

PREFACE

Digital content has enabled access to unabridged, spontaneous and vibrant content, bridging the distributed voices of the Library and Information Science Professionals across geographical, institutional and language barriers. Blogs represent one such informal medium - reflecting theoretical, technological, and diverse areas of dynamic discourse on the Internet. Library & Information Science (LIS) Blogs have sustained themselves for close to two decades in an era of ephemeral technological developments. The importance of blogs as significant contributors to literature is validated by the inclusion of blogs in the archives projects of the Library of Congress, National Library of Australia and many other institutions.

Identifying blogs on specific Library & Information Science subjects still remains a challenging task. The present study 'Library and Information Science Blogs: A Content Analysis' has been an attempt to analyze blog content with the aim of identifying the core subjects of Library and Information Science represented on the LIS Blogosphere. The study was conducted with a sample of LIS Blogs derived from Walt Crawford's study of the 'Liblog Landscape'. The main objectives of the study were to categorize LIS blogs into broad and specific subject categories, to rank LIS blogs on the basis of the number of links found in each broad subject category, to identify the subject trends in each broad subject category through a content analysis of blog posts, comments & links and to identify the percentage of LIS bloggers with publications in the formal channels of communication.

Further this study aims to assimilate studies on LIS Blogosphere, thereby identifying the available limited literature in this area. Moreover, it will also help in addressing pertinent issues within the realm of the LIS Blogosphere for future sustainability and retrieval.