
Contents

Preface ix

Acknowledgments xiii

I Information Ecologies: Concepts and Reflections 1

1 Rotwang the Inventor 3

2 Framing Conversations about Technology 13

3 A Matter of Metaphor: Technology as Tool, Text, System,
Ecology 25

4 Information Ecologies 49

5 Values and Technology 59

6 How to Evolve Information Ecologies 65

II Case Studies 77

7 Librarians: A Keystone Species 79

8 Wolf, Batgirl, and Starlight: Finding a Real Community in a
Virtual World 105

9 Cultivating Gardeners: The Importance of Homegrown
Expertise 139

10 Digital Photography at Lincoln High School 153

11 A Dysfunctional Ecology: Privacy Issues at a Teaching
Hospital 169

12 Diversity on the Internet 185

13 Conclusion 209

Notes 217

Index 227