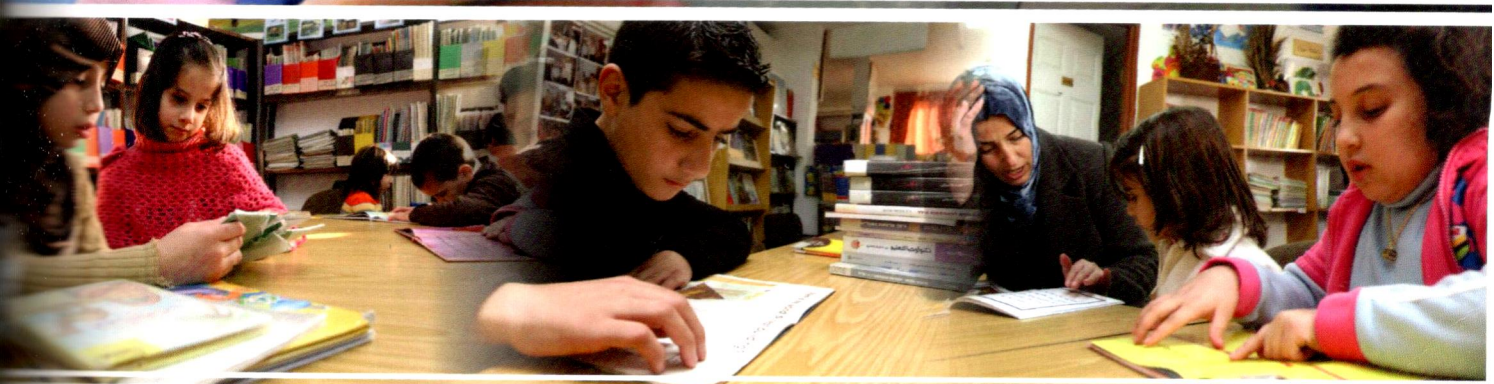


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At the Public Library of
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אוניברסיטת בר-אילן
הספרייה ללימודי מידע

ABSTRACTS

Grouping Search Results by Organizational Taxonomy using LCC&K Interface

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One of the major problems in the process of Information Retrieval (IR) arises at the stage where the user reviews the results list. This paper presents the latest research in a series of research works that aims at finding the most vital information components, within a list of search results, so as to assist the user in high-quality decision making as to which of the resulting documents are included within the sought after results of the search task. We propose here a new model for displaying the results named TTLS (Taxonomy Tree & LCC&K Snippet). The experimentation setup included execution of different search tasks by a group of 60 participants. The tasks were performed via the BASE and TTLS interfaces. From the resulting times comparison it is clear that the execution times of tasks done via the TTLS interface is shorter than those done via the BASE interface. It can be seen that in the BASE interface it was needed to open more documents in order to locate the relevant information than in the TTLS interface. It turns out that the majority of users (77%) prefer to use the TTLS interface.

Internet Addiction Among Teenagers in Israel

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In the research we investigated the characteristics of the phenomenon known as "internet addiction". The independent variables that were examined are age, gender and the number of daily internet surfing hours. These variables were measured through a questionnaire that was constructed according to the age group. The participants of this research were 161 middle school students (grades 7 to 9) whose average age was 13.84 years. The research findings include: There is no relation between the number of daily surfing hours and internet addiction, males are more addicted than females and that there is a negative relation between age and addiction. In addition, we find that 7% of youth between the ages of 12 and 15.5 suffer from internet addiction.

The Power to Name: Bias in Indexing

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The stated purpose of assigned indexing is to facilitate the subject retrieval of any given document by objectively expressing its subject matter through the assigned indexing terms. Bias can be introduced into the indexing process when the indexer intentionally chooses terms implying the support of a certain opinion as opposed to other opinions or when the controlled vocabulary itself contains terms using prejudicial language. This article focuses on the existence of biased or prejudicial terminology in controlled vocabularies used in Israel. A number of examples are presented in this article, reflecting this phenomenon and illustrating the problematic messages sent to users of library catalogues and bibliographic databases.

From Cataloguing to Resource Description and Access

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The RDA - Resource Description and Access is a new standard for the creation of surrogate records and access point control for information resources. This standard has been under development since 2004 by

The Library Catalog at the Crossroads – A Review

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The catalog is an important product of every library. Intellectual and economic resources are invested to create and maintain it as the main discovery and retrieval tool for users and for administrative purposes of the library.

