SEO to SWI (a progression)

Improving the visibility of libraries and their collections

Kenning Arlitsch, Dean of the Library

OCLC-RLP, London, UK



Theme

Achieving machine comprehension of library products, services, and the organizations, themselves

- SEO = Search Engine Optimization
- SWI = Semantic Web Identity



A Short Poll, Please

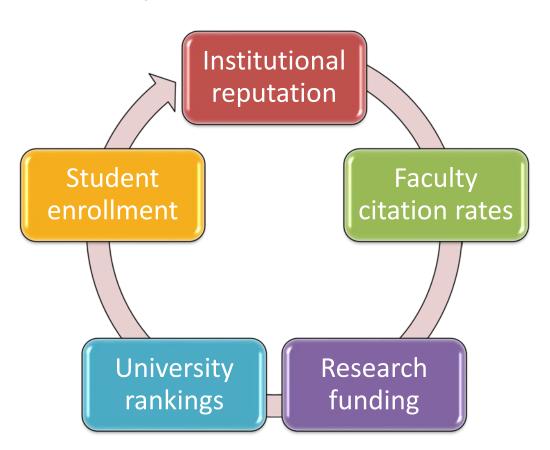
What is SEO?

Does your library have a formal SEO program?

Is your SEO program driven by administration?



Why SEO/SWI Matters



If a digital library is not indexed by Internet search engines then it will suffer from low visitation and use.

A digital library that is machine comprehensible is by definition also accessible to disabled users.

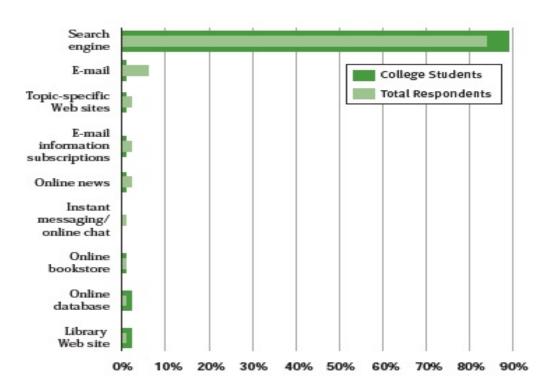


The dominance of search engines

- Americans submit 18 billion queries to SE each month*
 - 12 billion to Google sites (67%)
 - 3.5 billion to Microsoft sites (19%)
 - 1.8 billion to Yahoo! Sites (10%)
- Google market share in EU is 90+% **
 - * http://www.comscore.com/Insights/Market-Rankings/comScore-Releases-November-2014-U.S.-Desktop-Search-Engine-Rankings
 - **Robinson, Meyer. "Europeans use Google way, way more than Americans do," *The Atlantic*, April 15, 2015, http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2015/04/europeans-use-google-way-way-more-than-americans-do/390612/



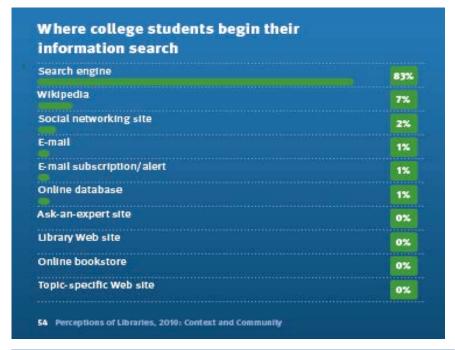
2005 OCLC Study Where College Students Begin Research



Source: Perceptions of Libraries and Information Resources, OCLC, 2005, question 520.

Note: Only electronic resources with usage rates of 1 percent or more are represented on this graph.

2010 OCLC Update Where College Students Begin Research



DeRosa, Cathy, et al. "Perceptions of Libraries, 2010: Context and Community: A Report to the OCLC Membership", OCLC, 2010.

SEO Research Inspiration

- Decade building digital library @ University of Utah
 - Mountain West Digital Library
 - Utah Digital Newspapers
 - Western Waters Digital Library
 - Western Soundscape Archive

Were they being used...?



Well, not really...

