

12 "FUMSI Features"

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

13 "Recently in VIP"

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

14 "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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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



There is no substitute for a good plan. Goodness knows that results can be unexpected, even with the best of plans, but the investment we make in thoughtful planning always yields dividends.

The value of planning touches almost every aspect of business. Mark Jewell of Lehman Brothers shares his approach to planning for vendor contract negotiations <<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/manage/2694>>, in his article just added to the FUMSI database. He suggests using the planning process to build your knowledge in five key areas: your market, what's important to you, what you want to buy, your vendor, and your company.



Erica Wine offers suggestions for planning in a completely different aspect of business – sharing with the world the unique value of a particular special collection online. Her article, Online Digital Special Collections in English Universities: Promoting Awareness <<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/share/2692>>, offers insight into how organisations can better plan for better promotion, by thinking through who their audiences are and may be, as well as recognising their strengths and weaknesses.

It's clear and basic advice, and yet how often do we neglect to invest time in this kind of essential planning? In the race to do the work, it can be difficult to make the time to develop a plan. So what's an overworked professional to do?

- Keep up with basic awareness. Don't leave your professional reading for 'when you have time'. Even if some weeks you just scan the headlines, you'll be that much further ahead when you need to be up to speed. FreePint offers the Bar Digest <<http://www.freepint.com/subs/>> for twice-a-week updates on what's on the mind of other info professionals, or capture the Bar's RSS feed <<http://www.freepint.com/feed/>>.
- Get help! If you don't have time to plan, you don't have time to do your job. Make the business case for new or overflow staff to pick up lower-level work, to free you up for higher thinking. (Don't forget to post that new vacancy on Jinfo <<http://www.jinfo.com/>> when you get approval!)
- Reflect. Post-project reviews and documentation are critical elements of any planning process. After all, if you can't determine how well the plan worked, how can you plan better next time?

In a perfect world, we'd have all the information we need, plenty of time to plan and reflect, the exact right staffing at all times... and maybe even an extra week or two of holiday. In our imperfect world, though, we can build more planning into our days and weeks, a little bit at a time.

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

P.S. Do you know someone who could use a twice-monthly reminder of professional resources relating to information work? Refer a friend to FreePint, and help them plan better! Forward this message to a colleague now.

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Richard McEachin is President of Toronto based McEachin & Associates Ltd., which performs due diligence, competitive intelligence, and litigation support research. He is also a licenced Private Investigator. For more of his sources and methods, go to <http://www.ConfidentialResource.com/>.

My Favourite Tipples

by Richard McEachin

Our Google-Free Wednesdays create familiarity with the new, specialised, and often more relevant search engines. Here are my current Wednesday favourites:

- I begin with the Google-Free Web, Blog, and Company Information categories using Copernic Agent Professional <<http://www.copernic.com/>> and export the processed results as a Word document.
- Gigablast.com <<http://www.gigablast.com/>> clusters its results. This works particularly well when searching people. The advanced search is easy to access and use.
- Searching blogs can be time consuming, but Zuula.com <<http://www.zuula.com/>> speeds this up with its easy to use blog search. Shut-off the 'adult content' filter and select 60 results per page for best results.
- Accona.com <<http://www.accona.com/>> and Accona.eu <<http://www.accona.eu/>> are good for searching on business names. The SuperTarget feature can be very helpful, as can searching in the business and news category. I hope these improve.
- Exalead.ca <<http://www.exalead.ca/>> supports Boolean operators including NEAR. We use the APPROXIMATE SPELLING and PHONETIC SPELLING operators constantly. Exalead is what Google should be. Too bad the database is so small.

Relevant search engine results go into OneNote then into a final report in Word.

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 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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Quantum² 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.

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Jinfo :: Jobs in information

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/).

Subscribe free at [<http://www.jinfo.com/newsletter/>](http://www.jinfo.com/newsletter/).

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Find out more today at <http://www.jinfo.com/>

Jinfo Jobs in the FreePint Newsletter are supported through our partnership with Quantum², 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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For a wide array of hands-on training and resource materials, turn to Quantum², an innovative skills development programme provided *free* by Thomson Scientific. The programme helps information professionals:



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[<http://scientific.thomson.com/quantum2/>](http://scientific.thomson.com/quantum2/)

Jinfo :: Jobs in information

www.jinfo.com

Knowledge Management Project Officer

Knowledge Management Project Officer required on a permanent basis.

