“Unity in Diversity”: A Conversation around the Interdisciplinary Identity of Information Science

November 2, 2021

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Meet the Panelists

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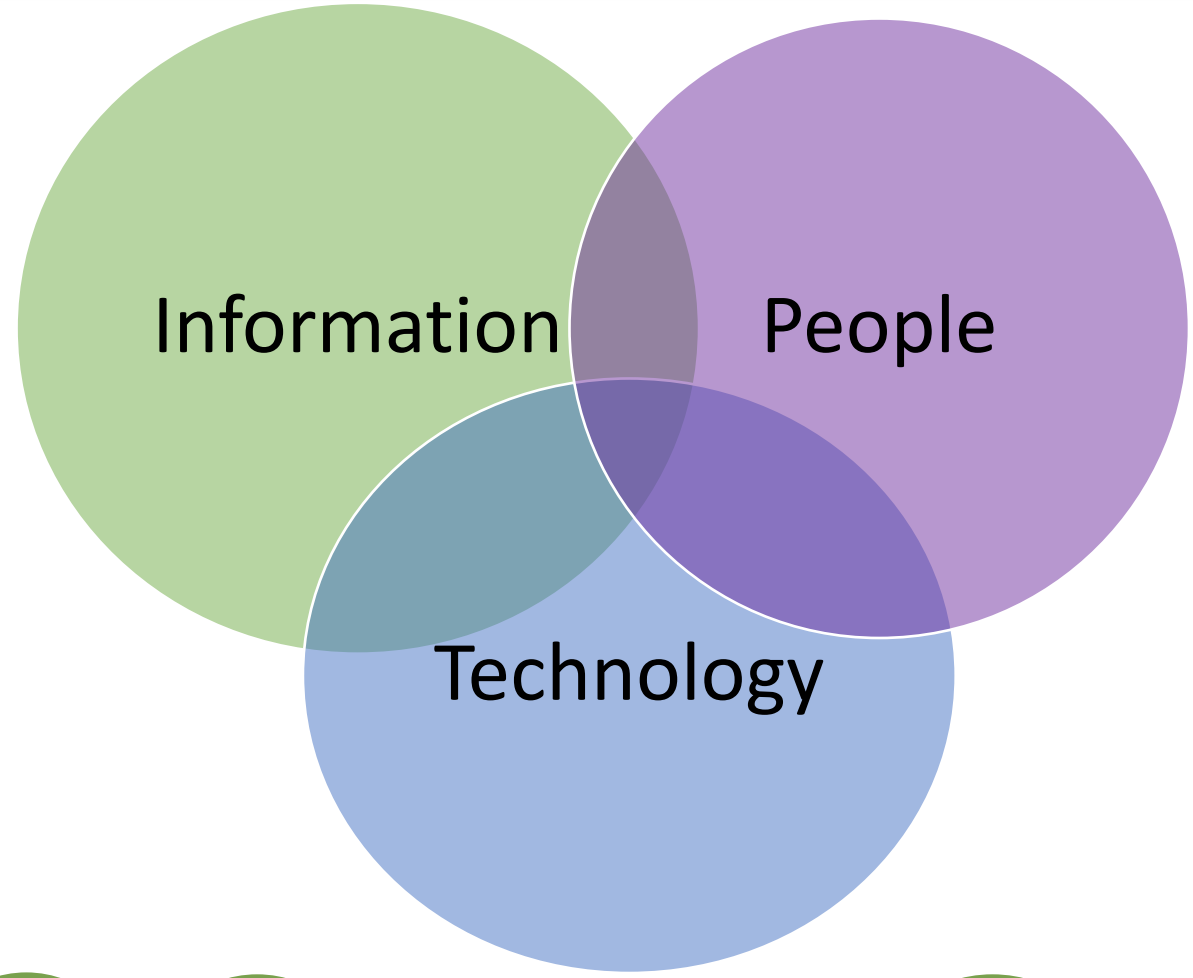
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Interdisciplinary Identity of Information Science