- University of Utah in 2010
 - Only 12% of digital collections were indexed by Google
 - 0.5% of Utah's IR scholarly papers
 were indexed by Google Scholar
- Spot checks revealed similar problems in most academic libraries

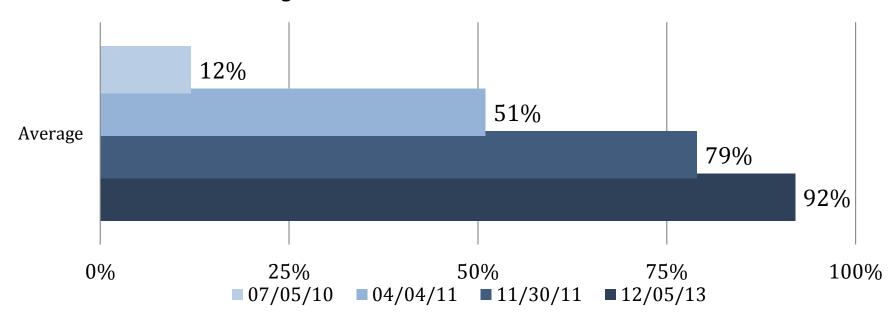


Patrick OBrien



Basic SEO improved indexing ratio in Google...

Google Index Ratio - All Collections*



^{*} Google Index Ratio = URLs submitted / URLs Indexed by Google

^{** ~150} collections containing ~170,00 URLs (07/2010) and ~170 collections containing ~282,000 URLs (12/2013)

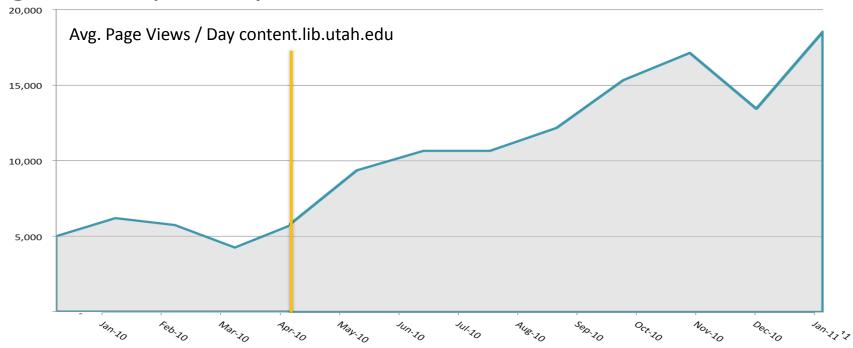
...resulting in more referrals and visitors

12 week comparison 2010 vs. 2012

Referring Domain: Search Res	sults For google		Items Per Page: 10	=
Domain	Custom View: 2/6/12 - ▼ 4/29/12 Visits	Custom View: 2/1/10 - 4/25/10 Visits	% Change Visits	% Change 135.90% -
1. google.com	51,694	8,959	477.01% ^	51.36% -
2. google.co.uk	1,284	182	605.49% 📤	-8.87% -
3. google.ca	1,203	415	189.88% 📤	
4. google.it	670	38	1,663.16% 📤	
5. google.co.in	602	68	785.29% 📤	
6. google.fr	475	35	1,257.14% 📤	
7. google.es	466	26	1,692.31% 📤	
8. google.com.au	463	95	387.37% 📤	
9. google.de	441	88	401.14% 📤	
10. google.com.br	408	29	1,300.8070	
Total	63,637	10,559	Increase 502.68% -	



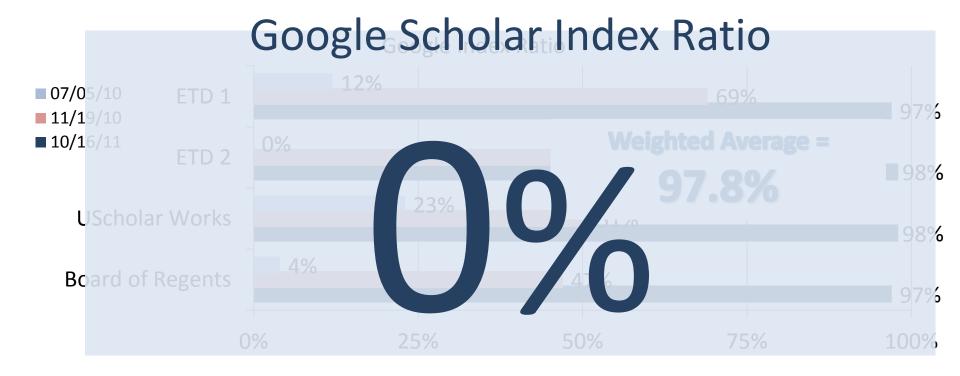
...and significant increases in the average number of page views per day.



