

## Contents

### Articles

- Mariana Baptista Brandt.*  
Ethical Aspects in the Organization of  
Legislative Information.....3
- Renata Cristina Gutierrez Castanba and  
Dietmar Wolfram.*  
The Domain of Knowledge Organization:  
A Bibliometric Analysis of Prolific Authors  
and Their Intellectual Space.....13
- Philip Hider.*  
The Search Value Added by Professional  
Indexing to a Bibliographic Database .....23
- Nattapong Kaenboonma and Kultbida Tuamsuk.*  
Ontology of Folk Songs in the Greater Mekong  
Subregion (GMS) .....33
- Claudio Gnoli.*  
Classifying Phenomena, Part 4:  
Themes and Rhemes.....43

### Reviews of Concepts in Knowledge Organization

- Fulvio Mazzocchi.*  
Knowledge Organization System (KOS):  
An Introductory Critical Account ..... 54

### Classification Research

- Jenna Hartel.*  
Social Epistemology as Theoretical Foundation  
for Information Science: Supporting a Cultural  
Turn, Copenhagen, August 16-17, 2017 ..... 79

### Review

- Cruising the Library: Perversities in the Organization  
of Knowledge* by Melissa Adler. New York, NY:  
Fordham University Press, 2017.  
Reviewed by Carlin Soos ..... 85

### Books recently published .....90

### Index to Volume 44 (2017)..... 91

## Contents pages

Brandt, Mariana Baptista. 2018. "Ethical Aspects in the Organization of Legislative Information." *Knowledge Organization* 45(1): 3-12. 19 references. DOI:10.5771/0943-7444-2018-1-3.

**Abstract:** The goal of this research is to analyze ethical questions related to the organization of legislative information (bills, laws, and speeches) within the scope of the Brazilian Federal legislature (Chamber of Deputies and Federal Senate). Field research including interviews was used to collect data in order to investigate the development of knowledge representation tools, such as thesauri and taxonomies, and subject indexing for organization of legislative information (bills, legislation, and speeches). The heads of all sectors responsible for the chosen activities were interviewed in person, and the answers were compared to common ethical problems described in knowledge organization (KO) literature. The results, in part, show a lack of clarity on ethical issues in the treatment of legislative information, pointing to ethical dilemmas and identifying problems such as informational directness, misrepresentation, and ambiguity, among others. The indexers in the Brazilian Congress found ambiguity the ethical aspect faced most often in their jobs. The next most frequent issue was professional inefficiency and in third place was a tie between informational directness and lack of cultural warrant. The research also describes solutions used for various ethical dilemmas. It was found that some indexing terms used to describe bills in the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies have been subject to censorship and censored, or censurable, indexing terms have to be hidden in metadata so documents can be retrieved by users. It concludes that a greater ethical awareness of technical aspects is needed for Brazilian Federal legislative information professionals.

Castanha, Renata Cristina Gutierrez and Dietmar Wolfram. 2018. "The Domain of Knowledge Organization: A Bibliometric Analysis of Prolific Authors and Their Intellectual Space." *Knowledge Organization* 45(1): 13-22. 26 references. DOI:10.5771/0943-7444-2018-1-13.

**Abstract:** The domain of knowledge organization (KO) represents a foundational area of information science. One way to better understand the intellectual structure of the KO domain is to apply bibliometric methods to key contributors to the literature. This study analyzes the most prolific contributing authors to the journal *Knowledge Organization*, the sources they cite and the citations they receive for the period 1993 to 2016. The analyses were conducted using visualization outcomes of citation, co-citation and author bibliographic coupling analysis to reveal theoretical points of reference among authors and the most prominent research themes that constitute this scientific community. Birger Hjørland was the most cited author, and was situated at or near the middle of each of the maps based on dif-

ferent citation relationships. The proximities between authors resulting from the different citation relationships demonstrate how authors situate themselves intellectually through the citations they give and how other authors situate them through the citations received. There is a consistent core of theoretical references as well among the most productive authors. We observed a close network of scholarly communication between the authors cited in this core, which indicates the actual role of the journal *Knowledge Organization* as a space for knowledge construction in the area of knowledge organization.

Hider, Philip. 2017. "The Search Value Added by Professional Indexing to a Bibliographic Database." *Knowledge Organization* 44(8): 23-32. 20 references. DOI:10.5771/0943-7444-2018-1-23.

