Contents

Articles

Rick Szostak.
Classifying the Humanities .............................................................. 263

Rongying Zhao and Shengnan Wu.
The Network Pattern of Journal Knowledge Transfer in Library and Information Science in China .................. 276

Vinod Kumar B.L. and Khaiser Nikam.
Development of an Information Support System for Yogic Science using Knowledge Organization Systems .................................................................................. 288

Papers from I Congress of ISKO Spain and Portugal / XI Congress ISKO Spain, 7-9 November 2013, University of Porto

Gustavo Silva Saldanha.
The Philosophy of Language and Knowledge Organization in the 1930s: Pragmatics of Wittgenstein and Ranganathan ........................................................................................................... 296

Maria Aparecida Moura.
Emerging Discursive Formations, Folksonomy and Social Semantic Information Spaces (SSIS):
The Contributions of the Theory of Integrative Levels in the Studies carried out by the Classification Research Group (CRG)......................................................................................... 304

Virginia Bentes Pinto, Camila Regina de Oliveira Rabelo, and Igor Peixoto Torres Girão.
SNOMED-CT as Standard Language for Organization and Representation of the Information in Patient Records .......................................................................................................................... 311

Fernanda Ribeiro.
The Use of Classification in Archives as a Means of Organization, Representation and Retrieval of Information .................................................................................................................. 319

Feature

Rebecca Green.
ISKO and Knowledge Organization’s 25th Anniversary: The Future of Knowledge Organization and ISKO Panel Discussion ........................................................................................................... 327

Book Review

Handbook of Metadata, Semantics and Ontologies.

Books Recently Published ................................................................................................................................. 335
Abstract: A synthetic and universal approach to classification which allows the free combination of basic concepts would better address a variety of challenges in classifying both humanities scholarship and the works of art (including literature) that humanists study. Four key characteristics of this classificatory approach are stressed: a universal non-discipline-based approach, a synthetic approach that allows free combination of any concepts but stresses a sentence-like structure, emphasis on basic concepts (for which there are broadly shared understandings across groups and individuals), and finally classification of works also in terms of the theories, methods, and perspectives applied. The implications of these four characteristics, alone or (often) in concert, for many aspects of classification in the humanities are discussed. Several advantages are found both for classifying humanities scholarship and works of art. These four characteristics are each found in the Basic Concepts Classification (which is briefly compared to other faceted classifications), but each could potentially be adopted elsewhere as well.


Abstract: This paper proposes a historical-epistemological study of knowledge organization focused on the 1930s. The main question is the development of a thought-oriented pragmatics of language in the philosophical scene of the period. In distinct foci, the Austrian philosopher Wittgenstein and Indian philosopher Ranganathan discussed epistemological development under the premises of a pragmatics of language. The aim is to propose analysis of the dialogue between the visions of Ranganathan and Wittgenstein in the construction of the possibilities of knowing from the use of language within the 1930s. The method adopted is the "panoramic presentation" of Wittgenstein, based on the analysis of concepts to understand the construction of a grammar within a community of language use. As main results, we draw attention to the potential correlation between the development of the philosophy of language in the 1930s and the construction of an epistemology for the organization of ordinary knowledge. Knowledge organization needs to review recognition of the pragmatic construction throughout the twentieth century as a theoretical assumption for the understanding of a notion of knowledge from the point of view of pragmatics.
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Abstract: This paper focuses on the discursive formations emerging from the Social Semantic Information Spaces (SSIS) in light of the concept of emergence in the theory of integrative levels. The study aims to identify the opportunities and challenges of incorporating epistemological considerations in the act of acquiring knowledge into the consolidation of knowledge organization and mediation processes and devices in the emergence of phenomena. The goal was to analyze the effects of that concept on the actions of a sample of researchers registered in an emerging research domain in SSIS in order to understand this type of indexing done by the users and communities as a classification of integrating levels. The methodology was established by triangulation through social network analysis, consensus analysis and archaeology of knowledge. It was possible to conclude that there is a collective effort to settle a semantic interoperability model for the labeling of contents based on best practices regarding the description of the objects shared in SSIS.


Abstract: The Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine Clinical Terms (SNOMED-CT), such as the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) and the Health Sciences Descriptors (MeSH) is a standard for handling, organizing, representing and retrieval of information in the health context. It is structured, among other things, in 19 categories: clinical diagnosis/disease, procedures, observable entities, body structure, body, substance, biological and pharmaceutical products, sample, physical object, physical force, event, geographical or environmental location, social context, stages and scales, special concepts and qualifiers. We present research results carried out with patients’ medical records in the Walter Cantidio University Hospital, at Federal University of Ceará. The line guiding this study seeks to answer the following question: what is the contribution of these categories to build a representation of the patient’s medical records at the Department of Medical Records and Statistics (SAME), at the Walter Cantidio University Hospital (HUWC)? The objective of the research is to study the contribution of SNOMED-CT for the representation of information within those records. It is therefore an exploratory study supported by neofunctionalist method and content analysis, the physical structure of digitized records was analyzed at the SAME of the HUWC. Then we analyzed a corpus of two patient records with nine volumes, about 4000 pages corresponding to 777 Mb. The results and conclusions show that the hierarchical categories of SNOMED-CT may bring contributions to the representation of the charts, as it is a robust terminology based on ontology, contemplating the essence of the information recorded in these documents. Regarding the physical structure of the chart shows some similarities, and hence can contribute to information retrieval with higher added value, since it allows the use of pre and post-coordination as well as natural language, synonyms and acronyms.


Abstract: In this paper we discuss the interest in and the use of classification in archives, both in terms of the intellectual organization of information in an organic-functional, functional or thematic hierarchical structure and at the level of information representation and retrieval of the informational content. Starting by looking at the concept of “classification,” we go on to analyze the information access tools relative to Portuguese archives. This enables us to understand how classification has been used to establish the organizational schedules that provide context to the informational production of the entities (persons, families, corporate bodies) that generate the archives, and how such schedules represent (or not) with scientific objectivity the informational reality being considered. We then discuss the usefulness of classification in archives as a tool for the representation and subsequent retrieval of the informational content, thus enabling an across-the-board access to information, alongside the access by creators and authors that the organic-functional schedules provide. Comparisons, analogies and differences regarding the use of indexing languages in other information systems, especially libraries, where subject classifications have been in widespread use since the end of the 19th century, are also established.