

The book is divided into four sections. Section 1 covers getting started, with chapters describing the life of an info pro, structuring your business, setting up your office, and more. Section 2 covers running your business, with topics such as managing your clients, setting rates, subcontracting, ethics, professional development, and strategic planning.

Section 3 covers marketing, including setting your plan, preparing your materials, and marketing in print, online, by writing, speaking, and word-of-mouth. The last section is on researching, talking more about the different types of research, such as telephone, public records, web, and traditional online, than about the sources themselves. Of course, many resources are given, but this is not the purpose of the book. The focus is on running the business rather than how to search.

Having run my own business for more than 15 years now, I found myself frequently nodding in agreement as I read this book. There is so much practical advice here; you can't help but learn something, even if you are not (and don't plan to be) an independent information professional. Treat your information service as a business, no matter who pays for it, and use this book to make it better.



Go Get That Grant!
A Practical Guide for Libraries
and Nonprofit Organizations

by Gail M. Staines

ISBN: 978-0-8108-7419-0

Published: 2010

Pages: 116 pp.; softcover

Price: \$35

Available from: The Scarecrow Press, Inc.
4501 Forbes Blvd., Suite 200,
Lanham, MD 20706; (800) 462-6420;
www.scarecrowpress.com

The information this slim book provides is good, practical advice on the entire grant-writing scenario, from identifying your project to find-

ing a funder to implementing the grant. The only problem is, there isn't very much included.

The author is assistant provost for university libraries at St. Louis University and has more than 20 years of grant-writing experience. She clearly knows her stuff. Unfortunately, this allows her to gloss over most of the steps involved in the process. Many of the nine chapters in this book are only about six pages long, and the longest chapter, titled "Select a Grant and Start Writing," is 20 pages. What is



there is good, there's just not enough detail. A third of the book is appendixes, which contain sample grant announcements, a query letter, budgets, sample narratives, and some selected resources.

Most disappointing is the chapter on finding funding sources. The seven pages allocated to this topic do not begin to cover the databases that are available, and the author's suggestion to search the internet for foundations is simplistic, at best. Particularly in a book aimed at librarians, the resources covered should be much more extensive.

If you are looking to brush up on your grant-writing skills, this book may be a good refresher. For those starting out new, grab a different one of the many books on this topic.



The Accidental Taxonomist
by Heather Hedden

ISBN: 978-1-57387-397-0; 2010

Published: 2010

Pages: 442 pp.; softcover

Price: \$39.50

Available from: Information Today, Inc.
143 Old Marlton Pike, Medford, NJ 08055;
(609) 654-6266; www.infotoday.com

This is a much-needed book, for many people are temporarily thrown into taxonomy work without even realizing that's what they are doing. Tagging, assigning keywords, organizing content into categories, and indexing are all examples of using some sort of taxonomy, if we apply the term loosely, as the author wisely does.

The author is an experienced taxonomist, having worked as an indexer and thesaurus developer at IAC/Gale and with the enterprise search software company Viziant Corp. before starting her own consultancy. She has also taught online, at Simmons College, and at various boot camps and conferences, so she has experience explaining the somewhat arcane concepts of taxonomy development and use.

The book takes a broad look at taxonomy development and provides all the steps for a novice to get started. It begins with chapters explaining what taxonomies are, who uses them, and



how to get started creating terms and relationships. Additional chapters cover software packages for taxonomy management and development, human and machine indexing, taxonomy structures and display, planning for implementations, and the evolution of taxonomies. The focus is practical and the author gives good examples of the concepts she is explaining. She has put links to resources mentioned on her personal website (www.hedden-information.com/Accidental-Taxonomist-Websites.htm). If you are not a dedicated taxonomist, you may want to skip the more detailed chapters later in the book, but you will still learn a lot just by reading the first half.

There is probably more here than most people will ever need, but it is easy to skim and read the part you want. If you have anything at all to do with assigning words to concepts, read this book. I am sure it will help you do a better job.



