

# Knowledge Organization

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# KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

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## Contents page

Reischke, Rita (2000). **The Injury Project.** *Knowledge Organization*, 27(3). 109-121.

Campbell, G. (2000). **Queer Theory and the Creation of Contextual Subject Access Tools for Gay and Lesbian Communities.** *Knowledge Organization*, 27(3). 122-131. 36 refs.

**ABSTRACT:** Knowledge organization research has come to question the theoretical distinction between "aboutness" (a document's innate content) and "meaning" (the use to which a document is put). This distinction has relevance beyond Information Studies, particularly in relation to homosexual concerns. Literary criticism, in particular, frequently addresses the question: when is a work "about" homosexuality? This paper explores this literary debate and its implications for the design of subject access systems for gay and lesbian communities. By examining the literary criticism of Herman Melville's *Billy Budd*, particularly in relation to the theories of Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick in *The Epistemology of the Closet* (1990), this paper exposes three tensions that designers of gay and lesbian classifications and vocabularies can expect to face. First is a tension between essentialist and constructivist views of homosexuality, which will affect the choice of terms, categories, and references. Second is a tension between minoritizing and universalizing perspectives on homosexuality. Third is a redefined distinction between aboutness and meaning, in which aboutness refers not to stable document content, but to the system designer's inescapable social and ideological perspectives. Designers of subject access systems can therefore expect to work in a context of intense scrutiny and persistent controversy.

Priss, U. (2000). **Lattice-Based Information Retrieval.** *Knowledge Organization*, 27(3). 132-142. 19 refs.

**ABSTRACT:** A lattice-based model for information retrieval was suggested in the 1960's but has been seen as a theoretical possibility hard to practically apply ever since. This paper attempts to revive the lattice model and demonstrate its applicability in an information retrieval system, FaIR, that incorporates a graphical representation

of a faceted thesaurus. It shows how Boolean queries can be lattice-theoretically related to the concepts of the thesaurus and visualized within the thesaurus display. An advantage of FaIR is that it allows for a high level of transparency of the system, which can be controlled by the user.

Zins, C., Guttmann, D. (2000). **Structuring Web Bibliographical Resources: An Exemplary Subject Classification Scheme.** *Knowledge Organization*, 27(3). 143-159. 41 refs.

**ABSTRACT:** The Internet challenges designers of reference resources to structure user interfaces so that they facilitate quick access to bibliographies. Designers can organize bibliographies in chronological order of publication, alphabetical listing by author or title and/or subject-headings; or can follow a subject classification scheme from the relevant field. Chronological order of publication and alphabetical listings of authors and titles are the simplest ways to organize bibliographic materials, but these methods usually fail to present the thematic relations among the various items. The subject classification is the most systematic presentation, but the most complicated to develop. This study explores the subject classification model, elaborates its rationale, demonstrates an exemplary faceted subject classification scheme grounded in solid scientific foundations, and clarifies the scientific foundations of the three-phase structuring methodology that was utilized. The exemplary classificatory model is a seven-facet subject classification scheme designed for classifying scholarly papers in the field of Logotherapy. The study, in particular the scientific structuring methodology, provides an example for structuring bibliographic resources in the social sciences, as well as in other academic fields.

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## KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

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A separate title page should include the article title and the author's name, postal address, and E-mail address, if available. Only the title of the article should appear on the first page of the text. To protect anonymity, the author's name *should not* appear on the manuscript, and all references in the body of the text and in footnotes that might identify the author to the reviewer should be removed and cited on a separate page. Articles that do not conform to these specifications will be returned to authors.

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The text should be structured by numbered subheadings. It should contain an *Introduction*, giving an overview and stating the purpose, a *main body*, describing in sufficient detail the materials or methods used and the results or systems developed, and 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, but preferred when applicable, 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 4<sup>th</sup> International ISKO Conference*. Frankfurt: Indeks Verlag. 119-122.

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## 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-synthetic 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 \$ 55/US \$ 110).

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