

Summaries

Hanne Foss Hansen & Olaf Rieper: Evidensbevægelsens institutionalisering og arbejdsformer. (Institutionalisation and methods of the evidence movement)

Pages: 7-16

The evidence movement produces a new type of knowledge: systematic reviews. The article focuses on the institutionalised part of the evidence movement focusing on the production of systematic reviews aimed at the major welfare areas of, healthcare and social issues. The primary focus of the article concerns the following questions: What characterises the evidence-movement? How did it spread within the Nordic countries? To what extent can the movement be characterised as a simple copying of methods from the medicine field where systematic reviews are based on a strict selection of primary studies and to what extent does the spread represent a more complex picture?

Carl Gustav Johannsen: Kritik af evidensbevægelsen. (Critical position towards evidence-based practice)

Pages: 17-33

The article presents an overview and examines a number of key barriers to the application of evidence-based practice (EBP) in public sector institutions in Denmark. The sector which is primarily dealt with is the educational, whereas critical points from the social and the health sector play a lesser role. The relevance of the different objections towards EBP

in Nordic libraries is also discussed. However, until now, it seems as if EBP has played an only minor role in the discussions of the library sector in the Nordic countries. Besides, misunderstandings and errors are identified and clarified., during the presentations of the different objections. Finally, five strands of social science theories are examined concerning their relationships towards EBP.

Birger Hjørland: Evidensbaseret praksis i videnskabssteoretisk belysning. (Evidence based practice. An analysis based on the theory of knowledge)

Pages: 35-47

Evidence based practice (EBP) is an influential interdisciplinary movement which originated in medicine as evidence based medicine (EBM) and it is now about 20 years old. EBP is of considerable interest to library and information science (LIS) because it focuses on a thorough documentation of the basis for decision-makings which is established in research as well as upon an optimization of each link in documentation and search processes. In no other tradition are the core issues in LIS (knowledge organization and information retrieval) treated with the same kind of explicit interests as they are in EBP.

EBP is, however, also a controversial movement. This is in particular the case in more "soft" disciplines like psychology, nursing and LIS, but this is also the case within medicine itself. The main criticism of EBM is that medical practitioners lose their autonomy and that the understanding of basic causal

mechanisms is weakened. This criticism based on the philosophy of science is not just relevant for the use of, for example, EBM or evidence based psychology. It is also relevant for the general understanding of documentation processes in LIS.

The article presents and examines these epistemological issues. Because EBM is the strongest case it is here that the core issues of importance for the whole EBP movement can be examined most thoroughly. That is why this article focuses mostly on EBM.

Christine Nordentoft: Evidens og kreativitet. (Evidence and creativity)
Pages: 49-63

The purpose of this article is to study how new ideas evolve in public libraries.

What role do creativity and innovation play in public libraries? Are there recommendations as to procedures for creativity and innovation? Do public libraries use research results and to what extent do they form a starting point for development of ideas? How do the library professionals relate to the idea of evidence-based development of ideas? Which opportunities, benefits and disadvantages may there be for the professionals? Tanggaards theory of creativity, a report about the innovative library from the Danish Authority for Library and Media, and the findings of Rieper and Foss Hansen about the methods of the evidence movement, are used as theoretical background for the study. Six qualitative interviews with leaders in public libraries, representing the five regions in Denmark, have been conducted. With background in the study it is concluded to what extent new ideas evolve randomly or are based on research result, and conclusions are presented about the attitudes of the public libraries concerning the relations between creativity and innovation, on the one hand, and evidence-based practice (EBP) on the other. Neither Tanggaards theory nor the opinions of most of the interviewed library leaders point to - a real or experienced - contradiction between EBP and creativity and innovation.

Niels Ole Pors: Evidens om bibliotekernes brugere. (Evidence and library users)
Pages: 65-81

The main objective of this article is to investigate the question concerning our knowledge about library users, their behaviour, activities, and preferences. To answer the question a number of recent surveys are analysed. A common trait is that the investigation possesses a certain scientific ambition. The analysis indicated that it is possible to see some common trends in the material. One of the main results concerns the preferences of the users in relation to content in form of paper-based and digital texts. Several other results concerning the physical library, user preferences and the like are discussed. The dominant theme appears to be that users are very traditional both as to preferences and according to activities. However, the users have taken the digital services to them and this affects the information behaviour.

