Summaries

Jack Andersen: Kommunikation og organisation af viden - et medieteoretisk perspektiv. (Communication and knowledge organization – a media theoretical perspective)
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In this article the relationship between communication technologies and the LIS -concept of knowledge organization will be examined from a medium-theory perspective. The purpose of the medium-theory perspective is to trace the historicity of the LIS -concept of knowledge organization, that is, an examination of which tradition has produced the concept. The perspective will help to reveal the condition of possibilities of knowledge organization and its strong connection with communication technologies, and their constitution of the social organization of society. The means and modes of communication fundamentally alter existing ways of thinking and of producing, communicating and organizing knowledge. The LIS -concept of knowledge organization will be analyzed in relation to the storing and communication of knowledge in oral cultures, written cultures, print culture,

and electronic cultures. Through this, it will be argued that the narrow LIS -concept of knowledge organization is subordinated and in interaction with a broader social organization of knowledge in society. Further, it will be argued that the rise of the Internet as a source of knowledge and information must be understood in relation to and in continuation of this interaction. Among other things, it will be concluded that a relevant socio-historical background and framework for the LIS -concept of knowledge organization is how humans have organized their intellectual activities throughout history in terms of particular means and modes of communication. Medium theory can provide part of this background and framework.

Kasper Graarup: Religionsvidenskab, klassifikation og kontekst (The academic study of religion, classification, and context)
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The paper argues that the concepts of a) the principle of experiential domain (Dixon 1968; Lakoff 1987),

b) situational classification (Ingwersen 1992; Luria 1976), and c) domain (Hjørland 1993) are similar. I.e. they are based on similar epistemological assumptions concerning the nature of knowledge. All of these concepts points towards an understanding of knowledge as something (largely) dependent on context (history, culture, labour etc). The dependency on context implies that knowledge is relative (not universal). It also implies that concepts of knowledge relevant to LIS are most adequately identified by analysis of the very contextualities that define it. The argument is that LIS will benefit more from sociologically informed studies of contexts, than from (for instance) psychologically informed studies of individuals. This argumentation is supported with examples from the academic study of religion compared to the Danish version of the Dewey decimal classification system concerning the literature of (the academic study of) religion.

Birger Hjørland: Vidensorganisation Skal bibliotekarer organisere al information på Internettet? (Communication and knowledge organization – a media theoretical perspective)
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A first year library school student suggested that in the future librarians should index »all information« on the Internet. This article takes this statement as its point of departure for a discussion about what knowledge organization means, what librarians do today, and what their education should prepare them for in the future. It also analyses what library and information science implies and how it should be further developed. The article presents two basic issues: Bibliographical control and Document representation and shows how these issues are related through the concept of relevance. Two different ways of approaching these problems are presented. On the one hand there is a rationalist approach based on centralized bibliographical control and indexing in mutually exclusive and exhaustive classes. On the other hand there is a more organic approach based on selecting and indexing for

different user groups and needs. The article presents historical and theoretical approaches. It shows how different kinds of organizing information is carried out by many different professions, at several parallel levels (including mechanical indexing). The article concludes that there are no fixed limits to the scope of library education, but that it is important to respect the expertise of other professions and to consider what the specific basis is for the LIS profession.

Torkild Thellefsen: Semiotisk vidensorganisering i teori og praksis (Semiotic knowledge organization – theory and praxis)
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This article deals with knowledge organization based on the pragmatic semiotics of C. S. Peirce and it offers a way of understanding knowledge that leads us away from the universalistic knowledge understanding primarily used within LIS and toward an understanding of knowledge that is anchored locally within knowledge domains. Since the latter seems to be the more plausible case, we must organize knowledge according to how knowledge cognitively is structured within knowledge domains. The theory and method presented in this paper suggests that knowledge is structured around the basic idea of a knowledge domain, a so called fundamental sign.

Anders Ørom: Kunsten at organisere viden om kunsten (The art of organizing knowledge of art)
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The aim of the article is to analyse knowledge organisation in different document types within the art domain. The document types analysed are a history of art (Janson: *History of art*), three universal classification systems (LCC, DDC and the Soviet BBK), a thesaurus (*Art & Architecture Thesaurus*), a subject specific international classification system for iconographic research and the documentation of images (Iconclass) and a virtual art museum (*Det*

virtuelle Kunstmuseum/ the Danish national Virtual art Museum). The method used is an analysis of the conceptual structures in the documents mentioned above. The main conclusion is that the common discourse used in documents organising knowledge of the arts is marked by ideas and concepts going back to the Enlightenment, by the exhibition practice in art museums in the 19th century, and by the 'old' paradigms in art history scholarship: style analysis, iconography and the use of a biographical context. A general problem is that the documents written by scholars advocating the 'new art history' (based on theories from anthropology, semiotics, philosophy etc.) do not 'fit' into the common discourse. Among the analysed documents the *Art & Architecture Thesaurus* is the one that is most open to non-traditional discourses in the domain.