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## Vam Technical Notes

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 Technical Bulletin  
 Getting Teacher Evaluation Right  
 Horticulture — New Technologies and Applications  
 Technical Note - World Meteorological Organization  
 Energy and Technology Review  
 JJAP  
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 Scientific and Technical Books and Serials in Print

*Vam Technical Notes*

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### KOCH FARMER

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The Etched and Engraved Work of Sir Frank Short Getty Publications

A singular fatality has ruled the destiny of nearly all the most famous of Leonardo da Vinci's works. Two of the three most important were never completed, obstacles having arisen during his life-time, which obliged him to leave them unfinished; namely the Sforza Monument and the Wall-painting of the Battle of Anghiari, while the third—the picture of the Last Supper at Milan—has suffered irremediable injury from decay and the repeated restorations to which it was recklessly subjected during the XVIth and XVIIth centuries. Nevertheless, no other picture of the Renaissance has become so wellknown and popular through copies of every description. Vasari says, and rightly, in his Life of Leonardo, "that he laboured much more by his word than in fact or by deed", and the biographer evidently had in his mind the numerous works in Manuscript which have been preserved to this day. To us, now, it seems almost inexplicable that these valuable and interesting original texts should have remained so long unpublished, and indeed forgotten. It is certain that during the XVIth and XVIIth centuries their exceptional value was highly appreciated. This is proved not merely by the prices which they commanded, but also by the exceptional interest which has been attached to the change of ownership of merely a few pages of Manuscript. That, notwithstanding this eagerness to possess the Manuscripts, their contents remained a mystery, can only be

accounted for by the many and great difficulties attending the task of deciphering them. The handwriting is so peculiar that it requires considerable practice to read even a few detached phrases, much more to solve with any certainty the numerous difficulties of alternative readings, and to master the sense as a connected whole. Vasari observes with reference to Leonardos writing: "he wrote backwards, in rude characters, and with the left hand, so that any one who is not practised in reading them, cannot understand them". The aid of a mirror in reading reversed handwriting appears to me available only for a first experimental reading. Speaking from my own experience, the persistent use of it is too fatiguing and inconvenient to be practically advisable, considering the enormous mass of Manuscripts to be deciphered. And as, after all, Leonardo's handwriting runs backwards just as all Oriental character runs backwards—that is to say from right to left—the difficulty of reading direct from the writing is not insuperable. This obvious peculiarity in the writing is not, however, by any means the only obstacle in the way of mastering the text. Leonardo made use of an orthography peculiar to himself; he had a fashion of amalgamating several short words into one long one, or, again, he would quite arbitrarily divide a long word into two separate halves; added to this there is no punctuation whatever to regulate the division and construction of the sentences, nor are there any accents—and the reader may imagine that such difficulties were almost sufficient to make the task seem a desperate one to a beginner. It is therefore not surprising that the good intentions of some of Leonardo's most reverent admirers should have failed.

**Last Lecture** Teachers College Press

Teacher evaluation systems are being overhauled by states and districts across the United States. And, while intentions are admirable, the result for

many new systems is that good often excellent teachers are lost in the process. In the end, students are the losers. In her new book, Linda Darling-Hammond makes a compelling case for a research-based approach to teacher evaluation that supports collaborative models of teacher planning and learning. She outlines the most current research informing evaluation of teaching practice that incorporates evidence of what teachers do and what their students learn. In addition, she examines the harmful consequences of using any single student test as a basis for evaluating individual teachers. Finally, Darling-Hammond offers a vision of teacher evaluation as part of a teaching and learning system that supports continuous improvement, both for individual teachers and for the profession as a whole.

[Current Serials Received](#) Routledge

In November 1990 Indo-American Hybrid Seeds (IAHS), one of the largest and very innovative horticultural enterprises of its kind in India, celebrated its silver jubilee year in the town of Bangalore, India. On the occasion of this silver jubilee of IAHS an International Seminar on 'New Frontiers in Horticulture' was organized from 25-28th of November 1990 at the Ashok Radisson Hotel in Bangalore. IAHS was almost fully responsible in terms of organization and financially for this International Seminar. Assisted by an International Scientific Advisory Board, the organizing committee, all members of the company IAHS, really did a great job. I would like to thank in particular Mr. Mammohan Attavar (the company's founder) and Mr. Sri N.K. Bhat (partner of the company), respectively chairman and treasurer of the organizing committee, for their organizational and financial support in organizing this conference. Very special words of thanks go to my colleague editor, Dr. Jitendra Prakash, Secretary Organizing committee and Director of Biotechnology - IAHS, who was really the spill in the whole organization of our very successful conference.

[The World of Learning 2001](#) ASCD

This report is the result of a three-year research program. It describes the chemical character of cellulose ethers as a general class of polymers and establishes an approximate ranking of the relative stability of each generic chemical subclass. Ranking the thermal stability of the polymers with respect to color change and loss in degree of polymerization led to the conclusion that as generic chemical classes, methylcellulose and carboxymethylcellulose appear to be the most stable of the cellulose ethers. Water-soluble ethylhydroxyethylcellulose apparently also possesses good stability. Of questionable long-term stability are hydroxyethylcellulose and hydroxy-propylcellulose. Ethylcellulose and organic-soluble ethylhydroxyethylcellulose proved to be of poor stability, potentially undergoing marked changes in twenty years or less under normal museum conditions. An important additional conclusion reached here, as well as in an earlier investigation, is that considerable variations in stability can occur within a generic chemical class from differences in the basic raw material, a natural product from plants, which is not a uniform, manufactured, chemical substance. Further variations can exist due to different manufacturing processes or commercial sources. Hence, commercial products must be evaluated individually to determine the most stable of a given generic type. Nonetheless, the authors believe the conclusions expressed here to be valid with regard to the relative stability of the generic chemical classes of cellulose ethers.

**Technical Note** Springer Science & Business Media

The Strategic Management of Charter Schools addresses the challenges facing such schools by mapping out, in straightforward and highly pragmatic terms, a management framework for them. The first charter school law in the United States was enacted in Minnesota in 1991. In the twenty years since that modest beginning, the movement has burgeoned and spread across the country: there are now more than five thousand charter schools attended by nearly two million students. Yet due to this rapid growth in the number of charter schools and to their generally independent character, the nature and quality of these institutions vary greatly. The promise of charter schools is great, but so are the organizational and educational challenges they face. Organized around three crucial challenges to charter school leaders--managing mission, managing internal operations, and managing the larger stakeholder environment--the book provides charter school leaders with indispensable tools and insights for achieving educational and organizational success. In its elucidation of these managerial challenges, and in its equally helpful and detailed examinations of particular schools, the book offers a clear, credible approach to the efficient and sustainable management of what are still young and experimental educational institutions.--Publisher description.

**NBS Technical Note** Turtleback

First published in 2000. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

[Choice](#) Library of Alexandria

In *Teacher Evaluation That Makes a Difference*, Robert J. Marzano and Michael D. Toth introduce a new model of teacher evaluation that takes into account multiple data-rich measures of teacher performance and student growth to ensure fair, meaningful, and reliable evaluations for all teachers.

[Value-added Measures in Education](#)

[ACM SIGGRAPH '89 Course Notes](#)

**NBS Technical Note**

[Catalog of the Library of the Museum of Modern Art: Vam - Z Periodicals L.A. Archives](#)

[The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci \(Complete\)](#)

[Reports of Cases Before the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance](#)

[Tropical Grasslands](#)

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[Power Plant Engineering](#)