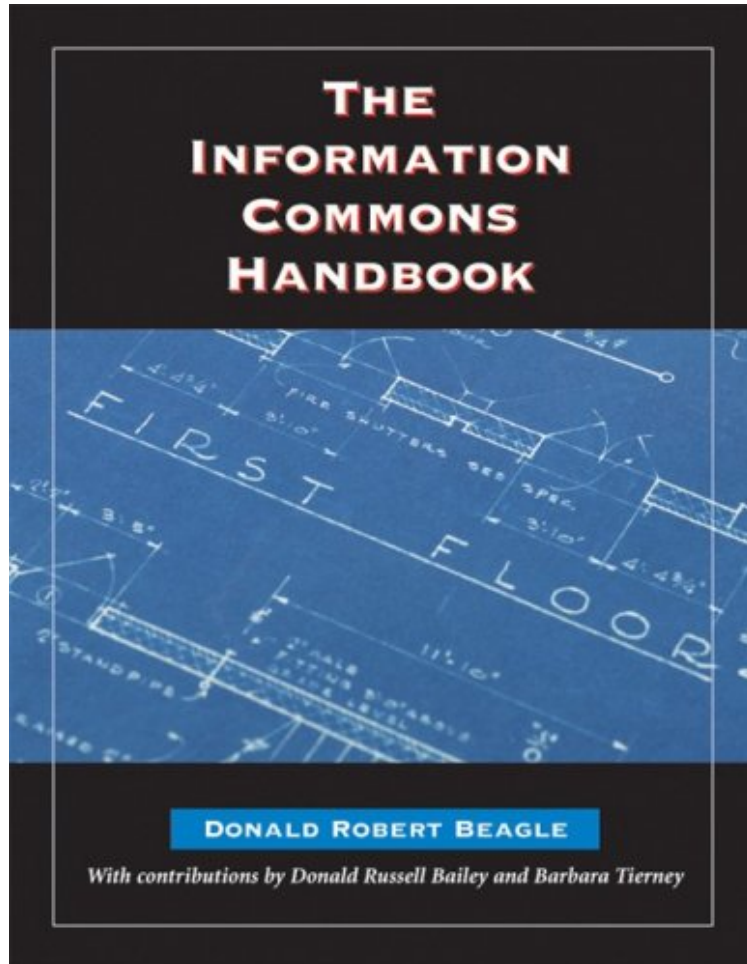


The Information Commons Handbook

Donald Robert Beagle

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Donald Robert Beagle : The Information Commons Handbook before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Information Commons Handbook:

'Information Commons' often refers to the theoretical production, sharing, and democratic discussion of information that is afforded by new technologies. It also refers to the physical manifestation of this concept - new facilities that bring together researchers, instructors, students, teachers, and users into one space and equip them with technology (computers, projectors, Internet) and facilities (workstations, conference and class rooms, print stations) for success. In this comprehensive guidebook, Beagle helps academic, public, and school librarians create new spaces that encourage research, discovery, instruction, and learning and meld the traditional research library with the latest technology. This comprehensive handbook guides librarians through: Space planning, budgeting, and technology set-up; Service

modification, staff reallocation, and training; Assessment, improvement, and modification of services and facilities, and Publicity and marketing of the new commons. Descriptions, photographs, and plans from information commons of various types and sizes are included. The companion CD-ROM features model plans from various institutions and working documents from successful information commons projects. Grounded in the theory of information commons, this forward-looking handbook will transform traditional spaces and redefine library service models for the information age.

From Booklist
Divided into three parts, this guide introduces readers to Information Commons (IC)--physical, virtual, and cultural environments and their resources, organized to support learning. Part 1 discusses IC in terms of various levels, history, convergence with information literacy, and evolution into Learning Commons. Part 2 is devoted to planning an IC. Topics include strategic planning, scenario-building techniques, projecting the future commons, and tactical planning. Part 3 offers special guidance for public libraries, explores implementation and assessment, and discusses user-community needs. A CD-ROM accompanies the text and profiles 10 libraries of various types and sizes that use the IC model. Notable for its detailed examples and supportive figures, notes, and citations, this is an important tool that contributes greatly to the field. Sean Kinder
Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved
Anyone unfamiliar with the concepts addressed in this book will be pleasantly surprised by its practical wisdom. --Catholic Library World, June 2007
Even if your library is currently not in the position to take on a development of this nature, The Information Commons Handbook will provide essential strategies to get your library ready for when that time comes. --Partnership: the CJLIPR, Volume 2, No 1, 2007
This well-organized handbook includes many tables, figures, and illustrations, plus an outstanding bibliography...This book should be required reading for library school students interested in reference services. --Journal of Access Services