Digital Libraries

Info. seeking & use

Information metrics

Information Retrieval

Knowledge management

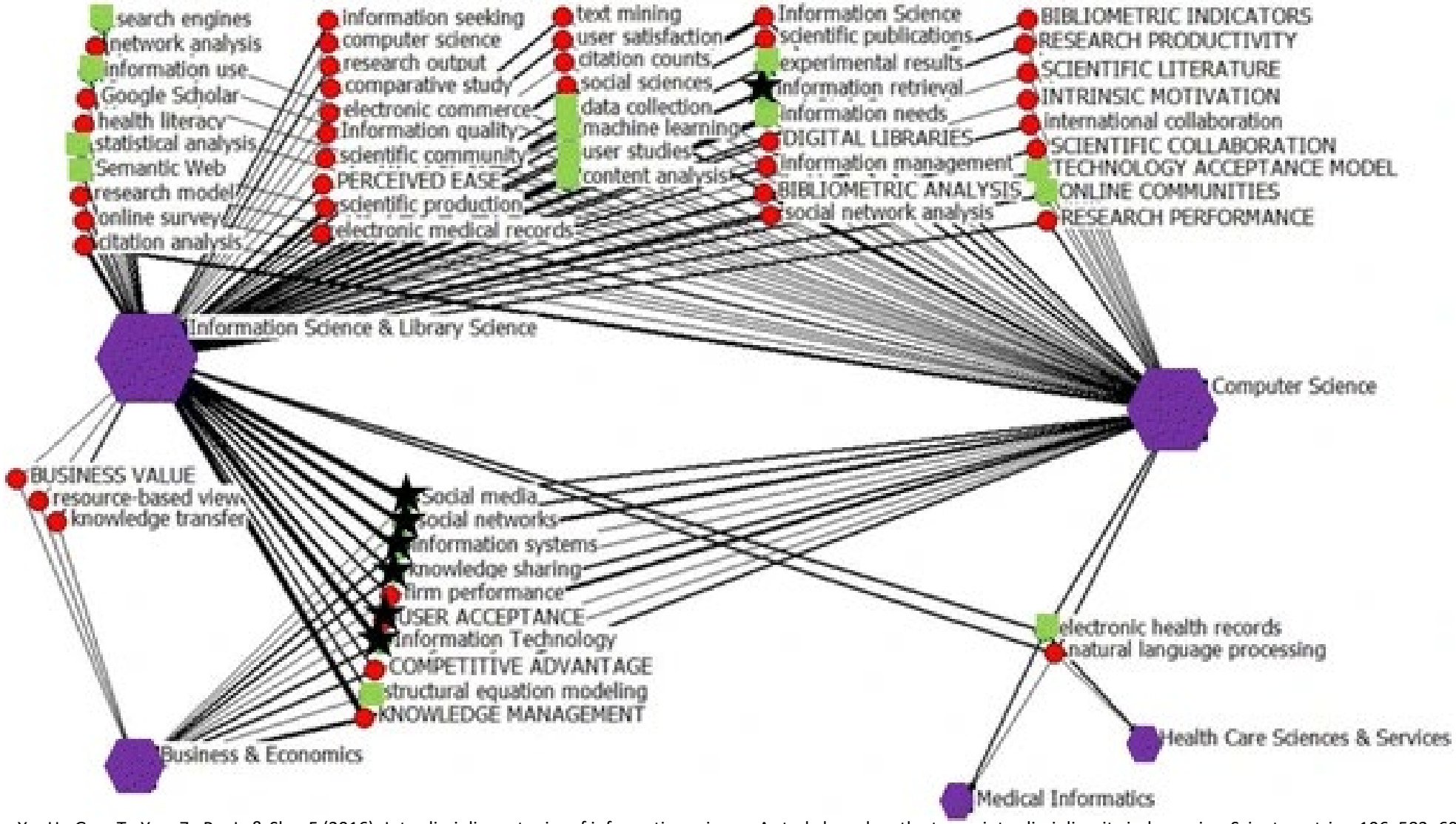
Information organization

Information architecture

Human Computer Interaction

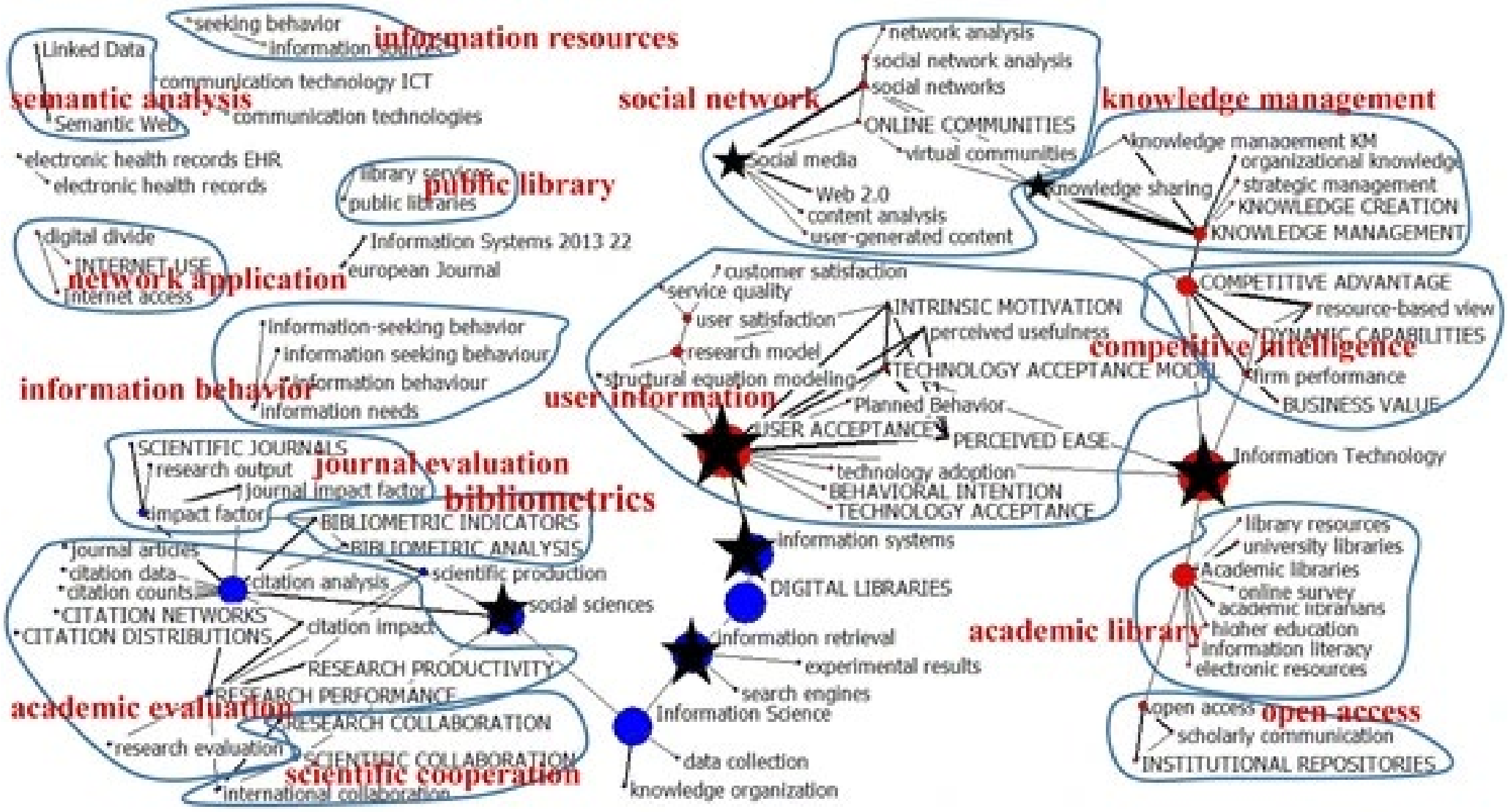
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Interdisciplinary Identity of Information Science



Xu, H., Guo, T., Yue, Z., Ru, L, & Shu, F.(2016). Interdisciplinary topics of information science: A study based on the terms interdisciplinarity index series. Scientometrics, 106, 583–601 . https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-015-1792-2.

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Rationale for the Panel

- A dynamic and interdisciplinary field
- Diverse set of methods, theoretical frameworks, tools, and processes which we continue to develop, adopt, and extended
- Some of the methods and frameworks have origins in other disciplines
- Interdisciplinary nature - a positive for the field
- Sometimes perceived as lacking strong identity
- The need for continued conversations

Two main goals of the panel

1. Engage researchers and educators in an interactive discussion on the contributing factors and ways in which information science can remain a diverse and interdisciplinary field, realize its full potential, and build a strong identity as well as identify potential barriers it needs to overcome; and
2. Delineate the roles its stakeholders and allies need to play to achieve that goal of a field with “Unity in diversity”

Discussion Question/Theme #1

How do you characterize the diversity in information science in terms of areas or topics for research and teaching, its defining features, as well as the various methods, theories, models, and tools used and/or applied? How are the multiple identities of the field shaping it overall? What positive and/or negative impacts have they had?

Discussion Question/Theme #2

What are the contributing factors and ways in which information science can remain a diverse and interdisciplinary field while building a strong identity (or multiple identities) and stature and distinguishing itself from other allied fields (or reframe and reimagine its multiple identities)?

Discussion Question/Theme #3

What are the three most pressing barriers or potential hurdles it needs to overcome to remain an interdisciplinary and diverse field with a strong identity and a field with “Unity in diversity”?

Discussion Question/Theme #4

What role does each stakeholder and/or ally (educators, researchers, practitioners, groups such as the iSchools Caucus, professional associations, standard and accreditation bodies, etc.) need to play for information science to achieve the ultimate goal of an interdisciplinary and diverse field with a strong identity and a field with “Unity in diversity”?

Takeaways

Thank YOU!



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