

**12 "FUMSI Features"**

We add new articles to the FUMSI database in each practice area every month. Read on for the most recent additions.

**14 "Recently in VIP"**

VIP publishes in-depth, unbiased reviews of business information products. Read on for recent findings of interest.

**15 "Highlights from ResourceShelf and DocuTicker"**

Every week, the editors of ResourceShelf explore a Resource of the Week. DocuTicker publishes citations of full-text, free reports available on the web.



Plus ...

Jobs,  
Discussion,  
Tips, Reviews  
and Events

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Fully-Formatted Acrobat Version <a href="http://www.freepint.com/issues/140208.pdf">http://www.freepint.com/issues/140208.pdf</a>	



## About FreePint

FreePint is a global network of people who find, use, manage and share work-related information. Members receive this free twice-monthly newsletter, which is packed with tips, features and resources.

Joining FreePint is free at <<http://www.freepint.com/>> and connects information practitioners around the world with resources, events and answers to their tricky research and information questions at the FreePint Bar, our free online forum: <<http://www.freepint.com/bar/>>.

The FreePint Newsletter is available online in several formats and can be read, saved and forwarded at <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/>>.

## Editorial



Data becomes information, which becomes knowledge. This essential algebra is part of every information professional's early training. Whether we spend our time gathering the data, interpreting it or acting on it, we're always part of that continuum from raw material to actionable insight.

But the shoemaker's children tend to go barefoot. As busy as we can be applying this skills on behalf of clients and business objectives, it's easy to forget about them when it comes to our own departments or desks. Gathering and analysing information on a vendor? Researching internal skills and voids? Too busy; too much to do; another deadline takes priority. Someday we'll make the time ... as if time could be manufactured like microchips or motorbikes.



Anja Thygesen bucks that trend, with her contribution to the FUMSI article database <http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/find/2673>, featured in this issue's FUMSI Features <http://www.freepint.com/issues/140208.htm#FUMSI> section, below. She generously shares her research-and-analysis approach to managing a team of researchers. Using the same skills they ordinarily apply to delivering results to clients, Anja's group studies, well, themselves – their interests and skills – and documents what they learn in an easy-to-use matrix. By reading the matrix, they can spot needs before they become problems and identify their strengths as a team, working on behalf of their organisation..

A visual tool like a matrix can be extraordinarily useful for making sense of raw data. In his FUMSI article on using statistical information, Chris Murphy offers a number of tips that even the most number-phobic individual can use to turn data into meaningful information.

VIP Magazine <http://www.vivavip.com/> specialises in analysing what's happening in the information industry. In the new LiveWire feature, described in more detail in the VIP section below, our editorial team processes the latest news and trends. They take the news a step further, from information to knowledge. Get it free on the web, even if you are not (yet) a VIP subscriber.

And then? What happens with knowledge? Better decisions, better business. Have you used a FreePint resource to do your work better? Share it with us, as an article or testimonial. Submit article ideas to <sara.waddington@freepint.com> , and offer your testimonial online <http://www.freepint.com/testimonial.htm> at any time.

We're also seeking the knowledge it takes to do business better. If you have feedback about any of our publications, sites or resources, please let us know <http://www.freepint.com/suggestionbox.htm>.

William Hann, Publisher  
Robin Neidorf, General Manager  
Free Pint Limited

P.S. Is your organisation looking for new people? Post a job to Jinfo <http://www.jinfo.com/recruit/> and reach a targeted audience of skilled information practitioners.

# Take a voyage of discovery at the new look Library + information Show!

23 – 24 April 2008 NEC, Birmingham



## Learn. Discover. Develop. Share.

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Register now for free exhibition entry at [www.lishow.co.uk](http://www.lishow.co.uk)

**Ed Keating** is Vice President / Content Division of the Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA, <<http://www.siiat.org>>). The association provides a forum for companies that are in the business of publishing and distributing online content, or offer technologies and services that facilitate the distribution of information products.

## My Favourite Tipples

by Ed Keating

I have always been intrigued by sites that provide great content, thoughtful navigation or both. The sites I've recommended below are ones I use on a regular basis to keep me informed and entertained.