THE PROBLEM OF INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES



Almost 100% USpace IR content indexed in Google



^{*}October 16, 2011 Weighted Average Google Index Ratio = 97.82% (10,306/10,536).

Structured data SE can identify, parse and digest

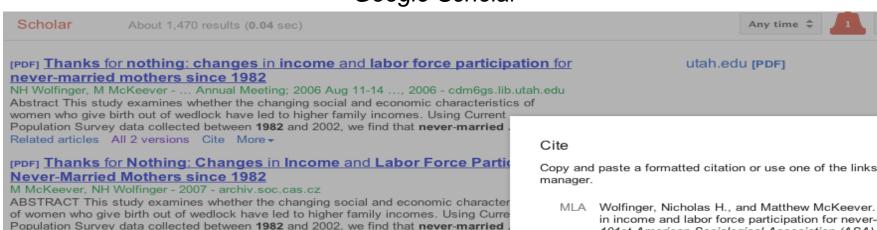
Human Readable Citation

Wolfinger, N. H., & McKeever, M. (2006, July). Thanks for nothing: changes in income and labor force participation for never-married mothers since 1982. In 101st American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting; 2006 Aug 11-14; Montreal, Canada (No. 2006-07-04, pp. 1-42). Institute of Public & International Affairs (IPIA), University of Utah.

Google Scholar

Google Scholar can read and understand!

Google Scholar



Thanks for nothing: Income and labor force participation for never-M McKeever, NH Wolfinger - Social Science Research, 2011 - Elsevier

... Volume 40, Issue 1, January 2011, Pages 63-76, Thanks for nothing: Income and way, the modest economic gains achieved by the women in our sample are entirely atti to changes in education, employment, SEI, and other independent variables. ... Cited by 3 Related articles All 2 versions Cite

Copy and paste a formatted citation or use one of the links to imp

- MLA Wolfinger, Nicholas H., and Matthew McKeever, "Thank in income and labor force participation for never-married 101st American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual 14; Montreal, Canada. No. 2006-07-04. Institute of Publ (IPIA), University of Utah, 2006.
- Wolfinger, N. H., & McKeever, M. (2006, July). Thanks income and labor force participation for never-married n 101st American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual 14; Montreal, Canada (No. 2006-07-04, pp. 1-42). Institu International Affairs (IPIA), University of Utah.

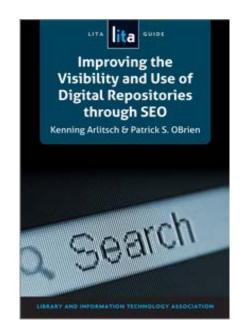


Related articles All 2 versions Cite More -

SEO Deficiencies in Libraries

BOTH organizational and technical issues

Arlitsch, Kenning, and Patrick S.
OBrien. (2013). Improving the
visibility and use of digital
repositories through SEO. Chicago:
ALA TechSource.





SEO Deficiency Themes (Organizational)

- Administration and Strategy:
 - SEO is rarely driven from the top of the organization; usually considered a technical issue and is left to IT with little consideration of strategy, goals or reporting.
- Communication:
 - Administrators don't communicate the reasons for an SEO program and its impact to the rest of the organization. Communication among the staff involved in SEO programs can also be poor.
- Ineffective Analytics Reporting:
 - Web Analytics software is often incorrectly configured, diminishing the ability to report use of a digital library or monitor the effects of change to the repository.



SEO Deficiency Themes (Technical)

- Website Design
 - Graphics
 - Confusing site hierarchies and paths
- Poor experience for search engine customers
 - Slow servers
 - Incorrect use of redirects
- CMS/DAM often lack canonical links
- Metadata
 - Schema not understood by search engines
 - Not unique
 - Inconsistent/inaccurate



SEO Building Block Priority

1. Increase Reach

Get objects indexed by search engines

2. <u>Increase Visibility in SERP</u>

Provide robust descriptive content

3. <u>Get Relevant</u>

Increase click-through rates (CTR)

"Getting Found" SEO Cookbook

- Measure digital library performance
 - Monitor and diagnose problems
- Structure
 - Five video tutorials
 - Supporting documentation
 - Case studies
 - Deep dives
- http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub165



G	Council on Library and Information
LIK	Resources

	Connect login →
Username (email)	Forgot password?
	rongot password:
Password	

Search Site

Home About Us Initiatives & Partnerships Publications DLF Awards & Fellowships Connect

