The goal of the two-volume *Encyclopedia of Gender and Information Technology*, as stated by its editor, Eileen M. Trauth, was to highlight the role that gender diversity plays in shaping the development and use of information technology.

True to this mission, the *Gender and Information Technology Encyclopedia* spans a number of disciplines that have contributed to the study of gender and information technology, including information science and technology, information systems, computer science, engineering education, women’s studies, gender studies, labor studies, human resource management, and science, technology and society.

In addition to providing a venue for interdisciplinary research, the encyclopedia provides coverage of a range of topics that have attracted research on gender and technology, including the differences between men and women in the use of technology, the impact of technology on each gender, the effect of gender combined with other diversity attributes (such as culture, race, and ethnicity), and the under-representation of women in the IT profession.

As noted by the author of the foreword of the encyclopedia, Judy Wajcman, the problem with research on gender and information technology is not that there is not enough of it but that there is too much. In the past decade hundreds of articles and books have been written on this topic and it continues to draw a lot of attention in special issues of journals and other scholarly publications. The problem that resulted in the compilation of this encyclopedia is that not enough high quality research is available and it is often difficult to find relevant literature as it tends to be dispersed in many different venues.

The contribution of the encyclopedia for organizing research on gender in computing is three fold. First, the encyclopedia organizes the various topics alphabetically rather than by topic. This makes it easier for interested researchers to find research on relatively obscure topics (such as the definition of gender) easily. Second, as the list of articles in the encyclopedia

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appears in both volumes, the reader does not need to skim both volumes to find articles of interest. Finally, to make finding articles even easier, a detailed index that also encompasses both volumes is available at the end of each volume. Thus, a researcher interested for example in the role that women play in the IT sector in India, will be able to find information about this topic in articles that relate to the status of women in the IT sector in general, as well as, in more specific articles that focus on women in the IT sector in India.

One of the most helpful aspects about the encyclopedia is the way that the information is organized within each article. To establish uniformity across articles, each article has a succinct title that conveys the issues that are discussed in it, followed by the author/s name and affiliation. The rest of the chapter is divided into standardized sections that include introduction, body, and conclusion. Each article is accompanied with a reference list with relatively recent publications (most publications have been published in the past decade) that together constitute an extensive bibliography on all topics pertaining to gender and information technology.

Even though the encyclopedia includes over 200 articles, it appears that the selection process and editing of the contributions have been meticulous, resulting in high quality articles in diverse issues of theory and practice pertaining to gender and information technology. Furthermore, to ensure that the encyclopedia has both geographical and disciplinary breadth, the editor welcomed to the advisory board of the encyclopedia authors from a large number of developing and developed countries who contributed their unique perspective to the project.

The *Encyclopedia of Gender and Information Technology* is a unique and invaluable resource for academics and students, policy makers, educators, and members of the general public. Indeed, at this point in history any research on gender and information technology will benefit from utilizing this cutting edge, well rounded resource. I commend the editor for this important initiative and recommend the encyclopedia to anyone interested in this topic.


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