- <<http://www.paidcontent.org>> Rafat Ali's burgeoning media company is a must read for anyone in the information industry. He often scoops the establishment press on big stories and interjects humorous and poignant commentary.
- <<http://www.epicurious.com/>> As the primary cook in the family I constantly need to enhance my repertoire and this site helps by providing a clever "menu walk" feature to help select recipes. The ability to share and comment on recipes also enhances the site.
- <<http://www.kayak.com/>> Although there are many travel sites, I have found this one to be comprehensive and quick. It even links out to independent airlines not found on other sites. The "slide bar" navigation helps narrow choices quickly.
- <<http://www.netvibes.com/>> After auditioning a number of RSS solutions, I have settled upon this site which aggregates all my RSS feeds as well as other sources of news and entertainment.
- At <<http://dealbook.blogs.nytimes.com/>>, you'll find a companion website to a very successful NY Times email newsletter of the same name. Dealbook provides excellent coverage of deals across all industries with emphasis on M&A, investment banking, IPOs, venture capital and more.

## Forthcoming Articles

[Provisional]

- Ethical Acquisitions
- Special Collections
- Corporate IT convergence
- Collaborative Search Strategies
- RSS on the Go
- Managing a Team of Researchers

If you have a suggestion for an article topic, or would like to write, then please contact FreePint's Editor Sara Waddington at [sara.waddington@freepint.com](mailto:sara.waddington@freepint.com) or read the notes for authors at <<http://www.onopoly.com/author/>>



## Executive Search Products -- Free and Fee

<<http://web.vivavip.com/go/vip/>>

Searching for information on business executives? The major vendors offer options, as do some web-based free and fee products. Read about them in January's VIP.

Plus an in-depth review of BoardEx, a niche product that gives researchers a unique view of corporate board compositions and relationships.

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FUMSI Regional Research Reports will help research projects get off to the right start, by highlighting quality sources -- free and paid -- for research in key regions.

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- \* Build a business case for auditing
- \* Develop a custom methodology
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## Jinfo :: Jobs in information

[www.jinfo.com](http://www.jinfo.com)

The Jinfo service enables you to search and advertise information-related job vacancies.

The Jinfo Newsletter now features a CV Makeover, in which a job seeker's CV is critiqued and revised by specialists in the field as well as career tips for all experience levels. Read the latest edition and subscribe free at [<http://www.jinfo.com/newsletter/>](http://www.jinfo.com/newsletter/).

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Jinfo Jobs in the FreePint Newsletter are supported through our partnership with Quantum<sup>2</sup>, an innovative skills development programme offered by Thomson Scientific. Learn more at [<http://scientific.thomson.com/quantum2/>](http://scientific.thomson.com/quantum2/)

See over for job listings ...

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## Jinfo :: Jobs in information

www.jinfo.com

**Records Manager**

Be Records Manager at this prestigious organisation, working on paper RM processes and preparing for a move to EDRMS  
*Recruiter: Sue Hill Recruitment and Services Limited*  
 Country: United Kingdom  
 <<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8383>>

**Senior Quant Researcher**

Extensive exp. in: conducting quantitative research; questionnaire design; Data analysis; Advanced level proposal & report writing.  
*Recruiter: The Business Advantage Group plc*  
 Country: United Kingdom  
 <<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8408>>

**Assistant Archivist - London**

Full time or part time contract position for an Assistant Archivist working for a medical organisation based in central London.  
*Recruiter: Aslib, The Association for Information Management*  
 Country: United Kingdom  
 <<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8463>>

**Research Executive**

Join Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer as a Research Executive supporting our business development through research and analysis.  
*Recruiter: Capital Consulting*  
 Country: United Kingdom  
 <<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8539>>

**Stand Alone Researcher - Strategy Consultants**

Researcher for varied information projects to work full time (or 4 days p.w.) for niche Central London Strategy Consultancy.  
*Recruiter: Glen Recruitment*  
 Country: United Kingdom  
 <<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8500>>

**New Business Development**

An excellent opportunity for a highly motivated Sales Professional to join one of the world's leading forecasting companies.  
*Recruiter: TFPL*  
 Country: United Kingdom  
 <<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8525>>

**Learning Resource Centre**

School Librarian required immediately on a short term basis to work in a West London Academy during term time only.  
*Recruiter: Weekes Gray Recruitment*  
 Country: United Kingdom  
 <<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8529>>

**Research and Knowledge Manager**

Work in a cutting-edge chambers, implementing and managing a research and library facility for our practitioners.  
*Recruiter: Doughty Street Chambers*  
 Country: United Kingdom  
 <<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8528>>

NB: These are just a selection of information-related jobs in the Jinfo database  
 <<http://www.jinfo.com/>>.  
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## FreePint Bar

Generously sponsored by Dow Jones Factiva.