Submit-

Publications

Reports

Ruminations

CLIR Issues

Annual Report

Archives

Other Resources

Ordering Report Prints

Home / Publications / Reports / pub165

Getting Found: SEO Cookbook

by Patrick O'Brien and Kenning Arlitsch

May 2015 CLIR pub 165

This is a web-only report—it is not available in print

At a time when Internet search engines have become the default discovery layer for most users, libraries need to report that their websites and digital repositories are discoverable through those search engines as well. The Getting Found (GF) Cookbook provides a step-by-step video guide to help libraries measure and monitor the search engine optimization (SEO) performance of their digital repositories. The Cookbook includes everything necessary to implement a preconfigured Google Analytics dashboard that continuously

The Cookbook was supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Phase I: Institutionalizing SEO

- 1. Justifying the Need-Video
- 2. Strategic Planning-Video
- Review Case Study: MSU Library Strategic Planning

monitors SEO performance metrics relevant to digital repositories.

Read Recommended References

Phase II: Prep Work

- 1. Prepping for Inventory-Video
- Identify Stakeholder Roles and Conduct Survey of Web Properties
- Use Web Metrics and Analytics—Survey Template
- Review Analytics Stakeholders—Graphic Overview

	Contact Information
We are gathering and consolidating information about the library's website homepages and accounts used to gather web metrics or communicate with users through social media outlets. This information is needed to improve our library's Website(s) search engine optimization (SEO) and web analytics. Please provide as much information as you can about the entire library's web presence. *1. What is the Library's public homepage web address? (e.g. www.lib.montana.edu) *2. List ALL the public "home page(s)" for accessing your library's services, content, and information via the Internet. Please separate responses containing multiple URLs with commas. See link for "homepage" examples" or click on the section titles below. Digital Collections Institutional Repository (IR) Library Services 3. Does your institution have any other domains or sub-domains not listed above? (e.g. scholarworks.montana.edu or etd.live.montana.edu) If so, please list them below. 4. Please list ALL the web address(es) for your library's social media sites? (Please cut and paste the addresses and separate multiple URLs with commas). Facebook Google+ Twitter Linkedin YouTube Pinterest Instagram Flickr Tumbir	List the name, title, and email address for the person currently performing each of the roles below? See roles description for more information. Please provide the single most pertinent contact for each role. *8. IT Manager Role Name Title Email Address *9. System Administrator Role Name Title Email Address *10. Applications Administrator Role Name Title Email Address *11. Google Analytics Administrator Role Name Title Email Address *12. Administration Contact Role (e.g. Dean of the Library) Name Title Email Address













Search Console

M scholarworks.montana.edu





Dashboard

Messages (22)

- ▶ Search Appearance
- Search Traffic
- Google Index
- ▶ Crawl

Security Issues

Other Resources

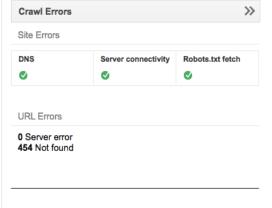
New and important

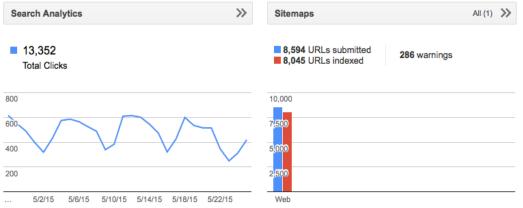
Fix mobile usability issues found on http://scholarworks.montana.edu/