Recently, research indicates that the use of the catalog as a discovery tool is declining in comparison with other discovery tools such as Google and other Search Engines. Therefore, the future development of the library catalog is debated and discussed. Some criticize the structure, standards and management of the catalog. Others claim that it is indispensable because of the quality, accuracy and reliability of its data.

As the catalog is not only a useful tool but also an expression of theory concerning the structure and representation of information, the future direction of its development is very important. This direction will be decided on the basis of different points of view and approaches, research, discussions, policy decisions and actions of libraries and other institutions.

This article examines and reviews the different approaches expressed concerning the future of the catalog: The business and marketing model, the library and academic model, and the technology and collaborative model. It also reviews the critique of the processes of constructing and maintaining the catalog, the plans as well as actions by several libraries, and the discussions that LC initiated for the purpose of planning the catalog policy. Finally there are some questions concerning the future of catalogs in Israeli libraries.

Information Supply to Senior Citizens

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This article presents the partial results of a study which seeks to delineate the information needs profile of senior citizens. These needs are related to services and legislation affecting senior citizens. The population examined is comprised of groups of senior citizens, distinguished from each other by their preference of information supplier, the means of information supply and the type of accessibility. The population consisted of Hebrew speaking, independent seniors who live in the Tel -Aviv area and are members of seniors' clubs.

The questionnaire was based on Nicholas' Framework (1996, 2000) which maintains that the provision of information services must be based on the characterization of users' information needs, as well as a characterization of the users. Analysis of the findings suggests that the senior population is mainly interested in receiving information from non-formal information suppliers, such as media or family members. At the same time most of the seniors interviewed were also interested to receiving information from a formal information supplier, such as an information professional (e.g., librarian, information officer). Another finding indicates that the acceptance of information from friends is related to the health condition, age and education level. Most of the participants were interested in information delivered in simple language and through traditional means, such as surface mail and personal conversation. The preferred information format is also a traditional one - the brochure - however, there were some seniors who preferred information supplied through the Internet. Regarding the location for receipt of information, seniors preferred familiar places, such as their clubs and health clinics. More than half stated that they preferred not to involve others in the discussion of their personal problems. Nevertheless, in practice, most of the seniors did consult with somebody when encountering a specific problem or new situation, in order to cope with the changing patterns of their lives.

the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA (JSC) and is scheduled for publication in early 2009. The underlying principles guiding the development of RDA are the conceptual models FRBR (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records) and FRAD (Functional Requirements for Authority Data). This article describes the development process, the underlying principles and the general contents of the new standard and presents some points of divergence from the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules.

Theory and Practice in Subject Indexing of Fiction

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The article begins with the discussion on the need to apply index terms to the content of fiction. The article describes and discusses the various problems which confront the librarian that wishes to give his readers subject access to fiction in general and to fiction in Hebrew in particular. The solution given to these problems by Scandinavian and U.S. Libraries are described as well. Last part of describes a pilot project in subject indexing of fiction, within public libraries in Israel, which was carried out in the years 2005-2006, by the author under the Israeli Center for Libraries.

Rock, Paper... PDF

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This paper discusses both the achievements and the yet unsolved issues of the "digital revolution" in scientific publishing. We point out the enormous changes that all the phases of the process of writing/reading/publishing is going thru with computerization and the web, and dwell on the components that found no proper solutions so far. Some of these might look like minor inconveniences - such as the disappearance of the marginal notes - but others that radically changed the centuries' old relationships between libraries and publishers, are more alarming. While acquisition gives way to access, the library loses control over the collection, a process that transfers additional power to the publisher and deprives the library of its role as the guardian of the published scientific material. At the same time this move endangers the safe-keeping of science's most important tool of advance - the peer-reviewed scientific literature. Institutional and subject oriented (Arxiv, PubMedCentral etc.) repositories are now materializing as the answer to the acute need for safe new ways of storing. These major transformations in all the steps of scientific publishing will eventually entail a drastic change in the traditional forms of the citation as well, which hopefully will result in abandoning the practice of publishing in digital media and continuing to mimic the printed paper (PDF).