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Review of Dictionary of Corporate Social Responsibility: CSR, Sustainability, Ethics and Governance.

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Outstanding Business Reference Resources 2015

Each year, the Business Reference Sources Committee of BRASS selects the outstanding business reference sources published since May of the previous year. This year, the committee reviewed twenty entries; of these, two were designated as “Outstanding,” seven were selected as “Notable,” one was designated as a “Significant New Edition.” To qualify for these designations, each title must meet the conventional definition of reference: a work compiled specifically to supply information on a certain subject or group of subjects in a form that will facilitate its ease of use. With print reference materials being used less heavily in most cases, these works stood out based on their content, quality, and utility. The works are examined for the following: authority and reputation of the publisher, author, or editor; accuracy; appropriate bibliography; organization; comprehensiveness; value of the content; currency; unique addition; ease of use for the intended purpose; quality and accuracy of index; and quality and usefulness of graphics and illustrations. Each year, more electronic reference titles are published. Additional criteria for electronic reference titles are accuracy of links, search features, stability of content, and graphic design. Works selected must be suitable for medium to large-size academic and public libraries.

BRASS Business Reference Sources Committee

BRASS Business Reference Sources Committee

contributing members: Jordan Nielsen, selections editor; Ed Hahn, chair; Naomi Lederer, nominations coordinator; Erin Wachowicz; Anthony Raymond; Glenn McGuigan; Valerie Freeman; and Suzanne Sweeney. For information, contact Jordan Nielsen, Entrepreneurship, Marketing, and Business Data Librarian, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92108 (619) 594-0339; jnielsen@mail.sdsu.edu.

and graduate business programs should seriously consider acquiring this series on standing order.

In his foreword, the distinguished Archie B. Carroll, author of dozens of books (in various editions) and scores of articles on corporate social responsibility, and the recipient of numerous research awards and states, “individuals, organizations, and libraries are encouraged to use this dictionary as a touchstone to the field. Practicing managers and academics will find this volume to be required reading.” Another distinguished academic, Stephen J. Perkins, author of seven books and scores of articles on management states in his forward that the publication of this “magnificent” dictionary “will make a significant impact among business and management learners and those who educate them.”

Definitions are in the 250–500 word range and all include a short (1–4 page) bibliography. A broad range of terms is provided, from “Acid Rain” to “Money Laundering” to “Reporting” (“companies communicating their corporate principles, social and/or environmental initiatives as well as the social and environmental effects of their economic activities”) to “Solar Energy” and “X-Efficiency” (“a strand of thought that challenges the maximizing approach to economic behavior”). The index is adequate but, of course, the e-book version will allow full text searching depending on the platform: for example, EBL provides a hyperlinked table of contents and full-text search capability.

The dictionary provides a foundation to which teachers may refer their students for research in the areas of CSR, business ethics, corporate citizenship, stakeholder management, and sustainability.—Anthony Raymond, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California

Dictionary of Corporate Social Responsibility: CSR, Sustainability, Ethics and Governance. Samuel O. Idowu, editor-in-chief; Nicholas Capaldi, Matthias S. Fifka, Liangrong Zu, René Schmidpeter, co-editors. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2015. 603 p. \$229 hardcover (ISBN: 9783319105352), \$179 e-book: (ISBN: 9783319105369)

This dictionary would be an outstanding addition to any academic or public library collection as it provides definitions for more than six hundred terms critical to understanding the concept of corporate social responsibility. The group of 128 contributors from 25 countries makes it an international effort: predominantly European, Australian and American academics. The Springer series of which it is part, “CSR, Sustainability, Ethics and Governance,” offers a comprehensive overview of the latest theoretical and empirical research and provides sound concepts for sustainable business strategies. Colleges and universities with undergraduate