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# KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

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## Contents page

Fiorella Foscarini. **Records Classification and Functions: An Archival Perspective.** *Knowledge Organization*, 33(4) 188-198. 38 references.

**ABSTRACT:** The design of records classification systems has been subject to various and often inconsistent approaches. Subject matters, record types and forms, structures and functions of the organization: archivists and records managers (whether consciously or unconsciously) have traditionally referred to any of these elements, or to a mix of some or all of them, when developing their classification tools. Only in recent times has the concept of function become central to the theory, method, and practice of records classification. I discuss advantages and limitations of the functional approach applied to records classification by showing how it has been interpreted in the literature of different countries.

Alireza Noruzi. **Folksonomies: (Un)Controlled Vocabulary?** *Knowledge Organization*, 33(4) 199-203. 14 references.

**ABSTRACT:** Folksonomy, a free-form tagging, is a user-generated classification system of web contents that allows users to tag their favorite web resources with their chosen words or phrases selected from natural language. These tags (also called concepts, categories, facets or entities) can be used to classify web resources and to express users' preferences. Folksonomy-based systems allow users to classify web resources through tagging bookmarks, photos or other web resources and saving them to a public web site like *Del.icio.us*. Thus information about web resources and online articles can be shared in an easy way. The purpose of this study is to provide an overview of the *folksonomy tagging* phenomenon (also called *social tagging* and *social bookmarking*) and explore some of the reasons why we need controlled vocabularies, discussing the problems associated with folksonomy.

Andrej Pogorelec and Alenka Šauperl. **The Alternative Model Of Classification Of Belles-Lettres In Libraries.** *Knowledge Organization*, 33(4) 204-214. 21 references.

**ABSTRACT:** Several systems for the classification of fiction have been proposed to date, but experience shows that such classification partially depends on the culture and literary education in specific countries. Slovenian public libraries have traditionally used *UDC* as the only subject information on belles-lettres. Research has shown that users would prefer richer subject information. Therefore an attempt was made to enhance *UDC* by adding subject information, that should be helpful to users and librarians. The newly proposed Alternative Model system contains lists of verbal and alpha-numerical denotations for the basic groups of belles-lettres book material (main-genres: lyrics, drama, epics) and all other categorical criteria (language of the original literary work, literature to which the work belongs, genre, sub-genre) and half-categorical (accessibility of the content of literary works, origin within the periods of literary history, the century in which the literary work was written, the rhythm of the language). All these lists are available, but not included in this paper. The idea of the Alternative Model system is to show the possibilities of making the classification of belles-lettres in libraries more helpful, efficient and exact.

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Founded under the title *International Classification* in 1974 by Dr. Ingetraut Dahlberg, the founding president of ISKO. Dr. Dahlberg served as the journal's editor from 1974 to 1997, and as its publisher (Indeks Verlag of Frankfurt) from 1981 to 1997.

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Sager, J.C. 1990. *A Practical Course in Terminology Processing*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Sukiasyan, E. R. 1996. Change as a problem of classification system development. In R. Green (Ed.). *Knowledge Organization and Change: Proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> International ISKO Conference*. Frankfurt: Indeks Verlag. 119-122.

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## Scope

The more scientific data is generated in the impetuous present times, the more ordering energy needs to be expended to control these data in a retrievable fashion. With the abundance of knowledge now available the questions of new solutions to the ordering problem and thus of improved classification systems, methods and procedures have acquired unforeseen significance. For many years now they have been the focus of interest of information scientists the world over.

Until recently, the special literature relevant to classification was published in piecemeal fashion, scattered over the numerous technical journals serving the experts of the various fields such as:

philosophy and science of science  
 science policy and science organization  
 mathematics, statistics and computer science  
 library and information science  
 archivistics and museology  
 journalism and communication science  
 industrial products and commodity science  
 terminology, lexicography and linguistics

Beginning in 1974, KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION (formerly INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION) has been serving as a common platform for the discussion of both theoretical background questions and practical application problems in many areas of concern. In each issue experts from many countries comment on questions of an adequate structuring and construction of ordering systems and on the problems of their use in opening the information contents of new literature, of data collections and survey, of tabular works and of other objects of scientific interest. Their contributions have been concerned with

- (1) clarifying the theoretical foundations (general ordering theory/science, theoretical bases of classification, data analysis and reduction)
- (2) describing practical operations connected with indexing/classification, as well as applications of classification systems and thesauri, manual and machine indexing
- (3) tracing the history of classification knowledge and methodology
- (4) discussing questions of education and training in classification
- (5) concerning themselves with the problems of terminology in general and with respect to special fields.

## Aims

Thus, KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION is a forum for all those interested in the organization of knowledge on a universal or a domain-specific scale, using concept-analytical or concept-synthetical approaches, as well as quantitative and qualitative methodologies. KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION also addresses the intellectual and automatic compilation and use of classification systems and thesauri in all fields of knowledge, with special attention being given to the problems of terminology.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION publishes original articles, reports on conferences and similar communications, as well as book reviews, letters to the editor, and an extensive annotated bibliography of recent classification and indexing literature.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION should therefore be available at every university and research library of every country, at every information center, at colleges and schools of library and information science, in the hands of everybody interested in the fields mentioned above and thus also at every office for updating information on any topic related to the problems of order in our information-flooded times.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION was founded in 1973 by an international group of scholars with a consulting board of editors representing the world's regions, the special classification fields, and the subject areas involved. From 1974-1980 it was published by K.G. Saur Verlag, München. Back issues of 1978-1992 are available from ERGON-Verlag, too.

As of 1989, KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION has become the official organ of the INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION (ISKO) and is included for every ISKO-member, personal or institutional in the membership fee (US \$ 55/US \$ 110).

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