ing research that includes peer review, verifiability, and archive ability. But no, it doesn't make any sense for a commercial publisher to charge for reading results that were paid for by citizens.

There is already a semantic difference between data, information, knowledge, and science. You coined a new term: "citizen science". Why did you choose to include the term "science" instead of information, knowledge, or the like?

"Citizen science" is the term used by the research community, but obviously, it's much broader than that because you can have laypeople collaborate to make information on any topic. There are some examples, I think, mentioned in the book of collaboration on things like reading old Civil War handwriting. So, it's not just science.

That example reminded me of the history of the Oxford English Dictionary. If I recall correctly, in the beginning, the founders made a public call for everyone to write send them words with relevant quotations. It's, in my opinion, one of the most brilliant examples of mass production of a source of knowledge. So, Wikipedia is not entirely without precedent. We have had something like that before.

Oh, I didn't know that story. I will have to read more about it.

Let's put aside all the good things about Wikipedia for a moment. There are bad things about it as well. What bad features of Wikipedia come to your mind?

A less popular page is sometimes unreliable. Reliability is created by lots of people paying attention to it, and an obscure page is less reliable than a popular page. Furthermore, I don't think the difference is immediately apparent to the reader. So, there have been a number of researchers developing systems to rate the credibility of Wikipedia pages. I think those ratings should be visually apparent to anyone who looks at the page.

Another bad thing is that the community sometimes is not welcoming enough to newcomers. There are a number of projects that are trying to encourage new people to stay and feel welcome. But sometimes, when someone spends a lot of time writing something which gets immediately deleted by an established member of the community, that first editor might leave and never come back. They worked really hard, but everything they did was thrown away, and they're not feeling like they had a good experience. So, I think we need to work harder to welcome new people as Wikipedia editors and diversify the editor base because the coverage reflects the interests of the volunteer editors.

Sometimes, that leads to strange things being covered too much while other things are not covered at all. If you look at certain aspects of nerd culture like scienc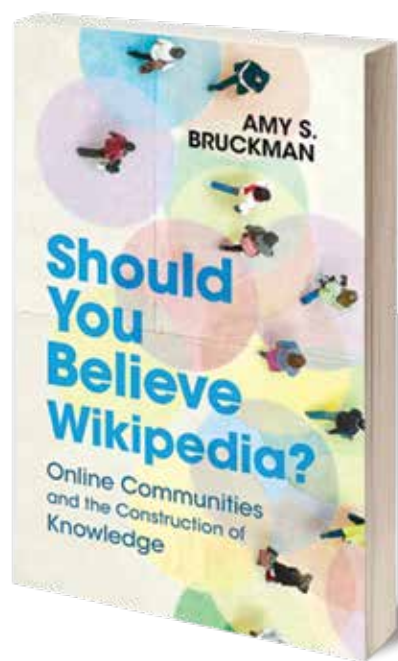e fiction and fantasy novels, they're covered incredibly well. You might find more about the novels of a fantasy author than about a fundamental historical event or scientific fact. That's a little weird. If Wikipedia recruits more diverse people who have different interests and expertise, maybe we can continue to work against that.

What about the power struggles which are going on behind the scenes? Of course, these power struggles are not hidden, but you have to go to the history of each page to see them. Sometimes, they are pretty brutal.

Yeah, absolutely. There was a famous case of a climate scientist who got temporarily banned from Wikipedia for breaking the three-revert rule. The three-revert rule says that you can't undo the action of another editor three times in a row. He broke that rule, but he was right. So, he needed to bring in a friend to help him and not keep reverting the page on his own account over and over. There's a case where the system didn't work exactly the way one might hope. The page ended up the way it should be, but the process of getting there involved banning someone who is a dedicated expert. We could have a long conversation about ways in which the system should be fine-tuned to prevent things like that.

TO BE CONTINUED

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Online Communities and the Construction of Knowledge