Summaries

ARTICLES:

Peter Ingwersen: Systemudvikling i et in-house miljø: Folketingets emneordssystem som case-studie (Systems Design for an In-house Environment the Danish Parliamentary Information System as a Case Study).
Page: 5-23.

The paper is concerned with the development and design of the local information system of the Danish Parliament which took place during the period 1989-93. It concentrates on the following stages of the systems design process: systems analysis by means of structured interviews of the future end-user population; the resulting parameters for the over-all design which includes the principles and specifications for the formation of a non-hierarchial domain-dependent thesaurus. Also described are the input-interface and the search interface to the system which is based on the BRS Serch software. The main part of the paper deals with the thesaurus construction which was carried out in association with the future users of the system. The maintenance processes are also described. The thesaurus is both seen as a conceptual structure underlying the retrieval process in an automatic way, and as a direct support to vocabulary control during the indexing process. In the Parliament indexing is carried out by the same governmental committee secretaries who daily process all the political documents influencing the committee work. An increasing portion of the documents are also searchable in full-text via the system and the thesaurus assures the specific retrieval of topical information. The number of full-text documents at present are approximately 5.000 out of 10.000 per year. In total, approximately 50.000 A4 pages are processed per year. The major type of documents are questions to the Secretaries of State form the members of the 25 standing committees of the Parliament, e.g. the Tax Committee, Environmental Committee, the Health Committee, ect., and the corresponding answers. The paper analyses and discusses the indexing problems particular to parliamentary and political domains of highly dynamic nature, e.g. the application in the indexing vocabulary of political slang and alike expressions originating from a variety of sources, including the press.

Marianne L. Christensen: Hermeneutik - fortolkning og forståelse (Hermeneutics - Interpretation and Understanding).
Page: 25-40.

Starting with the origins of hermeneutic philosophy the article expounds major philosophers' theories within the classical, the philosophical and the critical hermeneutics. Furthermore, the article discusses the importance of hermeneutic theories and concepts in the field of artificial intelligence focusing on Winograd & Flores' book: Understanding Computers and Cognition. An analysis of this book leads to the conclusion that the authors are right stating that it is impossible in a mecanic way to recreate human understanding and thinking - though the book is based on a problematic interpretation of the philosophical hermeneutics. The article also discusses the fundamental differences between respectively the cognitive point of view in information science, the domain analysis paradigm and hermeneutics concluding that the hermeneutic concepts of language, interpretation and understanding are of great importance to information retrieval theory.

Peter Havnø og Lizzi Schlander Hansen: Informationsgenfinding: Partial match søgeteknikker (Review of Partial Match Information Retrieval Techniques)
Page: 41-52.

The main topic of this article is a review of partial match information retrieval techniques. As an introduction we briefly discuss the information retrieval situation and the concept of representation in the shape of author and indexer aboutness. After a discussion of the traditional partial match IR techniques and their limitations, the different techniques of partial match are described, with particularemphasis on term weighting theories and the vector-space model.

Two experiments with the use of term weighting for ranking search outputs from a technicaldatabase and a patent database are described. The authors conclude that term weighting can provide improved presentations of search results.

Michael Søgaard Larsen: Dansk pædagogisk forsk-
nings repræsentation i internationale databaser 2
(The representation of Danish educational research
in international databases 2)
Page: 55-64.

The article uses the data material presented and exami-
ned by means of quantitative methods in BIBLIOTEKS-
ARBEJDE, 38. In the present article the data material
is analysed from a more qualitative point of view. The
relationship between the characteristics of the Danish
pedagogical documents published in non Scandinavian
languages and the characteristics of the Danish pedago-
cical documents represented in ERIC and BEI are
examined with some interesting and surprising con-
clusions. Likewise are the characteristics of the inter-
nationally cited Danish pedagogical literature exami-
ned. Furthermore, the article answers the question: by
whom are Danish pedagodical literature citated?
Concerning the results of the examinations a number of
possible explanations are discussed.

Birger Hjørland: Domæneanalyse: Alternativet til det
kognitive paradigme. En kommentar til Dall &
Havnø (1992) (Domain analysis: The alternative to
the cognitive paradigm. A comment to the article by
Dall & Havnø (1992). Biblioteksarbejde, 1994, no.
41, page 1-6)
Page: 65-70.

The article presents definitions of different approaches
to information science including "cognitivism" and "the
domain analytic approach" and correct some misunder-
standings in the current debate.

Nan Dahlkild reviews "Europa-biblioteket" ("The
European Library")
Page: 73-74.

The subject of the book "Europa-biblioteket" by Acke
Ericsson and Sven Nilsson from the City Library of
Malmö is the future of Europe with new political
dimensions and consequences for European libraries.

The book contains a main chapter with bibliographical
information about the European Community and another
main chapter about the "new regionalism" in both
Eastern and Western Europe. Will the new ethnic
movements and identities lead to further political violen-
ce, or will the "ethnic utopias" lead to cultural under-
standing, tolerance and diversity?

These questions cannot be answered within the book,
but the authors argue, that the libraries have an impor-
tant role to play in the democratization and cultural
development of future Europe. They suggest, that a
special library of the European Community and of
regional movements and minorities is placed in connec-
tion with the Malmö Library as a link between Europe
and the Nordic countries.