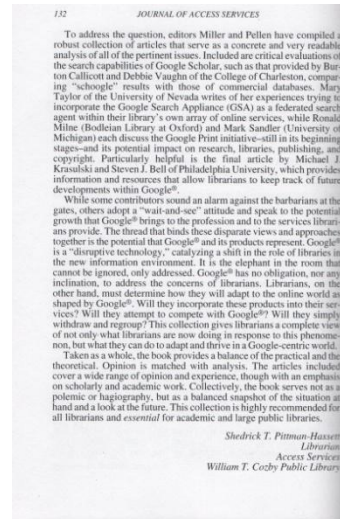
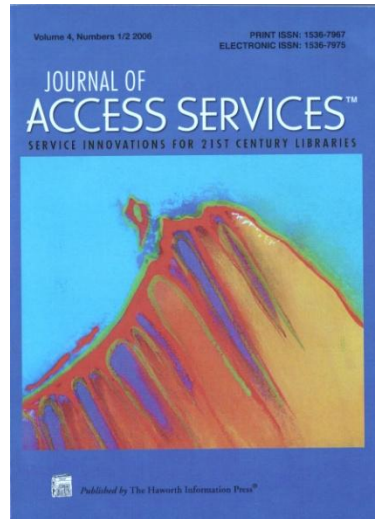


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“Libraries and Google (Book Review)”

Journal of Access Services (Vol. 4, No. 1/2 : 2006)

This is a review of the “Libraries and Google” that appeared in the Journal of Access Services.

JAS is a professional, peer-reviewed journal geared toward Access Services (circulation, technical services) librarians. The analysis covers the book’s utility to librarians as a resource.

...The thread that binds these disparate views and approaches together is the potential that Google® and its products represent. Google® is a “disruptive technology”, catalyzing a shift in the role of libraries in the new information environment. It is the elephant in the room that cannot be ignored, only addressed. Google® has no obligation, nor any inclination, to address the concerns of librarians. Librarians, on the other hand, must determine how they will adapt to the online world as shaped by Google®. Will they incorporate these products into their services? Will they attempt to compete with Google®? Will they simply withdraw and regroup? This collection gives librarians a complete view of not only what librarians are now doing in response to this phenomenon, but what they can do to adapt and thrive in a Google-centric world.

Taken as a whole, the book provides a balance of the practical and the theoretical. Opinion is matched with analysis. The articles included cover a wide range of opinion and experience, though with an emphasis on scholarly and academic work. Collectively, the book serves not as a polemic or hagiography, but as a balanced snapshot of the situation at hand and a look at the future. This collection is highly recommended for all librarians and *essential* for academic and large public librarians.