me?" The exercise has students choose the more useful item from pairings of citations from search results—for instance, popular and scholarly; appropriate length and too short; dated and current; off target due to keyword searching and on target due to controlled vocabulary searching. An interesting extension would be to have students take notes on the criteria they use in choosing from each pair, then rework the notes into an evaluation checklist to use with database searches.

Now the bad news. This collection's usefulness is marred by the editors' insufficient attention to conceptualizing the volume and, in some cases, to readying the essays for publication. The essays show a good deal of repetition of content. Seven of the fifteen include discussions and/or checklists of (very similar) criteria for evaluating Web sites. Several duplicate discussion of how the publishing process and library selection practices ensure that library users find high-quality information sources, whereas the Web generally leaves judgments of quality entirely to the user. The space taken up by this repetition could have been better used by selecting articles with more varied approaches to the topic or by asking the authors to replace the repetitious content.

Also disconcerting is the fact that four articles either read like transcripts of instruction sessions (explaining, for instance, how search engines work and how Web pages are constructed) or shift points of view, confusingly and without warning, between "talking to librarians" and "talking to students." One transcript/essay would have been enough to serve as a model of the tone, examples, and analogies that could be used in an instruction session on evaluating Web sources.

Two essays contain stylistic flaws, numerous grammatical errors, and rambling, unfocused prose. They simply were not ready for print. One example of the errors the editors allowed to creep in is this sentence fragment: "Librarians Crawford and Gorman, Oberman, and Stoll, though not a librarian but one of the pioneers in the online world who has joined the librarians in concern about the Internet." Another lapse is the editors' description of the book's final section as "exercises used by librarians in teaching Web evaluation in various settings." Surprisingly, only one of the five exercises deals directly with teaching about Web resources. The first one, in fact, deals almost exclusively with printed maps and atlases. The problems mentioned above are so numerous and noticeable that this volume, especially at the price of $82.50, cannot be recommended as a first-order purchase.—Glenn Ellen Starr Stilling, Appalachian State University.


The Digital Library: Challenges and Solutions for the New Millennium includes most of the papers presented at an international conference in Bologna, Italy, in 1999. The conference was organized by the British Library, the British Council, and the Italian associations of librarians and documentalists. The table of contents and the abstract for each paper are presented in both English and Italian. The proceedings are divided into six sections: copyright, electronic publishing, practical case studies, standards and protocols, projects, and electronic document delivery.

Brian Lang, chief executive of the British Library, points out that "there has been an enormous increase in the demand for documents and information to be supplied in electronic format generally and in digital format in particular. The digital library holds challenges ..." The first challenge addressed was copyright. An Italian legal consultant addresses the new problems raised by electronic works and provides several guidelines for negotiating agreements for information provided via technology; a British librarian describes the new opportunities that copyright of electronic documents offers for finding balance.
between users and creators of information; a British professor describes the development of copyright guidelines by the Joint Information Systems Committees (JISC) in British higher education; and a British publishing consultant stresses the need for librarians and information providers to work together to create agreements rather than rely on copyright as it is created by the software and entertainment industries.

The electronic publishing section opens with a description of the creation and development of the electronic publication Journal of High Energy Physics. It concludes with an essay emphasizing the need for authors, readers, libraries, and referees to all be involved in marketing strategies for electronic publications in order to find “the right model for journals publishing in the 21st century.”

The first practical case study describes the development of the British National Electronic Library for Health (NeLH) designed to provide information to both health professionals and their patients. A chapter on the Lombard Interuniversity Consortium for Automated Processing (CILEA) explains how the group shares subscription costs by loading electronic journals on a shared server. “The Italian Digital Library Project (Biblioteca Telematica Italiana)” describes how a digital library will be built “of texts highly representative of the Italian cultural tradition from the Middle Ages to the 19th century.”

The need for standards and protocols to ensure accurate, accessible resources is addressed in the fourth section with an essay that examines the use of two international standards—the Search and Retrieve Protocol (ISO 29350) and the Interlibrary Loan Protocol (ISO 10160/1). “Metadata and Metatag: The Indexer between Author and Reader” is about important metadata projects in progress and the role of the cataloger as a “third party” between author and reader. “A Standard for the Legal Deposit of On-Line Publications” is concerned with the need to ensure continued access to electronic publications as technology and format continue to change.

“Projects” includes “Co-operation among University Library Organizations in Italy,” explaining the need for improved cooperative efforts among Italian university libraries; a chapter on Sistema Biomedico Lombardo (SBBL), composed of sixteen libraries that provide health information to at least eighty Lombard institutions through the Internet; and an abstract for a presentation on the use of ISSN-based identifiers.

“Document Delivery as an Alternative to Subscription” begins the section on electronic document delivery. “The Digital Future—Realities and Fantasy—A View from Marketing” concludes that the transition from printed resources to the electronic library is not inevitable and, in fact, is progressing more slowly than has been predicted. “Electronic Document Delivery: New Tools and Opportunities” focuses on the importance of the use of standards for successful document delivery, and the final presentation, “Electronic Document Delivery—The Corporate Competitive Edge,” consists only of the slides used by the presenter; the text was not available for publication.

This book is an interesting review of British and Italian library cooperation. It describes a number of digital library projects that are either under way or completed in both countries, as well as several projects in other parts of the world. Conference presenters were reasonably balanced between creators and disseminators of electronic information. The main drawback, as is true for most proceedings even in an increasingly digital age, is that those interested in particular projects under development at the time of presentation will have to go elsewhere to find current information on them. However, that caveat is minor compared to the overall advantage of expanding one’s familiarity with digital library development beyond one’s own region or even country.—Ann Hamilton, Georgia Southern University.

The Future of Cataloging: Insights from the Lubetzky Symposium. Eds. Tschertha Harkness Connell and Robert L. Max-