



SICS Research Seminar Series

Positive information science: An emerging area of research, policy, and practice



Dr Yazdan Mansourian is a Lecturer in the School of Information and Communication Studies at Charles Sturt University (CSU). He received his PhD in Information Science from the University of Sheffield. Yazdan also holds a BSc degree in Agricultural Engineering from Guilan University and an MA degree in LIS from Ferdowsi University of Mashhad. Prior to joining CSU in 2017, Yazdan was a faculty member, Director of the Central Library, and head of the LIS Department at Kharazmi University in Tehran. His current research interests are Human Information Behaviour (HIB) and Information Seeking and Sharing in the Context of Serious Leisure. Yazdan is interested in the philosophical and theoretical aspects of LIS and the various methods in which we can put these theories into practice.

Abstract

In this presentation, I reflect on the past four years of my ongoing research program about human information behaviour in the context of serious leisure, and I explain how the concept of “Positive Information Science” emerged from my research and led my program towards new directions. The term initially was coined in a panel discussion at the ASIS&T conference 2009 by Jenna Hartel, Jarkko Kari, Robert Stebbins, and Marcia Bates. However, it has been mainly neglected in the LIS scholarship afterwards. It is a multidisciplinary concept with solid links with positive psychology and wellbeing studies highlighting the role of “Positive Information Experiences” in our overall wellness. The empirical data from my past and present projects illustrate the concept’s applicability in LIS research, policy, and practice, and I share some examples of each category. I also explain how Positive Information Science can provide LIS scholars with a multidisciplinary conceptual framework for their future studies. The framework can enable them to conceptualise and contextualise empirical data to better understand human information experiences in various contexts. Furthermore, the framework is a productive ground to design and develop more interdisciplinary studies in LIS research.

EVENT DETAILS

Wednesday 9 February 2021

12:00-1:00pm Sydney time

This session can only be attended remotely via Zoom

<https://charlessturt.zoom.us/j/68826174020?pwd=dFdCTG9sNkltSWhHVtN2bE85NTMxQT09>

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