Chapter 15

The Interdisciplinarity of the Information Science

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ABSTRACT

This chapter presents the conceptual evolution of interdisciplinarity, transdisciplinarity, and discipline under information science from a theoretical framework. The text is a research whose primary purpose is to analyze scientific research developed in the context of interdisciplinary information science with participation in more than one area of knowledge. Using the concepts presented and those that contemporary authors studied in different areas for composition of the conceptual framework that presents itself, the results of the research have enabled profiling of research in the area about the use of different approaches and concluded that different forms and levels of interaction are found in information science. It is, therefore, concluded that the concepts have changed and that caused significant changes in their meanings. These changes lead to an ongoing re-evaluation and updating in the context of information science and its implications because it is an interdisciplinary science.

INTRODUCTION

The actual society lives a stage of development that can be described as modern, but it took a character so large, unexpected and complex enough to distinguish its own modernity, overtaking it, so we can call it postmodern.

Definitely, what characterizes our contemporaneity definitely is, roughly speaking, the narcissism of the people, the superficiality, recovery of appearances at the expense of the essences, the high technological sophistication, especially in electronic appliances and virtual design, instant and integrated communication (sound, image, text), usually transmitted via internet and captured on screens (lowercase or, on the contrary, enormous) of liquid crystal, the hyper-realism, that is, the transformation and the treatment given to artistic achievements enshrined so far and many others.

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However, the great hallmark of this strange and stunning time is the fragmentation of everything and everyone. If modern man “stresses” faced with multiple activities in which unfolds almost to infinity, the Post modernity disrupts the human being by means of an internal Division, often schizophrenic, in multiple subjectivities and identities.

The forgotten man—The story eventually denies and its main concern is focused solely on material aspects of existence and in the attachment to the pleasures of the senses, almost in a childlike way extolling the present moment, making everything precarious and scattering by a thousand possibilities and expending the best human energies.

This is the half-human, socio-cultural and political at all “hyper and Hypo”, confusing and undefined, the information science, endowed by while theoretical conceptualizations and limited resources on our own identity and affirmation, is called the intervene and forward the issues that are not a glitch, such as production, storage, organization and circulation of knowledge (the information feeds the knowledge).

The proposed work is to provide a reflection on the emergence and evolution of information science, taking into consideration the context in which it is inserted. To understand an area or topic is necessary, at first, knowledge of its origins and its story. So, it presents a little history of the evolution of science information and its development over the past decades.

The consolidation of a particular field of knowledge is, among other things, the existence of a scientific community. This consists of several researchers and scientists who are anxious to discuss and resolve the problems that arise in the area. Thus, the existence of a shared paradigm by members of a community will result in consolidation of the scientific community.

OBJECTIVES

The information science is a new science and in a structuring phase. This fact is witnessed by Smit et al. (2004), who claim that, in addition to the lack of consensus with respect to its object and delimitation, the field of information science is still under construction. As such, the lack of basic and conceptual structure, still suffers outside influences because scientific institutional capital weighs more on the few renowned researchers in the area.

This article seeks to contribute to the understanding of the importance of the terms conceptual interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary and discipline, under information science from a theoretical framework. The goal is to analyze scientific research developed in the context of interdisciplinary information science that has participated in more than one area of knowledge, the theoretical discussion of interdisciplinary and empirical research about the subareas or disciplines of information science form, the basis for the design of the structure of the area, presented the end gathering subjects according to its nature.

The research focused on the developed research in information science, focusing especially on its interdisciplinary nature from the analysis of its praxis in investigations, involving the participation with more than one discipline. To do so, were studied the main forms of interaction between disciplines currently present in scientific practices, as well as sought to contextualize the area of information science in the context of contemporary science through the analysis of their epistemological characteristics.