**Monique Cuvelier** has been the editor of the FreePint Newsletter and now serves as the contributing editor for FUMSI's Share practice area. She has edited, launched and written for many magazines, newspapers and websites in the US and UK. Learn more about her at <http://www.onopoly.com/support/team/>.

Subscribe to the twice-weekly email digests at <http://www.freepint.com/subs/>

Cabin fever strikes the FreePint Bar this month, with questions about how to pack for holidays, and what sort of search engines exist aside from Google. Plus, other intriguing research questions; read summaries below, and ask your questions at the Bar <<http://www.freepint.com/bar>>.

- This month's issue of FUMSI features an article on digital archives of special collections, so a question on the FreePint Bar fits right in. Someone is looking for recommendations on organisations that provide archive management Services in the UK and Asia-Pacific <<http://www.freepint.com/go/b245967>>. The main players are Iron Mountain and Recall, but does anyone know of others?
- Setting hourly fees is always a challenge, that's why there are so many discussions on the Bar about how to charge. One Bar member would like a ballpark figure of how much an external business information researcher would charge. Some interesting thoughts have surfaced <<http://www.freepint.com/go/b241949>>, and there's more information at Jinfo <<http://www.jinfo.com>>.
- Controlling stink is a careful science, and a FreePinter is wondering just how it's done with a rotary atomiser. You might be surprised at how many people have feedback to lend on this topic - the FreePint crew knows their smell-combat systems. Read more <<http://www.freepint.com/go/b241146>>.
- It's hard to imagine what life was like before Google, and if you're like millions of people around the world, you rely heavily on this search engine. But there's more out there, rest assured. Which do you use? <<http://www.freepint.com/go/b244158>>.
- A sunny holiday seems like an especially warming prospect during chilly February, so this topic on the Bar seems like a welcome diversion <<http://www.freepint.com/go/b243733>>. Someone is looking for a tool that lets you enter variables about an upcoming trip, and it will deliver a recommended packing list. Have you seen anything similar?

If you have a question relating to any aspect of information practice – finding it, using it, managing it or sharing it, post it to the Bar <http://www.freepint.com/bar/> for help from colleagues around the world. You may also find help by browsing the FUMSI article database <http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/> for previously published articles, based on hands-on experience.

**How do you interact with information?**

However you FUMSI, we can help.

FUMSI reports are practical tool kits designed to help information practitioners, their colleagues and their organisations.

Written by subject-matter experts, FUMSI reports offer dependable advice on information-related projects and skills. Our editorial team works closely with authors to develop the tool kit approach that turns their subject knowledge into adaptable and practical know-how

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**"FUMSI Features"**

FUMSI publishes articles, tools, and a monthly magazine, to give you practical help with information skills. Visit <http://www.fumsi.com/>

However you Find, Use, Manage or Share Information, you'll find something in FUMSI to help.

We add new articles to the FUMSI database in each practice area every month. Here are the most recent additions:

**"Evaluating Researchers: Developing a Skills Matrix"**

FUMSI: Find

Defining the attributes of a good researcher and their potential career paths is a must for information managers. Anja Thygesen offers tips for quantifying the evaluation process using a skills matrix that ties in to overall organizational goals, and provides transparency to employees and customers alike.

WHAT'S INSIDE: 'The difficulty in this is to balance dream and reality. You may have a vision of a career path with a high degree of specialization, but is the rest of the organization ready to use a highly specialized researcher?'

Read, print, save or forward this article now »

<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/use/2673>

**"Statistics: Can You Really Believe the Figures?"**

FUMSI: Use

In research, it's comforting to work with numbers and statistics for their precision and clarity, but are they really so reliable? Chris Murphy points out common mistakes and confusion that researchers should be mindful of when performing quantitative research.

WHAT'S INSIDE: 'Astonishing though it may sound, the loss of the US Mars Climate Orbiter space probe in 1999 was largely due to one design team working in Imperial units and another in metric. The failure to translate the measurements correctly ended up costing the American taxpayer some \$125 million.'

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<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/manage/2672>

## How do **you** interact with information?

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Search and Research



### Use Information

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### Manage Information

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Train and Publish



## "Recently in VIP"



### Get VIP's View

VIP is a PDF magazine published monthly. Each issue features in-depth, unbiased reviews of premium content products, along with analysis and commentary on news in the field. Upcoming reviews (provisional):

February 2008:  
Comparative review of Lexis and Westlaw

March 2008:  
Financial Services Data (EIU) and QIN (BvDEP)

April 2008:  
Market research products

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## "Highlights from ResourceShelf and DocuTicker"

### Off the Shelf: About ResourceShelf

If it's on the web, free, and of interest to information practitioners, you'll find it on ResourceShelf. Our editors find information on databases, lists and rankings, real-time resources, search engine news and more.

