Books of Interest

Here are some book titles that UKeiG members might be interested in reading about. The list isn’t exhaustive; members are welcome to suggest other books for review. If you are interested in reviewing any of these titles, or if you are publisher and you have titles that you think would be of interest to the UKeiG readership, please contact Michael Upshall (michael@consultmu.co.uk).

New releases


An overview of information retrieval rooted in the humanities and social sciences but informed by an understanding of information technology and information theory.

Information retrieval in the age of Internet search engines has become part of ordinary discourse and everyday practice: “Google” is a verb in common usage. Thus far, more attention has been given to practical understanding of information retrieval than to a full theoretical account. In Human Information Retrieval, Julian Warner offers a comprehensive overview of information retrieval, synthesizing theories from different disciplines (information and computer science, librarianship and indexing, and information society discourse) and incorporating such disparate systems as WorldCat and Google into a single, robust theoretical framework. There is a need for such a theoretical treatment, he argues, one that reveals the structure and underlying patterns of this complex field while remaining congruent with everyday practice. Neither narrowly practical nor largely speculative, Human Information Retrieval meets the contemporary need for a broader treatment of information and information systems.

Julian Warner is on the faculty of the Queen’s School of Management at Queen’s University, Belfast. He is the author of Humanizing Information Technology, Information, Knowledge, Text, and From Writing to Computers.

Nicole Engard Practical Open Source Software for Libraries (mentioned in Tracy Kent’s column this month).
Going Beyond Google: The invisible Web in learning and teaching
Jane Devine and Francine Egger-Sider (Facet, £44.95)

Reference and Information Services in the 21st Century: An Introduction
2nd edition, August 2009; 384pp; paperback; 978-1-85604-688-6; £44.95

Community Archives: The shaping of memory
August 2009; 224pp; hardback; 978-1-85604-639-8; £49.95

Libraries and Information Services in the UK and ROI 2009-2010
36th edition, August 2009; 480pp; paperback; 978-1-85604-679-4; £49.95

The Innovative School Librarian: thinking outside the box
Sharon Markless (editor),
June 2009; 224pp; hardback; 978-1-85604-653-4; £44.95

Web Accessibility: practical advice for the library and information professional
Jenny Craven, editor suggested 24/6)

Searching 2.0
Michael Sauers (Facet, April 2009)

Information Science in Transition
Alan Gilchrist, editor
April 2009; 400pp; paperback; 978-1-85604-693-0; £49.95

Managing Electronic Records, 4th edition
William Saffady
paperback; 978-1-85604-699-2; £52.95 (Facet Publishing, May 2009)

Books on Wikipedia

There seems to be a spate of books about Wikipedia. Here are a few – there will almost certainly be others.
Andrew Dalby, The World and Wikipedia: How We are Editing Reality (Siduri Books, 2009).

Older titles
Know It All, Find It Fast: An A-Z Source Guide For The Enquiry Desk,
Bob Duckett, Peter Walker and Christina Donnelly; 496pp; paperback; 978-1-85604-652-7; £34.95 (Facet Publishing, 3rd Edition, October 2008)

Phil Bradley: How to Use Web 2.0 in Your Library
(Facet, May 2007); 224pp; paperback; 978-1-85604-607-7; £39.95
This new book from acclaimed author Phil Bradley takes a clear and practical approach as it explains exactly how to use the different types of Web 2.0 technologies, and shows how libraries can get the most out of them (using case studies). Illustrations help guide readers through each step of creating a range of resources, and a companion website, including podcasts from the author, ensures readers are kept up to date with developments in this highly dynamic and fast-moving area.

Digital Consumers: re-shaping the information professions
David Nicholas and Ian Rowlands, editors
256pp; hardback; 978-1-85604-651-0; £39.95 (Facet, August 2008)
The information professions – librarianship, archives, publishing and, to some extent, journalism – have been rocked by the digital transition that has led to disintermediation, easy access and massive information choice. There is a need for a new belief system that will help information professionals survive and engage in a ubiquitous information environment, where they are no longer the dominant players, nor, indeed, the suppliers of first choice.

Agnew, Grace: Digital Rights Management: A Librarian’s Guide to Technology and Practise (Chandos, September 08)
King, Brandy and Reinold, Kathy: Finding the Concept, Not Just the Word: A librarian's guide to ontologies and semantics (Chandos, Sept 2008)
Batley, Susan: Information Architecture for Information Professionals (Chandos, February 2007)
Browne and Jerney, The Indexing Companion (Cambridge University Press, 2007)
Byron, Berry, Haug & Eaton: Using Drupal (O'Reilly, 2008)
Engard, Nicole (editor): Library Mashups (Facet, September 2009)
Gilchrist, Alan, editor: Information Science in Transition (Facet Publishing, April 2009)
Lessig, Lawrence: Remix – Making art and commerce thrive in the hybrid economy (Bloomsbury 2008)
Newson, Alex: Blogging and other social media (Gower, 2008)