Recruiter: Weekes Gray Recruitment
Country: United Kingdom
<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8361>>

Records Manager

Exciting chance to work at prestigious organisation, bringing your records expertise to both paper and electronic records management.

Recruiter: Sue Hill Recruitment and Services Limited
Country: United Kingdom
<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8383>>

Council Information and Knowledge Manager

Deliver our information and records management strategy across the whole Council while leading the information management team.

Recruiter: Tribal Recruitment
Country: United Kingdom
<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8636>>

Researcher

Excellent opportunity working in a small, dynamic environment, to join our growing and entrepreneurial team.

Recruiter: The Piedmont Group
Country: United Kingdom
<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8637>>

Information and Database Manager

Organise property asset -related information within an existing new web-based database (Asset Management Database) and other information repositories.

Recruiter: TFPL
Country: United Kingdom
<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8624>>

Information Services Manager

You will develop a strategy for development and expansion of existing information services and for liaison with external helpline providers.

Recruiter: Federation of Master Builders
Country: United Kingdom
<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8553>>

Business Researcher - PRIVATE EQUITY

Private Equity Researcher. New vacancy in expanding international firm for bright Researcher with relevant online research experience.

Recruiter: Glen Recruitment
Country: United Kingdom
<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8589>>

NB: These are just a selection of information-related jobs in the Jinfo database <<http://www.jinfo.com/>>. Receive the latest job listings weekly with the free Jinfo Update. Free to subscribe at <<http://www.jinfo.com/>>

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23 – 24 April 2008 NEC, Birmingham



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- **Ideas Lab** – meet and learn from other librarians who have implemented new projects or initiatives
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FreePint Bar

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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/>

Microsoft is a hot topic on the FreePint Bar . You'll find some details below on issues people are having with their technologies, plus more discussions on content licences, politics and taxonomies. As ever, you can ask your challenging questions at the Bar.

- The FT is changing its licencing policies, and a user has posted the question: take up the extra licence or go back to the days of using the print (egads!) version? One thoughtful response points out that the change shifts the cost down the usage chain. Read the entries, and share your thoughts on this change <http://www.freepint.com/go/b257212>.
 - You FreePinters came to the rescue again when someone was looking for 'a sector taxonomy to be used in a CRM at an outplacement company'. A few Bar members posted some useful links for purchasing taxonomies or hints for constructing one from scratch <http://www.freepint.com/go/b249788>. Taxonomies are a key part of managing information - find more tips and resources in the Manage practice area of FUMSI: <http://www.fumsi.com/manage>
 - Have you been to your MP's blog lately? If you said yes, you may be contributing to an increasing in political use of social media. Someone is looking for insight into how UK politicians are embracing 2.0 technologies <http://www.freepint.com/go/b249946>.
- Side note: We're tracking this thread at FreePint, so if you have special insight or wish to contribute an article on the topic, let us know at editor@freepint.com.
- The latest version of Microsoft Office has left many users scratching their heads over missing functionality. This includes one user, who is wondering where a helpful feature in PowerPoint has gone from 97 to 2003 <http://www.freepint.com/go/b251589>. The FP community found some workarounds.
 - Another 'Pinter is looking for Microsoft help, specifically in a 24-hour PC drop-in centre where the computers are locked but left on. Some suggestions on how to disable the shut-down function: <http://www.freepint.com/go/b256664>.

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

"Managing Successful Vendor Contracts: Part 1 - Preparation"

FUMSI: Manage

In the first of a two-part series aimed at managing successful vendor contracts, Mark Jewell looks at preparation as a prerequisite to effective contract negotiation.

WHAT'S INSIDE: Use [these skills] next time you negotiate an employment contract - I recognise candidates who do and it often costs us money.

Read, print, save or forward this article now »

<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/manager/2694>

"Online Digital Special Collections in English Universities: Promoting Awareness"

FUMSI: Share

English universities possess a treasure trove of historical materials in their special collections, but promoting awareness of those materials can be challenging. Erica Wine looks at the opportunities that digitisation of special collections presents for enhancing accessibility and public understanding.

