Our wonderful research librarian at the Kreitzberg Library of Norwich University (<http://www.norwich.edu/library/kberg.html>), Catherine Swenson, is always on the lookout for new resources that can help faculty and students. Recently she introduced me to the online reports available from Faulkner Information Services at (<http://www.faulkner.com/>).

Here’s what I reported to her and to my IT faculty and staff colleagues at the University. I hope that the information will be helpful to readers.

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I have examined the content of the Faulkner's Advisory on Computer and Communications Technologies (FACCTS) database and the Security Management Practices (SMP) database. Both will be useful to undergraduates and, to a lesser degree, to graduate students in the MSIA and possibly the MBA and MCE programs.

* FACCTS provides the equivalent of an up-to-date encyclopedia of information technology with a particular emphasis on data communications. Topics include

  Enterprise Data Networking
  Broadband
  Security Strategies
  Electronic Government
  Electronic Business Strategies
  Internet Strategies
  Business Intelligence/Content Management
  IT Asset Management
  Application Development
  Web Site Management
  Converging Communications
  Telecom & Global Network Services
  Mobile Business Strategies
  Wireless Communications

  In addition, users can access current news on the following topics:

  Technology Vendor Profiles
  Technology News Track
  Hot New Reports

* The SMP has a collection of short reports on the following topics:

  Facility Security
Both databases provide an extensive list of detailed reports on hundreds of high-technology companies including product overview, contact information and investment information. These data may be useful to our students when they are job-hunting or selecting technology for their own organization's infrastructure.

The resources may also be helpful to the University IT services and to the HelpDesk.

On the downside, these reports are written by relatively few authors and thus present a limited view of the field since no one can be an expert in all of these subjects; however, the authors seem to have extensive industry experience and they do write clearly and succinctly. Unfortunately, the articles have few cross-references and what few there are generally point to paper versions of the publications rather than providing URLs. However, the reports generally do include several URLs for sites that can be helpful in additional research.

Given the low cost of the licenses (according to the information I was given, less than $1,000 per database per year for all our users at the University), these are well worth the cost.

It will be particularly important to inform all the faculty, staff and students of the availability of these resources once they are online.

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A Master’s degree in the management of information assurance in 18 months of online study from Norwich University – see

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