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ROWLEY, Jennifer. *Being an information innovator*. **London: Facet Publishing. 2010.**

244 pages. ISBN-13 978-1-85604-671-8. £44.95 (£35.96 for CILIP members).

The title of this book drew my interest as an information professional who aims to be innovative, particularly in times of financial uncertainty. What the title did not prepare me for was the highly theoretical nature of the book content. The book focuses on theories of innovation and entrepreneurship and relating these theories to information organisations whilst giving passing acknowledgement to organisational theories. The book is well written and researched and I found myself scribbling notes of theories to investigate further, which can only be a good sign.

The book is split into five chapters, and within each chapter there are points for reflection, encouraging the reader to engage with the text as opposed to simply reading it. There are also questions and reflection points at the end of each chapter, including a range of group discussion points. This appears to be a good idea in terms of encouraging engagement, however without a group of people who are also reading the text to try some of the discussion topics out on, it lost some of its power for me.

The first three chapters focus on introducing innovation and entrepreneurship, whilst the fourth chapter concentrates on what structures and leadership needs to be in place to encourage innovation. The final chapter applies the theory of the earlier chapters to a more practical application and suggests ways in which information professionals should be involved in innovation in a wider organisational context.

Each chapter has a thorough introduction and summary which although useful if you're skimming a book, can feel a little repetitive, I would have preferred either the chapter introductions or the chapter summaries, but feel having both was perhaps a little over zealous.

The book, I feel, is well suited to anyone working in an environment where innovation is highly valued, and to managers aiming to encourage and motivate staff through innovation. I am not fully convinced of the book's attempted coverage being stated as for all information professionals who wish to understand and engage creatively with innovation. I think that the book is a little too theoretical and organisationally oriented to be of huge benefit to those information professionals who are actively engaged with innovation or innovative practices, however perhaps the book would be useful when trying to persuade higher level management to invest in or provide support for innovative activities.

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