Carl Gustav Johannsen: Evidensbevægelsens spredning til biblioteker i Danmark, Norge og Sverige. (The evidence movement in Denmark, Norway and Sweden)
Pages: 83-88

This article tries - inspired by Røviks theory on concept migration - to identify and explain patterns concerning the spread and implementation of the ideas of the evidence movement to libraries in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. Common to the three countries is the remarkable difference between research and public libraries where the public libraries are much less involved than the research libraries. Among the three countries, Sweden is, certainly, the country where the evidence movement was first successfully introduced in certain research libraries. The Swedish leading role was confirmed through the arrangement of the 5. EBLIP Conference in 2009 in Stockholm. Norway's strengths lies certainly in the establishment of educations targeted towards libraries at institutions in Bergen and Oslo. An obvious barrier towards the spread of EBP in libraries is, certainly, the different contexts of the medical, natural science oriented environments where EBP was originally developed and the more humanistic and social science contexts of research and public libraries. At least, a comparison of the rapid international spread of the concept of "23 things" from American to libraries all over the world seems to support that hypothesis.

Iben Brøndum og Hanne Munch Kristiansen: Informationsspecialisters informationssøgeadfærd ved sygeplejefaglige litteratursøgninger - med udgangspunkt i EBLIP. (Information specialists' search behaviour in the field of nursing: an EBLIP-project)
Pages: 89-97

The main objective of this article is to uncover information specialists' search behaviour when assisting in or performing information retrieval (IR) in the field of nursing. We investigate whether there are common denominators and characteristics in the IR process and if our findings can serve as guiding principles in improving the way we assist this user group and result in the development of a procedure for IR in nursing. Our principal foci are the archiving of search protocols for reuse, the degree of search assistance and the translation of nurses' keywords from natural language into controlled vocabularies. The information behaviour of information specialists is investigated through 10 qualitative interviews and analysis of search protocols compiled by the interviewees.

Based on the interviews and search protocols we conclude that there are some common features in the ways information specialists perform IR in nursing. However, the differences in this search behaviour are more dominating. Therefore, we do not find sufficient common characteristics in information specialists' search behaviour to warrant the development of a systematic procedure or strategy. Instead, it is proposed to archive performed searches on term level for the purpose of reuse.

Tord Høivik: Produksjon og innovasjon. Kunnskapsbasert praksis i norske folkebibliotek. (Production and innovation: knowledge-based practice in Norwegian public libraries)
Pages: 99-101

The article deals with the application of "knowledge-based library practice" (KBP) in Norwegian public libraries. The concept corresponds with EBP in Denmark and EBLIP in Sweden. It focuses on the both exciting and tense relationship between systematic knowledge, on the one hand, and the daily practice of the public libraries, on the other. The role of the central, national agency for the Norwegian public libraries, ABM-utvevling, from 2003-2010 is described and analysed focusing on the apparent discrepancy

between a well-developed national library statistic and a reluctant interest and ability to transform this knowledge into practice. However, the article points out that improvements have taken place, recently. Finally, the article shows through actual Norwegian, public library cases how innovation and development in Norwegian public libraries might benefit from knowledge-based library practice.

Lena Victoria Nordheim: Kunnskapsbasert praksis i norske fagbibliotek. (Knowledge-based practice in Norwegian research libraries)
Pages: 103-108

The article presents the current work and experiences concerning knowledge-based practice (KBP) (which is a Norwegian translation of evidence-based practice) in Norwegian research libraries, in general, and medicine libraries, in particular. The applied definition of KBP is broad, covering three main sources of evidence: professional experiences, the users, and research. It is emphasised that KBP activities are aimed at two goals: helping the users of the research libraries and towards the libraries own practice. A number of different activities related to KBP are presented: courses for library staff - and sometimes also doctors and nurses, seminars, an accredited continuing education course in KBP, journal clubs, and visits from international KBP experts. The article also discusses the quality of the evidence base related to libraries and the possibilities concerning the production of systematic reviews relevant to library and information practice. Finally, the importance of networking is stressed and the double role of the library professions towards research as both consumers and producers.

Lotta Haglund: Evidence based library and information practice (EBLIP) i Sverige. (Evidence based library and information practice (EBLIP) in Sweden)
Pages: 109-113

The article presents a definition of evidence-based library and information practice, emphasising its broad character of user-reported, librarian-observed and research-derived evidence. It is here underlined, that the Swedish libraries are relatively stronger, concerning the application of both the user-reported and the librarian-observed evidence than concerning the research-derived. Then, a number of barriers and objections as to EBLIP, are presented such as its af-

finity to natural science research traditions, that it is experienced as dogmatic by many librarians and, finally, that the concept is not properly integrated into the education of librarians, and, that it seems to clash with basic elements of the organisational culture of many libraries. The article reviews a number of ongoing key, EBLIP-inspired initiatives and activities in the Swedish library sector: the library education, the activities and literature reviews of the Swedish Library Association, the commitment of Swedish li-

brarians concerning the international EBLIP-conferences, and, especially, the central role of the library of the medical university, Karolinska Institutet, as the prime mover concerning the development of relevant competences, conferences, courses and workshops. Expectations concerning the future of EBLIP in the Swedish library sector are optimistic, especially, after the successful accomplishment of the 5th EBLIP conference in Stockholm in the summer of 2009.