Call for Papers

The field of human information behaviour and practice is multidisciplinary in scope: researchers from information science, information management, management science, psychology, social psychology, sociology, information systems, computer science, and other disciplines all contribute to this field of investigation.

ISIC: the Information Behaviour Conference intends to reflect this interdisciplinary character through attracting papers from researchers in all of these areas. The unifying characteristic, which we see as essential in developing a programme is the relationship between the needs or requirements of the information user, the means for the satisfaction of those needs and the uses to which those means are put in practice by organizations or disciplines. Thus, papers that deal solely with technological aspects of system design, for example, will not be appropriate for the conference.

Themes of the conference include the following:

1. Theories and models of information behaviour and information practice, including conceptualizations of the cognitive, affective, social and situational aspects of information needs, seeking, searching, use and sharing.
2. Research approaches and methodologies, both interpretative and positivist, employing either qualitative or quantitative methods.
3. Information behaviour and information practices in specific contexts: e.g., in different sectors and organisations (health care, education, business, industry, the public services and government, the emergency services); in everyday life, and in virtual social networks (including social media, gaming and virtual worlds as arenas for information exchange).
4. Collaborative information practices: communities, boundary spanning and innovation practices.
5. Information use and value: the nature of information and how information is used to help solve problems, aid or support decision making
6. Information behaviour and analytics (social media and enterprise analytics).
7. Organizational structures and processes and information behaviour and practices.
8. The role of information in building and enhancing the adaptive capacity of organisations: strategy and information absorption, transformation and integration.
9. The mediation of information behaviour: how human or software agents can respond to information needs.
10. The design of information delivery systems to meet information needs generally, or in organizational or disciplinary contexts, including social media and Web 2.0 developments such as blogs, wikis, e-learning platforms and open access information resources.
11. The communication of information to users: relationship between communication theory and information behaviour, including, for example, the relationship of information architectures to information seeking behaviour and the design of information products based on sound communication principles.
12. Cross disciplinary contributions: integrating studies on information seeking and interactive retrieval; integrating information science, management science and information systems.

For the 2016 Conference we shall be particularly interested in papers in any areas that address the connection between information research and information behaviour and practices. Also, analytical, rather than descriptive investigations, will be sought, with strong connections to previous work and to theoretical or conceptual frameworks.

Important Dates
Paper and poster preparation and submission deadline is 25 February 2016. The paper submission will be started on July 10, 2015. We will provide the detailed guideline and format requirements for preparing papers in the second “Call for Papers” which should be announced on January 10, 2016.

Paper Format
The maximum length of a paper is 5500 words (excluding the list of references). Paper presentation format in the conference includes full presentations (30 minutes) and short presentations (20 minutes).

Doctoral Workshop
We also invite doctoral students to submit an application for participation in the Doctoral Workshop held in conjunction with the Conference on Tuesday, 20 September 2016. Details of the doctoral submission guidelines and format requirements will be released in the second “Call for Papers” in January 2016.