Book Reviews


Martin De Saulles, principal lecturer in digital marketing at the University of Brighton, UK, provides a solid examination of the digital information landscape and discusses the implications of technological changes in the information industry and professionals in his book, *Information 2.0: New Models of Information Production, Distribution, and Consumption*. He covers such topics as computing and information trends from the last two decades; the dynamic nature of the industry; the increasing use of social media, open access, and cloud storage; businesses transitioning from creating one type of information service or equipment to others; and the vital role of information professionals throughout.

De Saulles gets to the meat of the matter from the second chapter on. In the second chapter, the author looks at new and emerging models of information production on media publishers, the rise of adoption of social media, and the innovation of household and wearable technologies. De Saulles covers implications of change in the management of digital information, as well as how producers and consumers of digital information have changed in the third chapter. He also discusses the potential loss of digital materials and preserving the Internet; the use and popularity of institutional repositories; and data mining. He also spends considerable space in this chapter on collection digitization. As these projects have many benefits to users as well as the libraries embarking on such projects, it is a topic worth discussing at length. De Saulles also covers equipment obsolescence, data preservation, and types of storage, including underground storage and cloud storage.

De Saulles looks at new models of information distribution and technologies and how legal and economic environments are affecting the way information is distributed. He indicates that users are in control of navigating their information needs without the benefit of the aid of librarians and other information specialists to help them maneuver the glut of information on the web. Other topics include pirating and the evolution of copyright-friendly intermediaries, such as YouTube and Spotify, MOOCs, the industry’s shift to new technologies, and the government and the Internet. Regarding the latter, De Saulles explains the importance of WikiLeaks and Edward Snowden, and how government agencies are having a difficult time keeping secrets as more people are turning to the web to expose those secrets. A threat to the web in the form of net neutrality is another subject De Saulles discusses in this chapter.

In the fifth chapter, De Saulles focuses on new models of information consumption, such as mobile devices, apps, and augmented reality, and the evolution of technology and how we receive information. There is a brief section on information consumption devices and mobile devices and open operating systems versus proprietary operating systems. Not surprisingly, he mentions that mobile devices have a high rate of adoption, considering their size and file capacity as well as variety of content providers. Sales data indicate that this happened in a relatively short amount of time. De Saulles also discusses academic libraries working with their users to become familiar with what they expect from their library, with the inclusion of study space and coffee bars, as well as their technology needs. De Saulles concludes his book with a discussion of control in a networked world; implications for information professionals and publishers regarding mobile technology; knowledge management opportunities; the future

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of searching; the ever-existing challenge of copyright; and my personal favorite, ninja librarians. By this, he didn’t of course mean sneaky librarians waiting behind pillars to surprise unwitting patrons. Or did he?

This is a solid book for information science students. While De Saulles doesn’t make predictions, as some other books in the same vein do, he provides a good examination of digital technologies and various services without getting too technical. A unique piece of every chapter is that he includes a very brief case study on various businesses using or that have founded innovative services using technology. He covers Amazon, Buzzfeed, GigaOm, Klout, DSpace, the Tesco Clubcard, DataSift, Netflix, Kahn Academy, the Oculus Rift, Spotify, and other popular services. These case studies are also welcome breaks between the sections in chapters. Students will be grateful for additions like these in their textbooks. While it is written specifically for students, De Saulles provides valuable information for educators and librarians who want to stay abreast of various aspects of and implications for information technology. Each chapter could be devoted to its own book, yet De Saulles provided succinct and tightly written sections in his book.—Lizzy Walker, Wichita State University


*Digital Humanities in the Library: Challenges and Opportunities for Subject Specialists* is a collection of essays by humanities subject specialists, digital humanities librarians, special collections librarians, professors, and graduate students from disciplines across the humanities. By drawing on such a wide expertise, the collection highlights the exciting complexity of digital humanities projects and the multifaceted and critical role that the subject specialist can play in such projects.

The volume was published in collaboration with the ACRL Literatures in English Section and was ably edited by Arianne Hartsell-Gundy (Head, Humanities Section and Librarian for Literature and Theater Studies at Duke University); Laura R. Braunstein (Digital Humanities and English Librarian at Dartmouth College); and Liorah Golomb (Humanities Librarian at the University of Oklahoma). The project originated from conversations among the members of the Literatures in English Section discussing the need for a work to introduce subject specialists to the growing field of digital humanities and the need for a resource to help guide subject specialists in their work with faculty, students, and other librarians in creating digital humanities projects.

The book is introduced with a foreword by Joan K. Lippincott (Associate Executive Director, Coalition of Networked Information). As Lippincott emphasizes, digital humanities projects are complex and involve constituencies across a college or university. While these projects are often embedded within teaching and research activities, they also involve librarian subject specialists and experts in software and technology, in addition to experts in the larger institutional policies governing the creation of new intellectual property. One will find that *Digital Humanities in the Library* can function as a resource for the strategic planning and coordination of such projects.

The book contains fourteen separate chapters and is divided into four sections, each with three or four chapters. Every chapter includes a notes section and a separate bibliography. An appendix provides further information on the digital tools and resources discussed in the essays; a list of online tutorials and courses on digital humanities topics; and a list of digital humanities online communities and professional organizations. There is no index to the book; yet, given the wide-ranging nature of the topics discussed, a comprehensive index would have been difficult to construct.

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