

for extraneous material, at his or her fingertips, rather than the organization of a collection of material in an order that will be helpful to a large and unpredictable audience—to use the words of Kent: “a new library idea is emerging, a shift from the public space phenomenon . . . to a private space phenomenon” (188).

The collection of papers will appeal to a wide range of interests. Some, especially those dealing with the general classification schemes (Mai, Olson, Neelameghan) and with problems of interoperability, mapping, and other techniques for accessing a variety of sources, not least those on the Web, fill a gap for students on those recent developments that have not yet reached the textbooks. The articles on the application of linguistic and mathematical techniques (Kent, Mustafa) will appeal to the researcher, while the full bibliographies and notes form an excellent source for both teacher and researcher. The scope goes beyond the approaches to knowledge organization familiar to the library world to include such global abstractions as classification for statistical purposes. There is something for everyone from the student to the advanced scholar of knowledge organization.

These two works serve to emphasize the vital need for knowledge organization in today's networked information world. They will appeal to different audiences, the first being primarily aimed at the student, but providing useful summaries for the working librarian and the teacher, while the second collection of papers addresses a much wider audience and is more varied both in scope and presentation. Both are welcome additions to the literature of our discipline. —I. C. McIlwaine (*i.mcilwaine@ucl.ac.uk*), *University College, London*

Digitizing Collections: Strategic Issues for the Information Manager. By Lorna M. Hughes. London: Facet Pub., 2004. 327 p.

cloth \$75 (ISBN 1-85604-466-1)

The title of Lorna Hughes' *Digitizing Collections: Strategic Issues for the Information Manager* gives a strong indication of the audience that would benefit most from this book. The introduction states “*Digitizing Collections* is intended primarily for librarians, archivists and museum professionals, as well as for students of these subjects . . .” ([xi]). The focus of the book is on examining the breadth of the topic, rather than its depth. It will therefore be of the most use to managers giving direction to digitization efforts, instead of those designing day-to-day workflows. The examples throughout the book cover the entire cultural heritage sector, including libraries, archives, and museums.

Digitizing Collections is divided into two parts. “Part 1, Strategic Decision Making,” is particularly effective in describing the many areas of digitization projects requiring careful planning. Chapter 1, “Why Digitize? The Costs and Benefits of Digitization,” does an excellent job framing the discussion of digitization projects in a larger organizational context. Hughes balances a long section on “Advantages of Digitization,” covering access, support of preservation activities, collection development, institutional benefits, and research and education with realistic qualifications such as “there are no short-term cost savings to be realized by digitizing collections” (7). Chapters in part one covering “Selecting Materials for Digitization,” “Project Management and the Institutional Framework,” and “The Importance of Collaboration” are similarly valuable in outlining large-scale issues.

Chapter 3, “Intellectual Property, Copyright, and Other Legal Issues,” is not as effective as the rest of part one. Coming from a British publisher, this book appropriately treats its subject with an international scope. Legal issues such as copyright, however, must be under-

stood in a more local context. Despite national differences in intellectual property law, this chapter focuses upon some commonalities between them, including the concepts of the public domain, fair use (or fair dealing), and obtaining permission to use copyrighted materials. Hughes favors obtaining permission over fair use as an approach to legal digitization of materials. The value of fair use as a legitimate, viable, and legal means for digitization is overshadowed and occasionally misrepresented. For example, immediately after introducing the four factors considered for a fair use claim under United States copyright law, Hughes gives an example that recounts permission for one student to use material being denied by an artist's estate “on the grounds that hers was a ‘for profit’ enterprise” (63). There are two problems with this example. First, it is not for a copyright holder to determine if a specific use is fair or not under United States copyright law. Second, the student's “profit” was supposedly her grade, which the author fails to question as inappropriate. A copyright holder may deny permission if asked, but if fair use applies, no permission is needed. A final determination would be made by a court in the event a fair use claim has been challenged. Hughes characterizes fair use as “a flimsy concept to hide behind” (63), but in the United States, fair use is used frequently for digitization in libraries, especially for activities such as electronic reserves. A fair use claim forms the backbone of nationally endorsed policies, such as ALA's *Statement on Fair Use and Electronic Reserves*.¹ This chapter appropriately concludes that “protecting and managing copyright, and avoiding infringement, is ultimately more a question of risk management than it is of the law” (76–77), yet it does not acknowledge that many institutions with expert legal advice consider dig-

itization under fair use in some circumstances an acceptable risk.