Global Research Without Leaving Your Desk: Traveling the World With Your Mouse as Companion

by Jane Macoustra

ISBN: 978-1-84334-366-0

Published: 2010

Pages: 202 pp.; softcover

Price: \$99.95

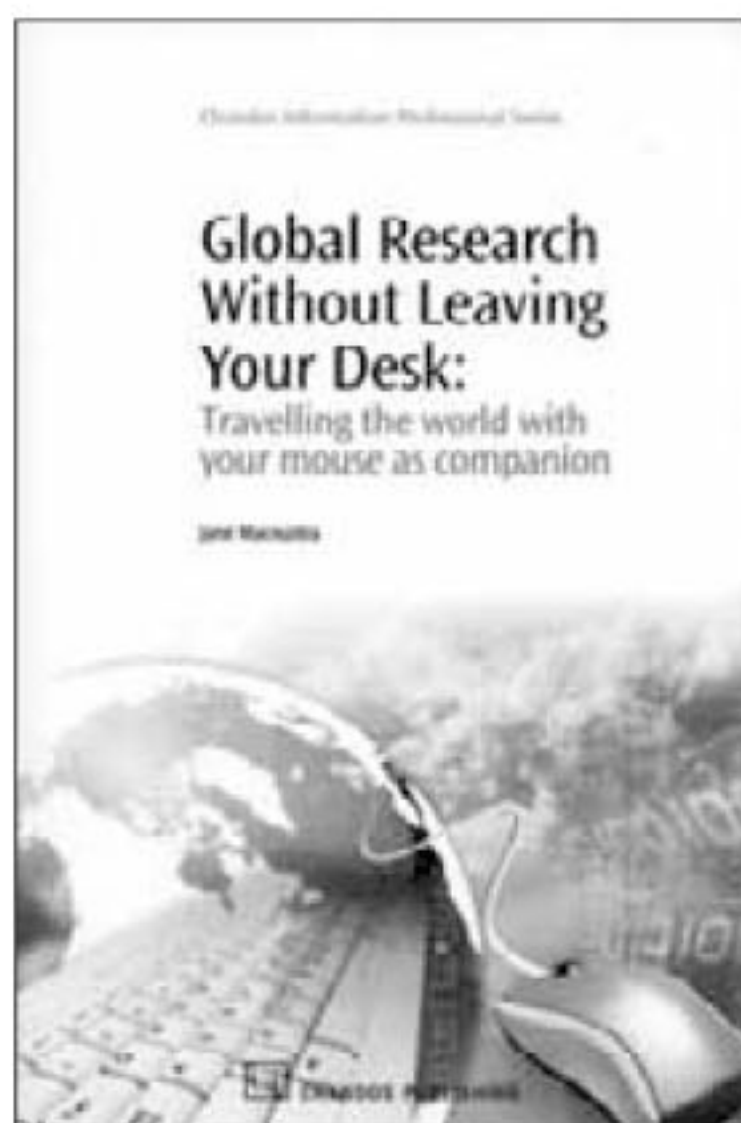
Available from: Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc.
100 William St., Suite 2004,
New York, NY 10038; (212) 925-8650
www.neal-schuman.com

The strength of this book is the decidedly international outlook, a blessing for those wanting reliable business information from a particular country or region. However, the downsides are many. Since the book is essentially an annotated list of web resources, one would think there would be at least a single list of URLs or, better yet, an online version. The links are amalgamated at the end of each chapter, but it does make it more difficult to refer back to a particular resource.

Another problem is the use of screenshots for nearly every resource. The

book is small, so you cannot read the screenshots, and there are 190 of them! In a 200 page book, this leaves very little room for descriptions of the resources.

The author is a respected U.K. information professional, previously a resident of Hong Kong, former board member of SLA Europe, past president of SLA's Asian Chapter, and a frequent con-



tributor to Free Pint and other library-oriented literature. She runs her own consultancy, Tai-Pan Research. She states in the book that updates are available on her blog (<http://globalresearcher.wordpress.com>), yet the latest post as of July 2010 (out of only three total) is Jan. 10, 2010. The author wisely cautions her readers to beware of websites that are not up-to-date, yet look where she leaves us.

The book does provide links to and very brief descriptions of many good international business resources, country-based and alternative search engines. In addition there are chapters covering counterterrorism information and know your customer sources and search techniques. The final chapter delves into next-generation social networking tools for international research. I just wish the presentation was better, the price lower, and the information more reliably updated.

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