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**Internet and personal computing fads.**  
Price: US$15.95

This book has been described as "an easy-to-understand guide to the often confusing computer/Internet jargon", and that is precisely what it is! It is written in terms understandable to the layman, and it includes everyday terms used in:

- general computer use – bandwidth, cookies, CAD, HTML, spamming, Linux, geek speak, shareware, URL  
- information-related aspects – cybrarian (which has an unexpected definition), search engines, information society, ebooks, hyperfiction, e-zines, electronic publishing  
- computer-related aspects in business – palm computers (or PDAs), new economy, internet advertising, online conferences, dot-com  
- computer-related aspects in multimedia development – multimedia, online conferences  
- computer-related aspects in entertainment – digital cinema, digital imaging, digital video, gaming, comic sites, media streaming, Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI)  
- computer-related aspects in communication – chat rooms, email, instant messaging, blogging, emoticons, internet radio, Internet Relay Chat (IRC), multi-user domains (MUDS), MP3s, new media, skins, usenet, cybercafes  
- computer-related aspects in education – distance education, Webquest  
- computer-related aspects for the future – virtual reality, wireless application protocols (WAP), wireless networks

It also includes terms related to the historical development of computers – computer hardware, Luddite, Mac versus PC, punched cards.

There is an alphabetical contents page of the terms covered in the front of the book, and a more detailed index at the back. This book is useful for looking up those computer terms which one has heard or read, but is not quite sure what they mean. It would be of interest in a public and an academic library.

Reviewed by: Yvonne Blomkamp, Information Officer, UCT/MRC Research Unit for Exercise Science and Sports Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town.  
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**Internet guide to travel health.**  
Price: US$14.95

This is a valuable and useful resource on a variety of health-related issues for the traveller on business or on vacation, with each entry directing the user to relevant web sites. The symbol 2 is used to indicate major resources with authoritative and original content, such as the World Health Organisation (WHO). This assists in saving one time in finding the required information.

There is a short introduction on the anatomy of a web address and how to evaluate web content, before moving to general travel health sites; pre-travel planning; specific issues and concerns; diseases, ailments, and ailments; interactive tools (e.g. Jet Lag Calculator); organisations (e.g. International Association for Medical Assistance to Travellers); full-text publications (e.g. International Travel and Health); a glossary of terms which may be unfamiliar to the layperson (preceded by the URLs of medical dictionaries); as well as a detailed index.

This valuable resource covers where to find online information on the necessary health certificates, immunisation and vaccination requirements, and health insurance before setting out on a journey. It deals with travelling by car, train, air and sea (road safety, airline fatalities, cruise ship travel). There is information on travelling with pets, women travelling alone, seniors travelling alone or with other seniors, children travelling alone or with other children, weather (how to check for forecasts, warnings), natural disasters (for monitoring crisis situations, travelling to disaster areas), death (fatality facts), disabilities (accessible destinations for those with disabilities), and health tourism (for persons seeking surgery abroad, visiting health spas).
The medical aspects included are regulations on carrying or purchasing medications, medical care while travelling, quarantine, medical contraindications to travel.

The health conditions, diseases and ailments cover avoiding and preventing air and road rage, altitude sickness, motion sickness, fear of flying, diarrhoea, allergies, deep vein thrombosis, malaria, pregnancy, HIV and AIDS, hepatitis, sunburn and heat exhaustion, cold weather conditions, and exercise before and during travel, to name but a few.

A comprehensive resource, with a wealth of information on health and travelling which should fill a valuable place on any library’s shelves.

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**Journal of Library and Information Services in Distance Learning.**


ISSN 1533-290X (pbk).

Subscription: US$48.00 (individual)
US$150.00 (Institutional)

Quoting from the Editor’s introduction in Volume I No.1, 2004, this is the first commercially published, scholarly journal which specifically addresses the issues and concerns of librarians and information specialists in this rapidly growing field. The journal is published quarterly, is international, and the articles are peer-reviewed. Each issue contains research/review articles on relevant topics to library and information services for distance learning.

Each issue also includes a Book Reviews section on books relevant to the subject field, and an Eservices in Libraries section that reviews relevant electronic resources and services in distance learning.

I examined Vol. I No.1, 2004. Some of the topics covered in this volume are:

**Research on library services for distance learning: An international perspective**, by Alexander L Slade. He examines the research that has been conducted on the library support for distance learning, identifying priorities for future research. He found that the literature on library services for distance learning tends to be weighted towards practice and application, with not much emphasis on research studies. He then summarises the findings of selected international studies, illustrating the types of research conducted on library services for distance learning, in an attempt to identify common themes in user needs and service provision.

Linda Frederiksen in **Beyond the extended campus library: A brief history of the Distance Learning Section, ACRL**. This article traces the development of the Distance Learning Section of the American Library Association’s Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), detailing the dynamic nature of the organisation, one of the fastest growing sections within the ACRL.

**A usage survey of standards and guidelines affecting library services to distance education nursing programs**, by Baron Lessin, Barbara Redman and Nancy Wilmes, reports on a survey concerning these documents and their usefulness to those planning or enhancing library services supporting distance nursing programmes and students.

John Stratton’s article on **An information access model at a distant branch library** highlights the issues confronting librarians who work in branch libraries distant from the parent institution, thus faced with unique challenges to meet users’ needs for scholarly information for a wide array of academic disciplines.

Nancy Burich discusses **The changing face of distance learning: Implications for distance learning librarians** in the opinion/editorial discussion article “Voices from the Frontlines”, the intention of which is to present opinions backed up by the personal knowledge and experiences of the author(s). Nancy Burich covers the process used to change a distance learning service model. After describing the strategies used by the author, a literature review analyses the works seen as particularly relevant. Finally, a checklist for initiating change is provided to help others work through a similar process.

Some of the other topics published in later issues are:

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