

Knowledge Organization

International Journal

Devoted to Concept Theory,
Classification, Indexing, and
Knowledge Representation



Vol. 25 (1998) No. 1/No. 2

formerly International Classification

KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

KO

Official Quarterly Journal of the International Society for Knowledge Organization ISSN 0943 – 7444
International Journal devoted to Concept Theory, Classification, Indexing and Knowledge Representation

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Knowledge Organization Literature

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Beghtol, Clare (1998). **Knowledge Domains: Multidisciplinarity and Bibliographic Classification Systems.**

Knowledge Organization, 25(1/2), 1-12. 71 refs.

ABSTRACT: Bibliographic classification systems purport to organize the world of knowledge for information storage and retrieval purposes in libraries and bibliographies, both manual and online. The major systems that have predominated during the twentieth century were originally predicated on the academic disciplines. This structural principle is no longer adequate because multidisciplinary knowledge production has overtaken more traditional disciplinary perspectives and produced communities of cooperation whose documents cannot be accommodated in a disciplinary structure. This paper addresses the problems the major classifications face, reports some attempts to revise these systems to accommodate multidisciplinary works more appropriately, and describes some theoretical research perspectives that attempt to reorient classification research toward the pluralistic needs of multidisciplinary knowledge creation and the perspectives of different discourse communities. Traditionally, the primary desiderata of classification systems were mutual exclusivity and joint exhaustivity. The need to respond to multidisciplinary research may mean that hospitality will replace mutual exclusivity and joint exhaustivity as the most needed and useful characteristics of classification systems in both theory and practice. (Author)

Remesh Kumar, T.V. & Parameswaran, M. (1997) **Chain indexing and LISA.**

Knowledge Organization, 25(1/2), 13-15, 4 refs.

ABSTRACT: Ranganathan's Chain indexing technique is devised as a complementary and supplementary tool to classification schemes. However, due to the efficiency and economy, this technique can effectively be made use of in deriving alphabetical subject indexes for any indexing/abstracting services. The authors have made a close analysis of Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA) to elucidate the extent of the impact of chain indexing in it. Some of the problems found in the application of chain procedure in alphabetical subject indexing are identified and the solution found in LISA has been explained. (Author)

Hjørland, B. (1998). **Information Retrieval, Text Composition, and Semantics.**

Knowledge Organization, 25(1/2), 16-31. 63 refs.

ABSTRACT: Information science (IS) is concerned with the searching and retrieval of text and other information (IR), mostly in electronic databases and on the Internet. Such databases contain fulltext (or other kinds of documents, e.g. pictures) and/or document representations and/or different kinds of "value added information". The core theoretical problem for IS is related to the determination of the usefulness of different "subject access points" in electronic databases. This problem is again related to theories of meaning and semantics. This paper outlines some important principles in the design of documents done in the field of "composition studies". It maps the possible subject access points and presents research done on each kind of these. It shows how theories of IR must build on or relate to different theories of concepts and meaning. It discusses two contrasting theories of semantics worked out by Ludwig Wittgenstein: "the picture theory" and "the theory of language games" and demonstrates the different consequences for such theories for IR. Finally, the implications for information professionals are discussed. (Author)

Satija, M. P. 1998. **Classification: Some Fundamentals, Some Myths, Some Realities.**

Knowledge Organization. 25(1/2), 32-35. 12 refs.

ABSTRACT: The pervasiveness of classification in all human activities is described. Classification is characterized as being relative, utilitarian, and artificial. The importance of classification in library settings and academic disciplines is documented. Classification is described as an emerging, independent discipline. (Author)

KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

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Official Quarterly Journal of the International Society for Knowledge Organization ISSN 0943 - 7444

International Journal devoted to Concept Theory, Classification, Indexing and Knowledge Representation

KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

The journal is the organ of the INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION (General Secretariat: Prof. Hanne Albrechtsen, The Royal School of Librarianship, Birketinget 6, DK-2300 Copenhagen S)

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KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

Official Quarterly Journal of the International Society for Knowledge Organization ISSN 0943 - 7444

International Journal devoted to Concept Theory, Classification, Indexing and Knowledge Representation

Publisher

ERGON-Verlag, Grombühlstr. 7, GER-97080 Würzburg,
Phone: +49 (931) 280084; FAX +49 (931) 282872; E-mail:
ERGON-Verlag@t-online.de

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Criteria for acceptance will be appropriateness to the field of the journal (see Scope and Aims), taking into account the merit of the contents and presentation. The manuscript should be concise and should conform to professional standards of English usage and grammar. Manuscripts are received with the understanding that they have not been previously published, are not being submitted for publication elsewhere, and that if the work received official sponsorship, it has been duly released for publication. Submissions are refereed, and authors will usually be notified within 6 to 10 weeks. Unless specifically requested, manuscripts and illustrations will not be returned.

The text should be structured by numbered subheadings. It should contain (a) an *Introduction*, giving an overview and stating the purpose, (b) a *main body*, describing in sufficient detail the materials or methods used and the results or systems developed, and (c) a *conclusion* or *summary*.

Reference citations within the text should have the following form: (author, year). For example, (Jones, 1990). Specific page numbers are optional e.g. (Jones, 1990, p.100). A citation with two authors would read (Jones & Smith, 1990); three or more authors would be: (Jones et al., 1990). When the author is mentioned in the text, only the date and optional page number should appear in parenthesis - e.g. According to Jones (1990), ...

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Graesser, A., Person, N. & Huber, J. (1992). Mechanisms that generate questions. In T. W. Lauer, E. Peacock, & A. C. Graesser (Eds.). *Questions and Information Systems*. Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. 167-187.

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 4th International ISKO Conference*. Frankfurt: Indeks Verlag. 119-122.

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Printed in the Federal Republic of Germany

by Offizin Hildburghausen GmbH Druckhaus.

KO is published quarterly by ERGON-Verlag.
The price is DM 158,-/ann. including airmail delivery.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

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Official Quarterly Journal of the International Society for Knowledge Organization ISSN 0943 - 7444
International Journal devoted to Concept Theory, Classification, Indexing and Knowledge Representation

Scope

The more scientific data are 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 in 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 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 meant to be a programme for the improvement of classification methods and processes, a forum for discussion for all those interested in the organization of knowledge on a universal or a subject-field scale, using concept-analytical and/or concept-synthetical approaches as well as numerical procedures and comprising also 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, the Newsletters of the International Society for Knowledge Organization (ISKO News) and the Committee on Classification Research of the International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID/CR News) as well as book reviews, letters to the editor, and an extensive annotated bibliography of recent classification and indexing literature, covering some 500 items in each issue.

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. (The 14 volumes of 1978-1992 are offered now at the highly reduced price of DM 200,-)

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 \$ 50/US \$ 100).

Rates: From 1997 on for 4 issues/ann. (including indexes) DM 158,- (forwarding costs included). Membership rates see above.

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The contents of this journal are indexed and abstracted in *Referativnyi Zhurnal Informatika* and in the following online databases: *Information Science Abstracts*, *INSPEC*, *Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA)*, *Library Literature*, *PASCAL* and *Sociological Abstracts*.