### On the DocuTicker

DocuTicker offers a collection of citations for full-text reports available for free on the web. We cover publications by government agencies, NGOs, universities and other public interest groups.

Visit both daily for updates, or subscribe to their free weekly newsletters for highlights.

Every week, the editors of ResourceShelf explore a Resource of the Week. Get them for free every week via email by subscribing to the ResourceShelf Newsletter at <<http://www.resourceshelf.com/newsletter/subscribe/>>.

resource  
shelf

### Recently published:

UN Environmental Programme Maps and Graphics Library  
If you're one of our regulars here at ResourceShelf, you know that we are map junkies. There is no such thing as Too Many Maps. So we are...happy, happy, joy, joy that the database at the UNEP/GRID-Arendal Maps and Graphics library currently contains more than 1,000 items.

What you need to know about UNEP/GRID-Arendal:  
Full posting with live links at:  
<<http://digbig.com/4wjcq>>

docuticker

DocuTicker publishes citations of full-text, free reports available on the web. Visit daily for new postings, or subscribe to the weekly DocuTicker Newsletter  
[http://www.docuticker.com/?page\\_id=15530](http://www.docuticker.com/?page_id=15530).

### Collection of Note: Internet

The internet has changed the way businesses operate, people connect and communicate and the way we interact with information every day. DocuTicker's collection of reports shows how different agencies and organisations are studying the phenomenon. View the collection »  
<http://www.docuticker.com/?cat=21>

### Highlights:

- How Risky Are Social Networking Sites? A Comparison of Places Online Where Youth Sexual Solicitation and Harassment Occurs  
<http://www.docuticker.com/?p=19200>
- The Experience of E-Crime: Findings from the New Zealand Crime and Safety Survey 2006  
<http://www.docuticker.com/?p=19168>
- Networked Nation: Broadband in America 2007  
<http://www.docuticker.com/?p=19163>



### Share Your Expertise with a Global Audience

We're constantly seeking case studies, how-to articles, and hands-on insight to help others find, use, manage and share information at work. Contact any of our editorial team with your suggestions and submissions:

- Senior managing editor Sara Waddington:  
<[sara.waddington@freepint.com](mailto:sara.waddington@freepint.com)>
- Find editor Marcy Phelps:  
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### On the Ticker: Use DocuTicker for Full-Text Resources

Find free full-text reports put out by government agencies, NGOs, charities and other public interest organisations.

- Recent additions:
- The Economics and Psychology of Personality Traits
  - Monthly Labor Review — January 2008

New! DocuTicker has its \*own\* newsletter. Subscribe today:  
<[http://www.docuticker.com/?page\\_id=15530](http://www.docuticker.com/?page_id=15530)>



### Adding staff this year? Recruit on Jinfo!

<<http://www.jinfo.com/>>

A cost-effective listing on Jinfo reaches active and passive candidates with the skills you need.

Include a FUMSI category, and your vacancy will also be included on the FUMSI website and FUMSI Magazine for even broader reach!

Get started today:  
<<http://www.jinfo.com/recruit/>>



### Resource of the Week: Three-for-One

<<http://digbig.com/4wjhd>>

Explore the latest posts in mobile search, search engine news, podcasting and more.

Latest Searcher's Guide features outstanding collections in wireless web, mashups and dashboards, ebooks and more:

<<http://www.resourceshelf.com/newsletter/>>

Visit <<http://www.resourceshelf.com/>>





## Share a Vision of the Future

### Quantum<sup>2</sup> Leadership Development Programme

**Quantum<sup>2</sup> is available at no charge to information professionals worldwide. Be part of the Quantum<sup>2</sup> network of information professionals.**

Quantum<sup>2</sup> is an innovative leadership development program designed to give information and knowledge professionals worldwide the strategic and business skills they need to succeed in their organizations. The program is provided free of charge by Thomson Scientific.

Through a wide array of hands-on training and web resource materials our goal is to inspire you to increase your visibility and value, by sharing best practices, ideas, and insights on HOW to do it. With Quantum<sup>2</sup> you can spark exponential productivity for yourself, your team and your organization.