WHAT'S INSIDE: 'You would be in a very rare and lucky situation if the whole world knew about [your collection], and if your institution was not just proud of its treasures, but fully supportive of any initiative to promote and exploit them. This article is for those who are not in such a position.'

Read, print, save or forward this article now »

<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/share/2692>

The FUMSI Magazine has been published!

Check out the features:

- Commentary by our four contributing editors
- FUMSI Focus -- hand-picked selections of web-based resources to help you with your work
- The latest feature articles in each practice area, plus jobs and events by practice area

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- VP of Sales Europe at OneSource Information Services Ltd.



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Geographic focus on products for research in:

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- Middle East/Africa
- Latin America

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- D&B Company Documents
- 10-K Wizard
- Northern Light
- Brandwatch
- Emerald Management First
- Islamic Financial Information Service
- Nooz.com
- EIU World Investment Services
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- Company Watch
- Rightsphere
- Euromonitor's Countries & Consumers

Comparative Reviews:

Factiva, LexisNexis and Thomson Business Intelligence

"VIP is an invaluable resource for keeping abreast of developments in the information world. Their in-depth product reviews are particularly helpful in staying current with the competitive landscape in which Global Reports operates, and provide another source of intelligence for understanding customer needs. Definitely on my must-read list."

Director of
Business
Development,
United States



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):

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

April 2008:
Market research products

>> vivaVIP.com

"Recently in VIP"

VIP publishes in-depth, unbiased reviews of business information products. If you purchase or use premium information resources, make VIP part of your professional reading every month.

Featured in the February issue:

- Researching China companies with QIN from Bureau van Dijk Electronic Publishing
- Financial Services Indicators and Forecasts, from BvDEP and Economist Intelligence Unit
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<http://web.vivavip.com/go/vip/>

NEW: Now publishing the VIP LiveWire <<http://web.vivavip.com/forum/LiveWire/>> Commentary on the industry, by the VIP editorial team. Get their insight on trends, products, user needs and more.



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- Northern Rock – a bigger issue than we think?
<<http://web.vivavip.com/forum/LiveWire/read.php?i=4721>>
- The happy knack of finding unknown unknowns
<<http://web.vivavip.com/forum/LiveWire/read.php?i=4677>>

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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/>>.



Recently published:

International Business and Economics Statistics We've had a request — inquiring minds would like to know where to find international biz stats on the Web. We actually turned up a number of promising fishing holes for you to explore. We'll introduce you to some of them this week and finish up with the rest in next week's ROTW posting.

Full posting with live links at: <<http://digbig.com/4wmar>>



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>.

Collection of Note: Asia

Our appetite for information from and about Asia never seems to wane. If you're checking out this month's VIP, with its review of QIN as a must-review source of information on Chinese companies, you may also want to take a look at the free reports on the region collected on DocuTicker. View the collection » <<http://www.docuticker.com/?cat=50>>

Highlights:

- Education and the Asian Surge: A Comparison of the Education Systems in India and China <<http://www.docuticker.com/?p=19490>>
- How Large is China's Economy? Does it Matter? <<http://www.docuticker.com/?p=19413>>
- State of the Region 2007-2008 <<http://www.docuticker.com/?p=19351>>



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<monique.cuvelier@fumsi.com>



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>



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Resource of the Week: Three-for-One

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

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Use Information

Analyse and Advise



Manage Information

Store, Organise and Retrieve



Share Information

Train and Publish

Events

Premium listings

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

"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>>

Free listings

United Kingdom:

- "Finding People Information: Free Sources and Web 2.0" 4 March 2008
<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1026>>
- "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. 224, 15th February 2007. "Beyond Music: Integrating Podcasting into Your Business" and "Life of the Party: Social Web Browsers"
<<http://www.freepint.com/issues/150207.htm>>
- FreePint No. 200, 16th February 2006. "Health intelligence sources in diabetes" and "Digital repositories in UK universities and colleges"
<<http://www.freepint.com/issues/160206.htm>>
- FreePint No. 177, 24th February 2005. "Website Usability" and "Recycling - A Growth Industry"
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