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CONTEMPORARY PRISON LIBRARIES AND CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN POLISH PRISONS

KEYWORDS: Prison libraries. Cultural and educational activities. Prison Service. Polish prisons.

ABSTRACT: **Objective** – The article is a presentation of resocialization activities involving cultural and educational activities, library and various forms of content transmission conducted in Polish prisons. The main objective of this article is to discuss current status of Polish prison libraries and compare it to the situation in 1981. **Research method** – The author used a diagnostic poll conducted in 2010 in all 156 Polish penitentiary institutions (86 prisons and 70 custody suites). **Results and conclusions** – The most important conclusions resulting from the research point to the significant role of books and other library resources in the process of resocialization. Despite that prison libraries in Poland do not receive any special attention or support. The positive change worth noticing is the growing number of professionally educated prison officers who not only understand the importance of books and cultural and educational activities but also support reading prisoners with book exhibitions, meetings with writers, knowledge competitions, literary competitions, reading books through prison broadcasting network, enable prisoners to participate in cultural events and develop their creative skills.

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ACCESS TO SCHOLARLY INFORMATION RESOURCES PRODUCED AND MADE AVAILABLE LOCALLY: WEBSITES OF POLISH ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS ACTIVE IN THE DOMAIN OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

KEYWORDS: Scholarly communication. Digital resources. Computer science/Information technology. Institutions of higher education. Websites. Poland.

ABSTRACT: **Objective** - Celem badań było rozpoznanie skali, specyfiki i potencjalnej przydatności zasobów informacji naukowej powstającej i upublicznianej lokalnie w serwisach WWW jednostek akademickich, jako podstawy do refleksji nad zasadnością i sposobem ich upowszechnienia. The research was focused on the size, characteristic features and potential usefulness of scholarly information resources produced and made available locally on the websites of Polish academic institutions. It became a starting point for the discussion on whether and how those resources should be made available. **Research method** - The research conducted between February and August 2011 was limited to the resources made available on the websites of 66 Polish academic institutions active in the domain of computer science and resulted in the quantitative and qualitative analysis of data sets, information and scholarly knowledge offered there. **Results and conclusions** - The analyzed resources were dominated by pragmatic information, information on the knowledge resources was rare, full texts were available sporadically and data resulting from research were missing. The resources in question significantly varied with their nature and scope, the offers on the individual websites were impossible to compare and the resources were often

published in clearly unprofessional way. This means that all attempts at incorporating those resources in the scholarly communication demand efficient selection, active promotion of standards for digital objects publishing and archiving and developing solutions which make the incorporation of those resources in the scholars' perception possible.

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GROUNDED THEORY AND ITS SELECTED APPLICATIONS IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE RESEARCH

KEYWORDS: Methodology of research. Grounded theory. Library science. Scholarly information.

ABSTRACT: **Objective** – The objective of this article is to present the presumptions of the grounded theory and its application in the research conducted in the field of library and information science. **Research method** – The analysis of the basic presumptions of the grounded theory and their interpretations was based on the most important publications by A. Strauss and B. Glaser (the authors of the method) and K. Charmez (the author of the most known modification of the method). The applications of grounded theory in the library and information science research were studied on the basis of Polish, English and French literature recorded in journal bibliographies and full-text databases, union catalogs and digital repositories. The starting point was the search for papers published in the years 2000 to 2011. References from those publications helped to extend the search to earlier papers on the topic in question. **Results and conclusions** – The survey of the international literature on the issue of grounded theory application in library and information science proved that this qualitative research method may successfully be applied, also in Poland, in the research on various aspects of information users' behavior, information sources and services.

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POLISH DIGITAL LIBRARIES IN THE OPINION OF POLISH SCHOLARS

KEYWORDS: Digital libraries. Digital library users. Digital library use.

ABSTRACT: **Objective** – This article is intended to present Polish scholars' evaluations and comments on Polish digital libraries and their expectations on the future of those projects. **Research method** – The article was based on the research conducted by the author by means of an online survey in 2011. Nineteen questions were answered by persons using digital library services in their scholarly work. **Results** – The undisputable majority of 110 scholars who answered the survey were the representatives of the humanities, mostly historians. The results obtained became the first attempt at systematizing the knowledge on the scholarly use of digital library resources. – The largest number of examples for the practical use of digital libraries was provided by the representatives of the humanities. The analysis of their opinions results in the following conclusion - in order to expand the scholarly use of digital libraries in various fields of science they should be further developed on two levels: 1) The repository aspect of the digital library should be enhanced with the development of the online source documents in various fields of science, and 2) the development of the collections of contemporary resources, including Polish scholarly papers, should be intensified.