Mar 2, 2015

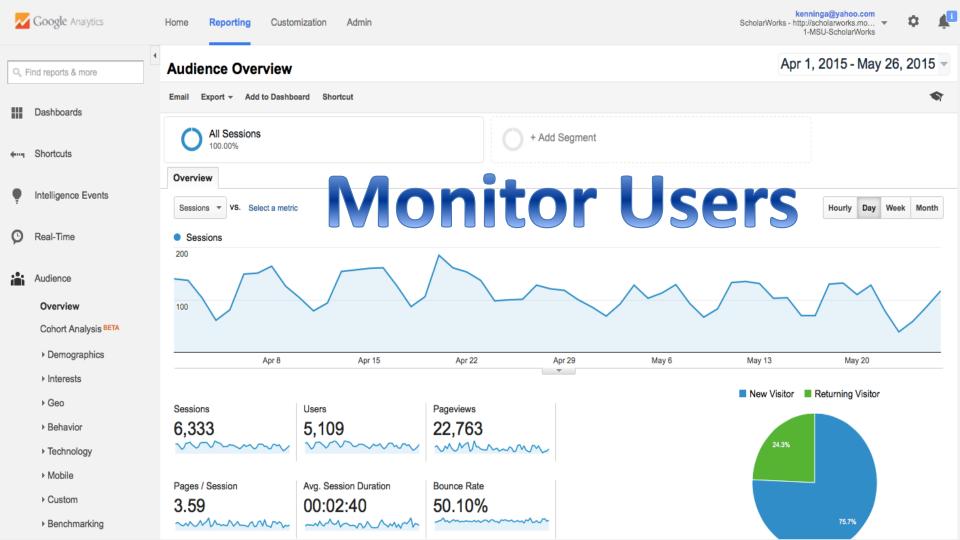
View all

Current Status





Monitor SE crawlers





Getting Found SEO Dashboard

+ Add Widget Share - Email Export -

External Keyword Search

Feb 24, 2015 - Mar 26, 2015

Customize Dashboard Delete Dashboard

All Sessions
100,00% + Add Segment



Keyword	Sessions	Pages / Session
marriott library	354	1.64
http://www.lib.utah.edu/coll ections/photo-exhibits/japa nese-american-internmen t.php	261	4.64
j willard marriott library	140	1.48
university of utah library	127	1.48
marriot library	117	1.79
university of utah marriott li brary	79	2.15
u of u library	64	1.48
japanese internment camp s	48	1.73
utah library	42	1.76
lib.utah.edu	41	1.41

Source	Session
google	43,7
lib.utah.edu	20,8
utah.edu	5,6
utah-primoprod.hosted.exlibrisgr oup.com	4,3
gsa.search.utah.edu	2,9
lib.utah.edu.ezproxy.lib.utah.edu	2,2
bing	2,1
yahoo	1,8
novel.utah.edu	1,2
heritage.utah.gov	1.1

Pageviews & Server Performance by Hostname

Hostname	Pageviews	Avg. Page Download Time (sec)
content.lib.utah.edu	224,426	0.47
www.lib.utah.edu	163,820	0.11
lib.utah.edu	132,641	0.03
databases.tools.lib.utah.edu	29,685	0.13
lib.utah.edu.ezproxy.lib.utah.edu	8,751	0.34
tools.lib.utah.edu.ezproxy.lib.uta h.edu	5,532	0.32
databases.tools.lib.utah.edu.ezpr oxy.lib.utah.edu	3,031	0.37
tools.lib.utah.edu	2,597	0.0
content.lib.utah.edu.ezproxy.lib.ut ah.edu	1,420	0.60
uspace.utah.edu	1,254	0.0

Landing Page	Sessions	Pageviews
lib.utah.edu/index.php	104,407	108,383
www.lib.utah.edu/index.php	40,419	68,81
tools.lib.utah.edu.ezproxy.lib.utah.edu/datab ases/index.php	1,253	3,333
tools.lib.utah.edu/databases/index.php	421	1,075
www.lib.utah.edu/services/interlibrary-loan.p hp	358	47
www.lib.utah.edu/info/hours.php	296	339
www.lib.utah.edu/collections/photo-exhibits/j apanese-American-Internment.php	195	49
www.lib.utah.edu/services/knowledge-comm ons/index.php	168	47
lib.utah.edu/collections/utah-artists/UAP-Gre g-Frehner.php	167	39
www.lib.utah.edu/services/knowledge-comm ons/classrooms/equipment.php	149	202

Pageviews	Exits
261,098	183,648
40,618	17,568
35,832	3,533
6,492	382
5,110	162
	261,098 40,618 35,832 6,492

Avg. Page Download Time (se	c)
0.29 Avg for View: 0.29 (0.00%)	

Total Sessions	
260,688	
% of Total: 100.00% (260,688)	www
Pages/Visit	
2 21	

Pages/Visit		
2.21 Avg for View: 2.21 (0.00%)		~~~
Originating Social Netwo	ork	
Social Network		Sessions
Facebook		722
Blogger		137
reddit	>-	76
tinyURL		49
Twitter		25
Pinterest		24

Google+ Tumbir Weebly Linkedin >



Search engine comprehension (of organizations)

SEMANTIC WEB IDENTITY (SWI)





Q Library of Congress

Images

Books

About 182,000,000 results (0.76 seconds)

Library of Congress: Home

https://www.loc.gov/ ▼

The Library of Congress is the nation's oldest federal cultural institution, and it serves as the research arm of Congress. It is also the largest library in the world, ...



