how-to-do-it guidance. In addition, there is an accompanying website at www.neal-schuman.com/curation which promises to provide checklists, templates and links to related content.

The four chapters that comprise the first part clearly establish the scope of digital curation, and explain why we need to be active in this domain. Of particular interest here is the chapter describing the changing landscape, which discusses cyberscholarship and the new profession of digital curation. This part concludes by introducing the main conceptual models (the Open Archival Information Systems model and the UK's Data Curation Centre's Curation Lifecycle Model) referred to in the book, and provides a definition of data. Here, the author makes it explicit that "data" in the digital curation sense is not solely limited to scientific data, but includes humanities and social science data.

The remaining two parts of the book use the Curation Lifecycle Model to provide an overall structure. Chapters five to eight address the essential basics for digital curation, and in doing so cover preservation and preservation planning, description and representation information, as well as community watch and participation. The final part deals with actions, ranging from create or receive, appraisal or selection through to access, use, and reuse.

As the title implies, the book is aimed at practitioners who need to incorporate curation principles and procedures into their own practice. The layout of the book facilitates dipping into, rather than restricting reading to a consecutive overview. Each chapter begins with a clear outline of the main points covered, and concludes by summarising the content. In addition, key points are presented in boxed text at appropriate points. The author provides extremely useful syntheses of key information, for instance a comparison of the main digital preservation methods, in tabular form. In short, this book is highly recommended as a comprehensive, readable, and authoritative resource.

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The Accidental Taxonomist
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Like other books in the "Accidental . . ." series by Information Today, it was a pleasure to review *The Accidental Taxonomist*. Heather Hedden succeeds in offering a comprehensive, but not overwhelming review of issues regarding taxonomies. Against the background of the foreword by Patrick Lamb she addresses a full spectrum of key issues, which are captured in the introduction, twelve chapters, and four appendices. He explains: "In one sense, taxonomy work, as the practice of naming and organizing

things, is an ancient art. In another sense, it is a thoroughly modern one, taking on new and more challenging characteristics as organizations and human societies have become more information intensive" (p. xi).

Chapter one deals with the definition, purpose, history and applications of taxonomies, with chapter two reflecting on the people who are called taxonomists. Chapters three and four respectively cover the creation of terms and relationships. Chapter five reports on software for taxonomy creation and management, with chapters six and seven respectively covering taxonomies for human indexing and automated indexing. Taxonomy structures are dealt with in chapter 8, taxonomy displays in chapter 9, and taxonomy planning, design and creation in chapter 10. The last two chapters deal respectively with taxonomy implementation and evolution and taxonomy work and the profession. The four appendixes also offer a wealth of information, namely a survey of taxonomists, a glossary, recommended reading and useful websites. *The Accidental Taxonomist* concludes with a detailed index, enabling the reader to return quickly to key points of interest. Further support is offered by an accompanying Web site.

The Accidental Taxonomist is a well-written, well-structured book. It serves both the purpose of informative and motivational reading. The author also managed to find a balance between ease of reading and offering access to a wealth of factual information.

The Accidental Taxonomist is highly recommended to all involved in building taxonomies and on the verge of entering this field. It is also highly recommended to faculty teaching about taxonomies – both as a resource to develop their own teaching material and as recommended material for students.

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