by commenting on article and presentation drafts. Through these and myriad other activities, mentoring occurs regularly in the library. As Lee states, "There is never a mentoring project too small" (98). With this in mind and this book in hand, librarians everywhere now know where to start.—*John E. Adkins (johnadkins@ ucwv.edu), University of Charleston, Charleston, West Virginia.*

Reference

1. Max De Pree and Walter C. Wright, *Mentoring: Two Voices* (Pasadena, Calif.: De Pree Leadership Center, 2003).

Human Information Retrieval. By Julian Warner. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2010. 189p. $35 hardcover (ISBN 978-0-2620-1344-4).

The book starts with Julian Warner's declaration, "Information retrieval (IR) is of high contemporary significance, diffusing into ordinary discourse and everyday practice" (1). As a field, IR is concerned with the structured analysis, organization, storage, searching, and retrieval of information.[1] Emphasizing that we are faced with, and inevitably navigating in, an advanced, complex, differentially understood, and apparently chaotic arena fueled by information technologies, this nine-chapter volume provides a foundation on which to understand IR from a theoretical perspective. The author suggests that IR is constructed from labor, choice, and technology and is rooted in human experience. He aims to offer an inclusive understanding of IR systems through a labor-theoretic approach.

Reviewing existing evaluative traditions and indicating the possibility for synthesis within a labor-theoretic approach, the book assumes selection power as a quality of human consciousness. Selection power is produced by selection labor, a form of mental (informational) labor. According to Warner, selection labor comprises two processes: description labor and search labor. The former, an interpretive labor, is exemplified by cataloging, classification, and database description, which transform objects into searchable descriptions. The latter occurs when information systems are searched.

The centerpiece of the book is its fourth chapter titled "A Labor Theoretic Approach," within which operating and realizing human selection power with respect to the real world is debated. Related issues, like retrieval from full text on the basis of semantic as well as syntactical foundations, are discussed, as are practical considerations for redesigning Internet search tools with a humanistic approach. The book's concluding chapter reviews semantics and syntax in relation to preexisting theories relevant to IR, labor-theory approach, and existing and emerging real-world practices. The book includes a postscript, bibliography, list of supplemental readings, and index. Also helpful is the diagram on page 13, which delineates the book's structure, illustrating the topics that relate to Warner's labor theoretic approach.

The goal of the book is to enrich, promote, and advance IR research in the fields of information science and computer science. Warner's concluding remarks suggest that every design in the field of IR should serve end users with simplicity, interoperability, and cost-effectiveness. It is hoped that such a humanistic approach can facilitate improving the interactive quality of IR systems.

Although this theoretical, scholarly, and inspiring work that balances practical and theoretical aspects of human IR is at times difficult to understand, its depth, value, and originality should not be neglected. It will be more interesting, erudite, instructive, and comprehensible for patient readers, be they students, professors, systems librarians, systems designers and optimizers, or researchers familiar with the IR field. I would have appreciated more attention given to the role of human behavior as it pertains to IR, especially given the book's title. Nevertheless, *Human Information Retrieval* is a useful contribution to the IR literature.—*Alireza Isfandyari-Moghaddam (ali.isfandyari@gmail. com), Hamedan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Iran.*

Reference

1. Gerard Salton, *Automatic Information Organization and Retrieval* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1968).

Patron-Driven Acquisitions: History and Best Practices. Edited by David A. Swords. Berlin; Boston, Mass.: De Gruyter Saur, 2011. 205p. $105 (ISBN: 978-3-1102-5301-6; eISBN: 978-3-1102-5303-0). Current Topics in Library and Information Practice.

Many libraries, large and small, are experimenting with patron-driven acquisitions (PDA) of e-books. Although numerous journal articles have been published recently on this topic, this is the first book devoted to PDA that I have seen. Edited by David Swords, vice president of sales and marketing for Ebook Library (EBL), *Patron-Driven Acquisitions* does have a slant toward EBL's service model, but do not let this prevent you from reading it. Swords has assembled an impressive cast of contributors, including Rick Lugg, Bob Nardini, Michael Levine-Clark, Kari Paulson, Rex Steiner, Ron Berry, Tom Corbett, Sue Polanka, Emilie Delquie, Doug Way, Julie Garrison, and Dennis Dillon. Swords also contributes two chapters to the volume.

The chapters, though logically organized, at times read like a set of essays rather than a cohesive monograph; this is no doubt due to the plethora of contributors. The book has three main sections—"Background and Reasons," "PDA in the World," and "Modeling PDA"—and concludes