**Abstract:** Gross et al. (2015) have demonstrated that about a quarter of hits would typically be lost to keyword searchers if contemporary academic library catalogs dropped their controlled subject headings. This article reports on an investigation of the search value that subject descriptors and identifiers assigned by professional indexers add to a bibliographic database, namely the *Australian Education Index* (AEI). First, a similar methodology to that developed by Gross et al. (2015) was applied, with keyword searches representing a range of educational topics run on the AEI database with and without its subject indexing. The results indicated that AEI users would also lose, on average, about a quarter of hits per query. Second, an alternative research design was applied in which an experienced literature searcher was asked to find resources on a set of educational topics on an AEI database stripped of its subject indexing and then asked to search for additional resources on the same topics after the subject indexing had been reinserted. In this study, the proportion of additional resources that would have been lost had it not been for the subject indexing was again found to be about a quarter of the total resources found for each topic, on average.

Kaewboonma, Nattapong and Kulhida Tuamsuk. 2017. "Ontology of Folk Songs in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)." *Knowledge Organization* 44(8): 33-42. 32 references. DOI: 10.5771/0943-7444-2018-1-33.

**Abstract:** This research aims to develop an ontology of the GMS folk songs for further utility in the areas of knowledge discovery and research pertaining to the humanities and social sciences domains. Ontology development processes are comprised of three phases: 1) analysis of existing metadata schema for folk songs; 2) content analysis of GMS folk songs from key resources; and, 3) ontology development, which consists of five processes: 1) defining the scope of folksongs ontology; 2)

investigating the existing ontologies and plan for reuse; 3) defining terms and its relations; 4) create instances; and, 5) implementation and evaluation. The research outcome is the domain ontology of GMS folk songs, wherein 125 concepts of folk songs on GMS have been identified, defined and classified into classes and sub-classes. This classification presents an inclusion of some necessary scope notes and relationships of the topics, for example, the concepts on genres, the purpose of creation, moods, features, occasions, languages, ethnic groups, and place of origins. The ontology was developed by using the Hozo Ontology Editor. This study aspires that the consequently developed ontology will serve to be highly useful for the development of semantic knowledge-based search of GMS folk songs in the subsequent research.

Gnoli, Claudio. 2017. "Classifying Phenomena, Part 4: Themes and Rhemes." *Knowledge Organization* 45(1): 43-53. 43 references. DOI:10.5771/0943-7444-2018-1-43.

**Abstract:** This is the fourth in a series of papers on classification based on phenomena instead of disciplines. Together with types, levels and facets that have been discussed in the previous parts, themes and rhemes are further structural components of such a classification. In a statement or in a longer document, a base theme and several particular themes can be identified. Base theme should be cited first in a classmark, followed by particular themes, each with its own facets. In some cases, rhemes can also be expressed, that is new information provided about a theme, converting an abstract statement ("wolves, affected by cervids") into a claim that something actually occurs ("wolves

are affected by cervids"). In the Integrative Levels Classification rhemes can be expressed by special deictic classes, including those for actual specimens, anaphoras, unknown values, conjunctions and spans, whole universe, anthropocentric favoured classes, and favoured host classes. These features, together with rules for pronunciation, make a classification of phenomena a true language, that may be suitable for many uses.

Mazzocchi, Fulvio. 2018. "Knowledge Organization System (KOS): An Introductory Critical Account." *Knowledge Organization* 45(1): 54-78. 113 references. DOI:10.5771/0943-7444-2018-1-54.

**Abstract:** This contribution discusses the notion of knowledge organization system (KOS), introducing both its broad and narrow meanings. It focuses more in-depth on KOSs as semantic tools, by critically analyzing a number of KOS typologies that have been proposed so far. Theoretical and practical issues are investigated too, focusing on the importance of epistemology and theory of concepts for KOS development. Besides, some remarks are made on how new trends in information organization (e.g., towards an increase of formalization and the employment of data-driven means) could affect the design of future KOSs, pondering whether "interpretation" and context-based evaluations still have a role to play in such an undertaking. A theoretical coda is finally provided, which scrutinizes the notion of "classificatory perspectivism," and whether pluralism in KO research could take a (pragmatically based) integrative fashion.