HOW TO LEAD A QUEST: A HANDBOOK FOR PIONEERING EXECUTIVES

By Dr Jason Fox

Fox advocates for a pioneering approach to strategy, comparing a current business model to many uncertain futures. A range of viable options are then explored and chosen as the new context emerges. This ensures operational relevance and sustained business success. He argues this open-ended and complex work requires an adventurous approach and time for deep consideration. The alternative is default thinking and a simplistic illusion of progress. His position is refreshing.

The book is considered and well researched. Experienced leadership development practitioners will recognise some widely-endorsed material. Lesser-known examples, including Australian and New Zealand cases, add value to the rich narrative.

Quest is packed with value including extensive advice on real-world implementation, and external links which are worth exploring in their own right.

The end result is thought-provoking, enjoyable and downright practical. You might well be inspired to begin a quest of your own.

Reviewed by Jamie Walker

XCELERATE

By Paul Broadfoot

In Xcelerate Paul Broadfoot offers a different approach to the disruption wars which we see occurring every day across every industry. Not only does he look at and consider what is causing these changes he also outlines an approach and a way of thinking, in very clear language which shows the way forward for organisations who want to do more than just survive, but who want to embrace disruption and innovation, to grow their business and make them thrive in the world of business. A worthwhile and incredibly useful read.

Reviewed by Paul Rasmussen

THE SO WHAT STRATEGY

By Davina Stanley and Gerard Castles

Pitched at the full range of business workers from experienced executives, business graduates, The So What Strategy is a practical book that will help guide your business communication. Focused on the strategy of storytelling Davina Stanley and Gerard Castles provide examples and checklists to help you apply storytelling in your work. According to Stanley and Castles “Storyline patterns are the secret to structuring your ideas so you can succinctly convey your key points, enabling quicker decisions and better business outcomes.”

Reviewed by Natalie Balchin

CONFIDENT CODING

By Rob Percival

Coding is fast becoming an in-demand skill. Kids everywhere are learning to code in schools and at camps. Author Rob Percival who has taught over 500,000 students how to code, provides a useful step-by-step guide to HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Python, building apps and debugging. Confident Coding is good for people considering building their own website or wanting an introduction to coding. If you are interested in learning about coding or considering using coding to enhance your career, I would suggest you read this book and be prepared to complete practice exercises.

Reviewed by Jo Loudon