

About the Editors

Ben-Ami Lipetz is Emeritus Professor of Information Science at the University at Albany, State University of New York. His undergraduate program in engineering at Cornell University was interrupted for service in the U.S. Navy in 1945–1946. He received the BME degree in 1948. After two years of employment as technical editor at Brookhaven National Laboratory, he returned to Cornell for graduate study in public administration and research administration. His PhD was awarded in 1959; his dissertation, “The Measurement of Efficiency of Scientific Research,” was published as a book in 1965. He worked at Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio, from 1953 to 1959; there he established and managed information clearinghouses (collection, organizing, and dissemination activities) for large federally sponsored projects including the Defense Metals Information Center and the Radiation Effects Information Center. Next, at Itek Corporation, Bedford, Massachusetts, he conducted early experimentation with citation indexing for scientific literature, and managed a developmental project to apply computers in creating library catalogs. Later he became an independent research contractor, conducting various sponsored studies on citation indexing and on characteristics of scientific activity. In 1966 he became head of a new Research Department at the Yale University Library where, among other projects, he designed and managed a yearlong detailed study of how, and with what success, a very large academic library’s catalog is used by its different groups of patrons. He was editor of *Information Science Abstracts* from its founding year of 1966 until 1981, and used that publication to demonstrate the value of an index with forward- and backward-pointing links between abstracts. In 1978 he joined the faculty of the University at Albany, serving as dean of the School of Information Science and Policy for the first two years. He was among the founders of the university’s interdisciplinary doctoral program in information science. He retired from regular teaching duties in 1995, but remains active in academic deliberations. He is the author of two books and many journal papers. He has served in elected and appointed capacities in various professional organizations, including the American Society for Information Science and Technology, the American Society of Indexers, and the American Library Association.

Robert V. Williams is Distinguished Emeritus Professor, University of South Carolina (Columbia), School of Library and Information Science. He received his undergraduate degree in Social Sciences and Education from Harding University in 1961. From 1961 to 1963 he taught elementary school in Denver, Colorado. He received his MS in Library Science from Florida State University in 1964, with specializations in archives and special libraries. He was on the staff of the Georgia Department of Archives and History from 1965 to

1969 and served as Archivist and Information Services Manager for the Ford Foundation from 1969 to 1974. He received his PhD in Information Studies from the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 1978, with specialization in comparative study of library development. He has been a member of the faculty of the University of South Carolina since 1978, where he studies and teaches in the areas of government information, archives, special libraries, business information, and the history of information organizations and technologies. From 2002 to 2004, he was Director of the Office of Research for the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies. He has published books and articles on these topics, with a particular focus on the historical aspects of information science and special libraries. He has been active in the Special Libraries Association and the American Society for Information Science and Technology.