Evidence Based Library and Information Practice

News/Announcements

ISIC 2010 Call for Papers

The field of human information behaviour is multi-disciplinary in scope; researchers from information science, information management, psychology, social psychology, sociology, information systems, computer science, and other disciplines all contribute to this field of investigation.

ISIC: the Information Behaviour Conference <http://www.um.es/isic2010/> intends to reflect this interdisciplinary character through attracting papers from researchers in all of these areas. The unifying characteristic, which we see as essential in developing a programme, is the relationship between the needs or requirements of the information user, the means for the satisfaction of those needs, and the uses to which those means are put in practice organizations or disciplines. Thus, papers that deal solely with technological aspects of system design, for example, will not be appropriate for the conference.

Themes of the conference include the following:

1. Theories and models of information seeking and searching: particular theoretical frameworks that are currently of interest include (but are not restricted to) social network theory, actor network theory, cultural-historical activity theory, genre theory, etc.

2. Research approaches and methodologies, both interpretative and positivist, employing either qualitative or quantitative methods.

3. Information seeking, searching, and use in specific contexts, e.g. health care, education, business, industry, the public services and government, the emergency services, etc.

4. Organizational structures and processes and information seeking, searching, and use.

5. Information seeking and searching in virtual social networks, including gaming and virtual worlds as arenas for information exchange.

6. Information behaviour in everyday life: in communities both real and virtual, including its role in indigenous communities.

7. Integrating studies on information seeking and interactive retrieval.

8. Information use: the nature of information and how information is used to help solve problems, aid decision making or satisfy an initial need.

9. The mediation of information behaviour: how human or software agents can respond to information needs.

10. The design of information delivery systems to meet information needs generally, or in organizational or disciplinary contexts, including Web

2.0 developments such as blogs, wikis, e-learning platforms, and open access information resources.

11. Information seeking and information requirements: integrating information science and information systems.
12. The communication of information to users: relationship between communication theory and information behaviour, e.g. the relationship of information architectures to information seeking behaviour and the design of information products on sound communication principles; including audio and visual communication media.

Papers that deal with the information behaviour of practitioner groups, such as scientists, engineers, local government works, politicians, and other less-studied (in this context) groups, will be particularly welcome.

Also, analytical, rather than descriptive investigations will be sought, with strong connections to previous work and to theoretical or conceptual frameworks.

For the 2010 Conference, we shall be particularly interested in papers in any of these areas that address the connection between information research and information practice.

Paper preparation and submission deadline is February 1, 2010. Please submit a prepared paper in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .rtf files) to: isic2010@um.es

We also invite doctoral students to submit an application for participation in the Doctoral Workshop held in conjunction with the Conference on the 28th of September, 2010. We especially welcome submissions from researchers and doctoral students based in Spain, Portugal, and Latin America.