Part two of the book is titled "Digitizing Collections." Chapter six, "Project Planning and Funding," provides a comprehensive overview of issues to consider when first developing a proposal for a digitization project. This chapter contains useful practical advice on funding models and distribution of costs within project areas. Chapter seven, "Managing a Digitization Project," presents an excellent top-down view of decision making. There is a clear and appropriate message that managers should first answer "Why?" before attempting to answer "How?," an approach evident in statements such as: "Articulating the purposes of the project, and the way that the digital imaging processes chosen will create resources that will fulfill these goals, is the best way to plan a digitization project . . ." (165).

The remaining chapters in part two cover digitization of three specific types of materials: rare and fragile materials, audio and moving images, and text and images. These chapters are less effective than the rest of the book. The author attempts to address digitization of these three categories of materials in depth. However, it is not appropriate for the scope and audience of this book to discuss technical details of digital capture, and the result is oversimplification of the issues, often leading to incorrect generalizations. For example, Hughes claims that GIF "is a proprietary file format, covered by a patent" (190). It is not the GIF file format itself that is patented, but rather the compression algorithm it uses, LZW. This compression algorithm can be used with other file formats, including TIFF. In addition, this patent expired in the United States in July 2003 and in many other countries in summer 2004.² Unfortunately, this sort of slight misrepresentation occurs frequently in technical discussions within these three chapters.

The relationship of digitization and preservation activities appears in several places throughout the book. The author makes clear her position on this relationship: "Although there are those who maintain that digitization is gaining recognition as an acceptable preservation format, this is not the opinion of this author" (210). Two distinct issues are relevant to the debate regarding digitization as a preservation medium. The first is whether or not the digitized object (image, audio, video) adequately captures all important information (by some operational definition) present in the original object. The second issue is whether or not we can ensure today mechanisms for managing digital data into the future with certainty comparable to that we currently possess for analog materials. The basics of the latter are introduced in a section titled "Preservation of Digital Assets." The former is discussed only in passing within a section outlining a case study on brittle books digitization, never in the context of any other type of material. The relationship between these two concerns and their impact on the digitization as preservation debate is never made clear. A recent Association of Research Libraries report, *Recognizing Digitization as a Preservation Reformatting Method*, attempts to address these very topics.²

Digitizing Collections closes with a chapter devoted once again to big-picture issues, synthesizing the lessons of previous chapters into a cohesive view of digital project planning. As Hughes reminds us, "We shouldn't digitize just because we can" (285). A manager ought to come away from this book with the tools to effectively determine when an institution *should* choose to digitize.—Jenn Riley (jenrile@indiana.edu), *Indiana University Digital Library Program, Bloomington*

References

1. American Library Association, "Statement on Fair Use and Electronic

Reserves," Nov. 2003. Accessed Dec. 6, 2004, www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/whitepapers/statementfair.htm.

2. Unisys Corporation, "LZW Patent Information." Accessed Dec. 6, 2004, www.unisys.com/about_unisys/lzw.
3. K. Arthur et al., *Recognizing Digitization As a Preservation Reformatting Method*, June 2004. Accessed Dec. 6, 2004, www.arl.org/preserv/digit_final.html.

Brief Reviews

Development of Digital Libraries: An American Perspective. Ed. Deanna B. Marcum. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2001. 347p. \$95 (ISBN 0-313-31478-0)

Development of Digital Libraries comprises a collection of twenty-two papers presented at the Kanazawa Institute of Technology International Roundtable during the years 1994 to 1998. With the most recent of these papers dating to six years ago, and some a full decade old, the value of this volume is clearly not in discussion of current trends. Rather, this volume provides an interesting snapshot of digital library thought from a time when the Web was passing through its infancy and into a period of unrivaled growth and expectation.

A number of themes emerge across these essays; perhaps the most common of these is that of the changing role of the library and librarians. Understandably, some of the papers predict changes that have not yet come to pass and may now appear unlikely. Examples include overstating the promise of digitization to solve shelving space needs and the ability of collection developers to effectively select and maintain links to authoritative items from throughout the Web in anticipation of user needs. Other trends and predictions, however, seem as relevant today as they were when presented: the need for sound digital preservation standards and practices; the inherent instability in the Web's