenile Justice in the Making*, Dr. David S. Tanenhaus, the James E. Rogers Professor of History and Law at UNLV, offers insight into the creation of America’s first juvenile court, providing a framework for discussion of the complex, often controversial, questions surrounding youth legal policy.

The author describes how children’s advocates worked to establish a separate court system for juveniles in turn-of-the-century Chicago and, in doing so, advanced a basic tenet that guides juvenile justice in America today: Children deserve special treatment by the courts because they are developmentally different from adults.

“The book explores the fundamental question of how the law should treat the young,” says Tanenhaus. “By exploring the early history of juvenile justice, we can begin to think more clearly about what its future should be.”

The book was written for the general reader and designed for classroom adoption in history, law, criminal justice, political science, and social work courses.