

Summaries

Niels Ole Pors: Personlighed og informationsadfærd: En introduktion til et forskningsområde (Personality and information behaviour: an introduction to a research area).

Pages: 5-16

The topic for this paper is the relationship between personality and information behaviour. This area of research is rather new in library and information science. The main objective of the paper is to introduce to the research area. The paper contains an introduction to psychological testing with an emphasis on the level of analysis by first and second order variables or factors. The paper illustrates the research on the significance of personality in the broader area of library and information science. The paper then turns to the relationship between information behaviour and personality. Three large scale studies are discussed. The discussion indicates that personality testing is a useful tool in relation to modelling information behaviour, especially if the personality profiling are contextualised. Both practical and theoretical perspectives are mentioned and the most important is probably the need for a combination of qualitative and statistical oriented personality studies as the base for formulation of research hypotheses.

Peter Ingwersen & Kalervo Järvelin: Informationsøgning set i det Integreerede Kognitive Forskningsperspektiv (Information seeking from the Integrated Cognitive Research perspective).

Pages: 17-32

The article demonstrates the Laboratory perspective on information retrieval and information searching and how it is imbedded in the Integrated Cognitive Research perspective. Initially, the Laboratory perspective and its underlying assumptions and well known drawbacks and limitations are discussed. Next, information interaction is discussed from the Integrated Cognitive perspective. It is suggested that 'ultra-light' and interactive 'light' experiments on information searching are performed based on this research perspective by exploiting its contextual possibilities. These include independent variables in relation to the document collection, retrieval principles in the search system and the information seeker's situation and interest context. Finally, a concluding summary is presented.

Nils Pharo: *Småstegs søkeprosesser: hvordan 'disjointed incrementalism' kan benyttes for å forstå informasjonsøkeatferd (Information seeking processes in steps: how 'disjointed incrementalism' can be employed to understand information seeking behaviour)*.

Pages: 33-40

David Braybrooke and Charles D. Lindblom's model of disjointed incrementalism is presented and it is demonstrated and discussed how it can be applied to information search behavior, especially in a web based context. In addition, two paradigms of information searching are presented and discussed, that is, the structured paradigm executed by librarians and information specialists and the web paradigm executed by laymen.

Lennart Björneborn: *Serendipitetsfaktorer og brugeradfærd på det fysiske bibliotek (Serendipity factors and user behaviour at the physical library)*.

Pages: 43-56

The paper outlines an exploratory study concerned with what types of information behaviour users employ in order to find materials in a public library. Special focus was on what dimensions in the physical library may affect possibilities for serendipity when users find materials and information not planned for. The overall aim of the study was to develop a conceptual model to describe users' interaction with library information spaces. The study took place at two Danish public libraries (Copenhagen Main Library and Vanløse Library) during a 10 months period in 2006. Naturalistic observation of users' information behaviour was supplemented with qualitative interviews and think-aloud sessions. Data were transcribed and analyzed in an iterative process of categorization and condensation. Data analysis resulted in a model of different ways of finding library materials using and combining different types of convergent (goal-directed) and divergent (explorative) information behaviour. The investigated users' information behaviour was composite and situational with changes in behaviour between visits and during visits as users' interest spaces get triggered in the library. Users' information behaviour includes cross-over behaviour and indirect user-to-user mediation. Ten different serendipity dimensions in the physical library were identified: unhampered access, diversity, exposure, contrasts, pointers, imperfection,

cross contacts, multi-reachability, explorability and 'stopability'. The paper introduces a conceptual model suggesting that libraries can be viewed as an integrative interface comprising the totality of contact surfaces, access points and mediation flows between users and library resources whether human, physical or digital. The paper suggests that mediation policies of libraries should include how human, physical and digital information resources should be mediated and supplement each other in the library's integrative interface. If integrated into these policies, the presented framework of convergent and divergent information behaviour and identified serendipity dimensions could serve as means to design the library interface to facilitate both convergent and divergent information behavior – supporting users to explore, exploit and expand affordances embedded in the library's integrative interface.

Jens Gudiksen: *Metodologiske aspekter ved studiet af brugeradfærd - en diskussion af adfærdsforskning contra praksisforskning (Methodological aspects of behaviour studies – a discussion of behavioural research contra critical practice research)*.

Pages: 57-70

The article takes its point of departure in an apparently increasing interest taken in research in user- and customer behaviour in our age, and finds the explanations for this in, that these types of research is convenient to the way in which research in general is developed and promoted in a current political context. Behavioural research is, from a meta-scientific point of view, in general characterized as a descriptive and explaining type of research, which brings it into conflict with the dialectic nature of the social phenomena and events it is doing research into. As a response to behavioural research it is discussed how practice research, with its fundamental different theoretical and methodological features, attempts to include the complex dialectic nature of social phenomena. Corresponding to the fundamental different theories of science, that characterize behavioural and practice research, the article presents the different kinds of knowledge behavioural research and practice research produce respectively.