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Scatter of the Literature (2009)

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Bibliography

*Scatter of the Literature**

STEVEN M. BERGSON

Aharony, Noa; Raban, Daphne R. "Economics of Information Goods: An Interdisciplinary Subject for Israeli LIS and MBA Curricula," *Library & Information Science Research* 30 (2008), pp. 102–107.

Economics of information goods is an area of research that studies the unusual nature of information as a good in markets and in the public domain, as well as the value assigned to information. This study explores the attitudes of Israeli library and information science (LIS) and business/management students, lecturers, and practitioners regarding incorporating a course on the economics of information goods into the curricula. The authors recommend that both LIS and business/management master's programs should include economics of information goods in the curriculum.

Bronstein, Jenny; Baruchson-Arbib, Shifra. "The Application of Cost-Benefit and Least Effort Theories in Studies of Information Seeking Behavior of Humanities Scholars: The Case of Jewish Studies Scholars In Israel," *Journal of Information Science* 34:2 (2008), pp. 131–144.

The study investigated the process of information channel selection of Jewish studies scholars in Israel according to two theoretical frameworks, the 'cost-benefit ratio' that focused on the quality of the information provided by the channel and the 'least effort principle' that focused on the accessibility of the channel. The study sought to identify which of the two parameters, quality of information or accessibility of the channel, was the decisive one when selecting an information channel. Findings showed that, in general, participants' information channel use was not affected by the obstacles encountered in the information seeking process and that the quality of the information was the decisive factor in choosing an information channel.

Lerner, Heidi G. "Perspectives on Technology" [series], *AJS Perspectives: The Magazine of the Association for Jewish Studies*. Online links to these columns are accessible at: <http://www.ajsnet.org/lerner.htm>. The most recent ones to appear are:

"Researching Orthodox Judaism Online," Spring 2008, pp. 36–38.

Covers resources on the following topics: Orthodox Judaism and the Media; Organizational Websites; Communication within Orthodox and Haredi Communities.

"New Tools for Jewish Linguistics," Fall 2008, pp. 36–39.

Covers the following resources: Annotated Corpora; Unannotated Corpora; Dictionaries; Audio and Sound Collections; Tools for the Twenty-first Century.

* Editor's note: Wherever possible, annotations to these citations are based on those provided by indexing and abstracting services.

"Scholarly Communication in the Twenty-first Century: A Changing Landscape," Spring 2009, pp. 36–39.

Covers difficult-to-track materials, such as: Preprints; Conference and Working Papers; Student Scholarship; and Scholarship in Non-text Formats.

Motin, Susan Hubbs. "Librarians and the Holocaust: Research-Related Issues," *College & Undergraduate Libraries* 14:4 (2007), pp. 121–129.

After learning and teaching about the Holocaust for the past sixteen years, the author advocates that librarians join Holocaust scholars, historians, teachers, and others in ensuring that this horrific and catastrophic event of the twentieth century is correctly understood, taught, and, most importantly, never forgotten.

Myers, David N. "R. B. Kitaj (1932–2007) and the Jewish Archive," *American Art* 22:2 (2008), pp. 98–100.

Toward the end of his life the American-Jewish artist R. B. Kitaj donated his letters, sketches, ruminations, articles and books to the Special Collections Department of the Young Research Library at the University of California–Los Angeles. It was his hope that they would become the foundation of a future UCLA Archive of Jewish Culture.

Ravid, Gilad; Bar-Ilan, Judit; Baruchson-Arbib, Shifra; Rafaeli, Sheizaf. "Popularity and Findability through Log Analysis of Search Terms and Queries: The Case of a Multilingual Public Service Website," *Journal of Information Science* 33:5 (2007), pp. 567–583.

SHIL on the Web is the website of the Israeli Citizens' Advice Bureau. It provides information about rights, social benefits, government and public services and civil obligations. Activity on the site approaches 10,000 pages visited per day. It has interfaces in four languages: Hebrew, Arabic, Russian, and English. Logfile analysis of the SHIL website revealed to the authors' surprise that about 60.7% of the requests reaching SHIL from external sites (excluding requests from robots) are from general search engines (e.g. Google and MSN), and users reach a specific page on the site linked from the search results page. This finding seems to indicate that the site is not known well enough to the public. On the other hand the site is very active, thus it seems to serve Israeli citizens well, even without being a well known brand. Since search engines provide snippets, when the user clicks on a specific page he already has some information on what is to be found on the page and the user makes a conscious decision to click on the specific result. Thus, this type of analysis provides additional information about the users' actual information needs.

Shoham, Snunith; Rabinovich, Rachel. "Public Library Services to New Immigrants in Israel: The Case of Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union and Ethiopia," *The International Information & Library Review* 40 (2008), pp. 21–42.

This study analyzes the services public libraries in Israel provide to two groups of immigrants: immigrants from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia, and researches how these two groups use the libraries. Questionnaires were completed by 319 library users, ages 14–30, from both ethnic groups and by 45 directors of libraries, located in neighborhoods with a concentration of these two ethnic groups. It was found that many more services were provided within the multicultural approach and less is done within the "melting pot" approach. Significant differences were found between special services offered to Ethiopian immigrants as opposed to those from the FSU. Many more libraries offer in Russian and employ librarians who speak Russian compared to the few Amharic speakers. Also, special services for new immigrants were provided in more libraries for immigrants from the FSU than for immigrants from Ethiopia. These differences can be explained by the size of the two communities, the availability of materials (there are many books in Russian as compared to a lack of Amharic literature), and the availability of librarians from these ethnic groups. Immigrants from Ethiopia require the library to study and prepare school assignments, and find themselves spending more time in the reference library, while immigrants from the FSU

borrow more books. Both groups use the public library in Israel more than they did in their countries of origins.

Wolloch, Jeffrey. "Historic Records as Historical Records: Hersh Gross and His Boiberiker Kapelye (1927–1932)," *ARSC Journal* 38:1 (2007), pp. 44–106.

The Boiberiker Kapelye was a Jewish ensemble—what would today be called a "klezmer" band—active in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Although now mainly cited as an early vehicle for the great clarinetist Dave Tarras, the Boiberiker was much more. Tarras plays no major role on the three 1927 Boiberiker discs, but they are classics of klezmer artistry in their own right. This article gives a detailed account of the ensemble's recordings, broadcasting career, and personnel, with special emphasis on long-forgotten founder and leader Hersh Gross. It presents evidence that the Boiberiker made additional recordings under other names.

Steven M. Bergson is currently a Research Administrator for the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. A past president of the Ontario chapter of the Association of Jewish Libraries, he is currently Vice-President of that chapter.