Outline of the Library of Congress

Classification (Cataloging ...

Digital Collections

Building digital collections at the Library of Congress.

Prints and Photographs

The Prints and Photographs Online Catalog (PPOC ...

Books - Audio Recordings - Notated Music - ...

Settings

Tools

Map Collections

The online map collections represents only a small fraction ...

Researchers

Main Reading Room - Getting Started - Reading Room Hours

Library of Congress - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Library_of_Congress ▼

The Library of Congress ("LOC") is the research library that officially serves the United States Congress and is the de facto national library of the United States.

Congress.gov | Library of Congress

https://www.congress.gov/ *

Details the U.S. legislative process maintained by the Library of Congress. Search bills and laws by number or keyword, find links to members of the House and ...

The Library of Congress | Flickr

https://www.flickr.com/photos/8623220@N02/ ▼

Explore The Library of Congress's 27834 photos on Flickr!

Why the Library of Congress's Twitter Archive Can't Get Off the Ground ... www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2016/08/can...library-of-congress/494339/

In 2010, the Library of Congress and Twitter announced a historic and incongruous partnership: Together, they would archive and preserve ...

The Library of Last Resort | Online Only | n+1

https://nplusonemag.com/online-only/online-only/the-library-of-last-resort/

The job Carla Hayden has before her is to prepare the Library of Congress to serve another century of US citizens where we've become most ...

America's 'national library' is lacking in leadership, yet another report ...

https://www.washingtonpost.com/...library.../fad54c3a-d3fd-11e4-a62f-ee745911a4ff_st... The Government Accountability Office says the Library of Congress lacks the leadership to remedy its problems.

The Library of Congress | Facebook



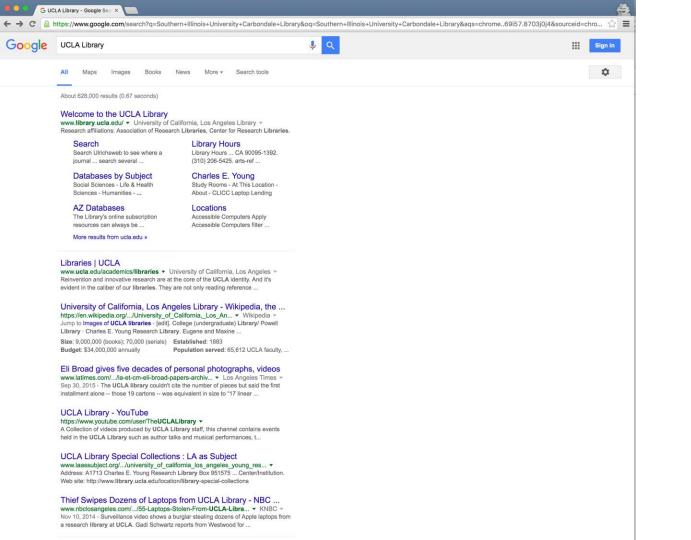
D.C. area."

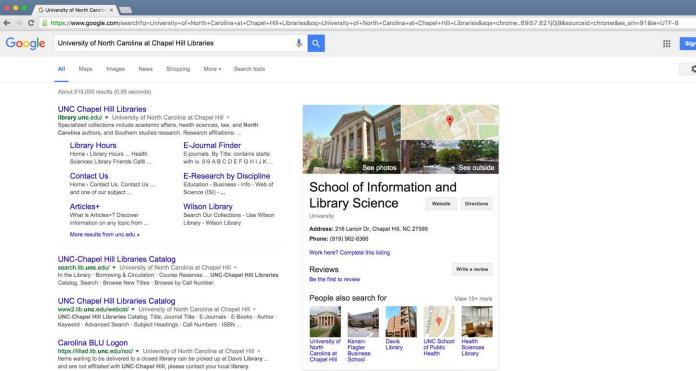
Knowledge Graph Card

"Knowledge Panel"

"Knowledge Card"

"Information Card"





Feedback

North Carolina State University (NCSU) Libraries https://www.lib.ncsu.edu/ ▼ North Carolina State University ▼ INC System Libraries & Bayond D. H. Hill Library James B. H.

