Emerging Issues in the Electronic Environment: Challenges for Librarians and Researchers in the Sciences (Science & Technology Libraries)

Jeannie P Miller

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Explore the issues that are changing user/librarian interactions in today's evolving electronic libraries

This book examines the rapid advances in technology and scientific discovery that have changed the way sci/tech library users seek information—changes which have also necessitated increasingly high levels of skill in information technology and advanced subject knowledge from librarians. From negotiating the intricacies of working with e-journals to simplifying the data collection process, anyone involved in allocating library resources or prioritizing research agendas will find relevant, useful information here, as will those involved in library education.

Emerging Issues in the Electronic Environment: Challenges for Librarians and Researchers in the Sciences begins with "Scientific Communication: New Roles and New Players," a detailed examination of the evolution of the information-seeking behavior of scientists, from the days of print-based resources to today's electronic media. Next, you'll find techniques designed to maximize the ability of scientists to make "lucky" connections in their electronic search for information in "Too Important to be Left to Chance: Serendipity and the Digital Library."

Four chapters in Emerging Issues in the Electronic Environment bring you up-to-date information on various aspects of working with e-journals:

- "For Better or Worse: The Joys and Woes of E-Journals," investigates the impact of electronic-only journal holdings on collection development decisions and the accompanying issues of archiving, economics, content, and research use
- "Scan It and They Will Come . . . But Will They Cite It?" provides citation data on the usefulness and impact of retrospective digitization projects for journal contents
- "The Use of Online Supplementary Material in High-Impact Scientific Journals" raises vital questions as to whether the print or electronic article should be regarded as the primary archival resource
- "Challenges and Opportunities for Bibliometrics in the Electronic Environment: The Case of the Proceedings of the Oklahoma Academy of Science" investigates how issues of access, copyright, and fair use, as well as differences among online file formats may impact bibliometric analysis

Two chapters in Emerging Issues in the Electronic Environment are designed to help simplify the data collection process.

- "Information Overload: Keeping Current Without Being Overwhelmed" will show you how to identify needed sources by using current awareness services and e-mail filtering technologies
- "The Impact of Electronic Bibliographic Databases and Electronic Journal Articles on the Scholar's Information Seeking Behavior and Personal Collection of Reprints" reviews organizational methods for managing large collections of electronic articles.

In addition, this forward-thinking book contains four chapters that point out possible avenues for increased

librarian-facilitated service to users:

"Preserving Digital Librari

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