Summaries

Claus Poulsen: Kritisk biblioteksundervisning. Pædagogiske overvejelser og praktisk udførelse (Teaching How to Use the Library: Critical Considerations and Practical Execution)

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Moves of higher education from an elitarian and exclusive position, huge amounts of publications, changing knowledge boundaries and disciplines, and compressed studies - these are problems for all higher education. Furthermore courses in information retrieval have unstable information technologies, lack of pedagogical continuity, lack of co-operation between library and teachers.

With these perspectives we try to improve our efforts in learning our students to use the library and its resources. This article argues that the focus has to shift from the librarians' presentation of his or her professional knowledge to process-oriented teaching.

We argue that case-oriented teaching and "exemplarisches lernen" with collective discussion is appropriate to face most of the above problems. We have designed and used curriculum and materials following these lines in two years for a 10 hour compulsory course for all science students. Finally we present curriculum, materials, and our experiences.

Jack Andersen and Frank Sejer Christensen: Wittgenstein og indekseringsteori (Wittgenstein and Indexing Theory)

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The article starts off with some general considerations of indexing and indexing theory and their connection with the concepts of meaning and interpretation. As a consequence of this we put forward that indexing theory basically is a theory of meaning and should be considered as such.

An account for the main elements of the philosophy of the later Wittgenstein is given. This is followed by a review of the use of Wittgenstein in the LIS literature. We then proceed to shed some light on indexing theory based on Wittgenstein's philosophy of language.

Based on the assumption that meaning is use and the private language argument indexing theory adhering to e.g. mentalistic approaches must be rejected.

Indexing theory should instead be built on the foundation of socially defined language games in which meaning and documents are created.

Torkild Thellefsen and Martin Thellefsen: Indeksering i semiotisk og kognitivt semantisk perspektiv (Indexing in a Semiotic and Cognitive Semantic Perspective)

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This article has a background in Peircian semiotic reasoning and cognitive semantics which we attempt to unfold upon indexing theory.

This new viewpoint offers an opportunity to define the concept: significance-effect/level, which expresses the phenomenon that an index term at a certain level submits most information to the user.

The article is structured in a way which offers a definition of basic concepts from C.S. Peirce's pragmatic semiotics and G. Lakoff's cognitive semantics. Throughout the definitions of the theories we discuss indexing. Peirce's semiotics offers a method which makes it possible to analyze indexing, and to identify different complexes of problems regarding semiotic meaning. Semiotics furthermore gives us an opportunity to look closer at the relations between index terms, documents and users and give us an idea as to where the problems arise in indexing.

Lakoff's cognitive semantics offers a method to deal with the problems identified in the semiotic analysis. Here we discuss basic-levelness, ICM's (Idealized Cognitive Models), metaphors, metonymies and finally significance-effect.

Christine Nordentoft: IR-forskningstraditioner belyst ud fra Winograds og Flores' teorier.

Analyse af hvorledes T. Winograd og F. Flores' "Understanding Computers and Cognition" har påvirket informationsvidenskabens forskningstraditioner ud fra en gennemgang af de vigtigste synspunkter indenfor IR-forskningstraditioner (Information Retrieval Research Tradition examined on the Theories of Winograd and Flores. An Analyze of how T. Winograd's and F. Flores's' "Understanding Computers and Cognition" has influenced Information Retrieval Research Tradition going through the most important Views within IR Research Tradition)

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Starting with rationalism, the article presents the most important paradigms in Information Retrieval. Winograd's and Flores's criticism of rationalism is outlined, and it is shown how they try to develop a non-physical, non-rationalistic paradigm suited to replace the traditional rationalistic paradigm. The article analyses how Winograd and Flores relates Maturana's biological view of cognition to Heidegger's theory of thrownness and breakdown, to Gadamer's hermeneutics and to Austin, Searle and Habermas's theory of speech act in order to achieve this aim. The main views of these researchers are outlined in accordance with the presentation of their ideas in Winograd and Flores's: "Understanding Computers and Cognition". The article examines how this book has influenced information retrieval research tradition, how the books understanding of hermeneutics, cognition, language and method has had an impact on the cognitive paradigm; and it points out that the books theory about self-referential systems is correlated to the domain-analytical paradigm and especially to cybersemiotics.

Trine Schreiber and Camilla Moring: Forskningsbibliotekernes involvering i netværksbaseret læring (The Involvement of Academic Libraries in Networked Learning Environment) Page: 99

New educational practice in higher education and the need for continuing education in general in the society creates new ways of collaboration between academics, students, and librarians. Based on networked information resources, networked learning represents a particular way of enhancing this development. Through the establishment of a networked learning environment, new roles and possibilities expand for librarians in academic libraries. In the light of this, librarians are involved in new tasks like networked learner support, e.g. by educating, coaching or facilitating group communication.

The aim of the article is to examine the involvement of Danish academic libraries in networked learning environments. We want to outline the main activities and the perspectives of this involvement. The study is based on a survey using a questionnaire. In addition, the study makes the theoretical distinction between 'electronic services' and 'electronic intervention'. The results of the survey are discussed in order to illustrate the different networked learner supports strategies established in the libraries.

Finally, the article presents a proposal for a continuing evaluation of the development of this kind of activities.

Jack Andersen: Informationssøgning og intelligente agenter. En teoretisk fremstilling af brugen af intelligente agenter inden for biblioteksverdenen til informationssøgning på Internettet (Information Seeking and Intelligent Agents. A Theoretical Outline of the Usage of Intelligent Agents for Information Seeking on the Internet within the Library World)

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With a theoretical approach, this paper concerns the usage of intelligent agents for information seeking on the Internet within the library world. Basically, the paper is divided into three sections: Definition of intelligent agents, what types of intelligent agents are suited for information seeking and eventually what kind of information seekings are to be performed by intelligent agents.

First section treats the many definitions given of intelligent agents, and what implications these definitions have for intelligent agents concerning the usage within the library world. This is to some extent supported by a publication analysis of the literature concerning intelligent agents.

Second section looks at what types of intelligent agents are suited for information seeking. The main thesis is, those intelligent agents suited for information seeking are those, who are designed with librarians or information specialists as models and by librarians or information specialists, since they have professional skills like knowledge of various search techniques, knowledge of information spaces like databases and the Internet etc. The section is very much inspired by Nardi & O'Day (1996).

Third section points out that the kind of information seekings, which are to be performed by intelligent agents, must be the most complicated searches. Complicated searches are in this paper equal to subject searches. The theory of subject seeking put forward by Hjørland(1997) is used as the theoretical approach.

REVIEW

Niels D. Lund: En introduktion til faglitteratur (An Introduction to Subject Literature)

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The Norwegian book under review "Det litterære skattkammer" (The Literary Storehouse) was until recently the most comprehensive treatise on subject literature, dealing with the relationship between fiction and subject literature as well as with the history, theory, sociology and rhetoric of subject literature. Niels D. Lund concentrates on some strong points of the book which makes it an inspiration for library and information science. Among these strong points are the broad scope, the sociological point of view and the historical dimension.