

Knowledge Organization

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Contents page

Munk, Timme Bisgaard and Mørk, Kristian. **Folksonomies, Tagging Communities, and Tagging Strategies—An Empirical Study.** *Knowledge Organization*, 34(3), 115-127. 23 references.

ABSTRACT: The subject of this article is folksonomies on the Internet. One of the largest folksonomies on the Internet in terms of number of users and tagged websites is the computer program del.icio.us, where more than 100,000 people have tagged the websites that they and others find using their own keywords. How this is done in practice and the patterns to be found are the focus of this article. The empirical basis is the collection of 76,601 different keywords with a total frequency of 178,215 from 500 randomly chosen taggers on del.icio.us at the end of 2005. The keywords collected were then analyzed quantitatively statistically by uncovering their frequency and percentage distribution and through a statistical correspondence analysis in order to uncover possible patterns in the users' tags. Subsequently, a qualitative textual analysis of the tags was made in order to find out by analysis which tagging strategies are represented in the data material. This led to four conclusions. 1) the distribution of keywords follows classic power law; 2) distinct tagging communities are identifiable; 3) the most frequently used tags are situated on a general-specific axis; and 4) nine distinct tagging strategies are observed. These four conclusions are put into perspective collectively in respect of a number of more general and theoretical considerations concerning folksonomies and the classification systems of the future.

Gelernter, Judith. **Information Visualization (Infoviz) for Digital Library Collections in Digital Libraries.** *Knowledge Organization*, 34(3), 128-143. 61 references.

ABSTRACT: The purpose of information visualization (infoviz) is to show information graphically. That purpose is often obscured by infoviz designs that are not well understood in practice. This paper offers an overview of infoviz culled from the literature on applications of information visualization for the digital library: how the clustering works that creates the topics and those topics are represented graphically. It presents a taxonomy of infoviz designs in one, two and three dimensions. It is suggested that user evaluations of infoviz designs might be used to enrich infoviz theory and, whether through application of the

theory or through application of user remarks, developers might improve infoviz interface comprehensibility. Design recommendations are made in an effort to improve weaknesses and capitalize on strengths of present interfaces in representing knowledge visually.

Furner, Jonathan. **Dewey Deracialized: A Critical Race-Theoretic Perspective.** *Knowledge Organization*, 34(3), 144-168. 70 references.

ABSTRACT: Critical race theory is introduced as a potentially useful approach to the evaluation of bibliographic classification schemes. An overview is presented of the essential elements of critical race theory, including clarifications of the meanings of some important terms such as "race" and "social justice." On the basis of a review of existing conceptions of the just and the antiracist library service, a rationale is presented for hypothesizing that critical race theory may be of use to the library and information sciences. The role of classification schemes as information institutions in their own right is established, and the *Dewey Decimal Classification* is introduced as the case to be studied. The challenges faced by classification-scheme designers in the construction and reconstruction of race-related categories are reviewed; and an analysis is presented of one sense in which it might be suggested that recent (2003) revisions in one of the *DDC*'s tables appear not to meet those challenges wholly successfully. An account is given of a further sense in which adoption of a critical race-theoretic approach has the more radical effect of calling into question a fundamental decision recently taken to "deracialize" the *DDC*. In conclusion, an assessment is made of critical race theory as a framework for evaluating library classification schemes.

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Schallier, Wouter. 2004. On the razor's edge: between local and overall needs in knowledge organization. In McIlwaine, Ia C. ed., *Knowledge organization and the global information society: Proceedings of the Eighth International ISKO Conference 13-16 July 2004 London, UK*. Advances in knowledge organization 9. Würzburg: Ergon Verlag, pp. 269-74.

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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.

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- (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.

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