Contact us for further information or register to attend a Quantum<sup>2</sup> web workshop. [Find out more about the content of the workshops and register to attend a web workshop.](#)



## Events

## Premium listings

These events are hosted by our partner organisations and/or advertisers:

**"Changing to survive: Breaking professional boundaries"**

26 February 2008

The Civil Service is going through a radical programme of change and this is having a major impact on the Government information management specialist sector. Change is focused on concentrating resources on those areas of the Government that deliver effective, high impact services to the public and ensuring that those involved in delivering the changes have the professional skills and training.

Organised by: NGLIS

Location: Church House Conference Centre,  
Dean's Yard, Westminster, London SW1P 3NZ  
Country United Kingdom  
<http://www.freepint.com/go/e992>

**"Packaging, Promoting and Persuading"**

28 February 2008

**\*Webinar\***

This session discusses the business competencies necessary for marketing yourself and the information centre. Outcomes are a clearer understanding of the three Ps of marketing and the basics of a marketing plan.

Organised by: Thomson Scientific

Location: Amsterdam

Country: Netherlands

<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1015>>

**"Linking Information Services to Compelling Business Events"**

13th March 2008

**\*Webinar\*** One of the ways Information Professionals can add value to their organization is to identify the underlying business need driving a research request. This helps Information Professionals move the request up the value chain and add depth to their information services.

Organised by: Thomson Scientific

Location: New York

Country: United States

<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1016>>

**"Search Engine Meeting"**

28 - 29 April 2008

This annual meeting, now in its 13th year, provides a forum and point-of-reference for all those interested in the domain of Search and Retrieval. The Meeting draws together those with a professional interest in search engines - such as search engine designers and developers - and those interested in applying search engines in their own professional environments.

Organised by infonortics

Location: Boston, MA, USA

<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e989>>

**"Managing Up: Partnering with Stakeholders to Achieve Result"**

15th May 2008

**\*Webinar\*** This workshop focuses on techniques for building the credibility and relationships necessary to inspire productive change. It offers tips on communicating effectively with anyone who might affect the success of your work projects, by identifying and working with specific influencing or relationship building tactics and styles. In short, we look at how we "manage up" to achieve the results that we want for our service.

Organised by: Thomson Scientific

Location: London

Country: United Kingdom

<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1017>>

## Events cont ...

## Free listings

**United Kingdom:**

- "Records Management Conference 2008: Preserving and Protecting Data and Information Assets" 27 February 2008 <<http://www.freepint.com/go/e993>>
- "Web 2.0 and Beyond: Applying social and collaborative tools to business problems" 5 - 6 March 2008 <<http://www.freepint.com/go/e991>>
- "JISC Conference 2008" 15 April 2008 <<http://www.freepint.com/go/e973>>

**United States:**

- "ASIDIC Spring 2008 Meeting" 16 - 18 March 2008 <<http://www.freepint.com/go/e994>>

NB: This is just a selection of information-related event listings in the FreePint Events database <<http://www.freepint.com/events/>>.

## Gold

A look back at what FreePint covered at this time in previous years:

- FreePint No. 223, 1st February 2007. "Why I Prefer Hardcopy" and "Paperless Myth: Rumours of Paper's Demise Have Been Greatly Exaggerated" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/010207.htm>>
- FreePint No. 199, 2nd February 2006. "Learning languages online" and "Bar Orphans: Getting your questions answered at the FreePint Bar" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/020206.htm>>
- FreePint No. 176, 10th February 2005. "Understanding Consumers through Online Competitive Intelligence" and "Child Rights: Is Information really free for all?" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/100205.htm>>
- FreePint No. 153, 5th February 2004. "Disintegrating Digital Fences: Finding Business Information in Ukraine and its Neighbouring Countries" and "10 things you should know about the UK's Freedom of Information regime" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/050204.htm>>
- FreePint No. 130, 6th February 2003. "Online Library Catalogues" and "Patent Searching Without Words - Why Do It, How To Do It?" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/060203.htm>>
- FreePint No. 105, 7th February 2002. "Business Information in Germany" and "Pay Per Click Search Engines and Promoting your Website" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/070202.htm>>
- FreePint No. 80, 1st February 2001. "An adventure in ADSL: the Superhighway finally becomes 'super'?" and "E-Books" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/010201.htm>>
- FreePint No. 55, 3rd February 2000. "Classical Music Web Sites" and "Researching the Researchers - Finding Market Research Agencies on the Web" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/030200.htm>>
- FreePint No. 31, 4th February 1999. "Researching from home" and "Internet Resources for Seniors" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/040299.htm>>
- FreePint No. 7, 5th February 1998. "Fabricating Information" and "Engineering resources: examples and sources" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/050298.htm>>

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