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

UNC System Libraries & Beyond ... D. H. Hill Library: James B. Hunt Jr. Library ... News. Technology, innovative spaces, new library resources, and more...

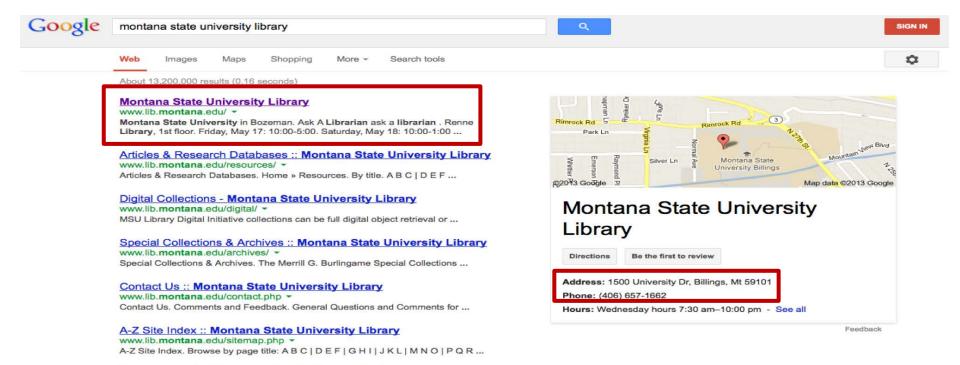
https://webcat.lib.unc.edu/ * University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill * Library Home; Libraries & Hours - Do Your Research - In the ... Renew Books: My Library. URC-Chapel Hill Libraries Catalog. Title; Journal Title · E-Journals ...

Health Sciences Library - The University of North Carolina at ... hsl.lib.unc.edu/ * University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill * 335 S. Columbia Street C8 7585 Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7585 (919) 962-0800 ... The Health Sciences Library (HSL) serves the instructional. clinical. and ...

Searches related to University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Libraries

duke university libraries

SWI Research Began in 2012



Montana State University (MSU) Library, Mobile

MSU Library (Mobile). Search; Databases; Hours; Ask a Librarian; About ...

www.lib.montana.edu/m/ -

From which sources does Google gather facts?













Semantic Web

- Latest extension of the WWW (Web 3.0)
 - "Data and information that can be processed automatically"*
 - "Computers must have access to structured collection of information"*
 - Every entity must have a Universal Resource Identifier (address)
- Implications for search engines
 - Change: matching strings of text to matching entities and their relationships
 - Promise more accurate and relevant results
 - Answers rather than lists of websites where answers might reside

*Berners-Lee, Tim, James Hendler, Ora Lassila (2001). "The Semantic Web," Scientific American, v284no5, pp. 34-43.



Semantic Web Identity (SWI)

- The condition in which Internet search engines recognize the existence and nature of entities
 - Important for semantic technologies such as mapping applications
- Characterized as a search engine having gathered enough verifiable facts about an entity for a formal display of that entity in SERP
- Display of KC is an indicator of SWI



Research Goals

 What is the state of SWI among Association of Research Libraries (ARL) members (and other academic organizations)?

 Can SWI be established or improved by engaging with certain knowledge bases on the Semantic Web?



RESEARCH METHODS



ARL: The problem of Names

- 125 ARL member libraries
- Every library has a primary (official) name
 - http://www.arl.org/membership/list-of-arl-members
- 94 libraries also have alternate names

- Example:
 - Yale University Library = primary name
 - Sterling Memorial Library = alternate name



Data Collection

- Searched Google for evidence of KC for ARL libraries
 - 125 primary names of libraries
 - 94 alternate names of libraries
 - Total names = 219
- Searched 5 knowledge bases for evidence of records for all 219 names
 - Google My Business
 - Google+ (recorded verified/unverified profiles)
 - Wikipedia (recorded articles w/infobox, w/o infobox)
 - DBpedia
 - Wikidata



Data Analysis

- 1,400+ screen capture files
- Excel spreadsheet
- R statistical computing software for analysis

- Data set available in MSU ScholarWorks repository
 - http://doi.org/10.15788/M2F590

Case Studies

- Documented intervention to improve SWI of three organizations
 - Montana State University Library
 - McMaster University Library
 - Coalition for Networked Information (CNI)



RQ1: What is the current state of SWI of ARL libraries, as indicated by the presence of accurate KC in Google search results when the primary and alternate names of those libraries are searched?

FINDINGS



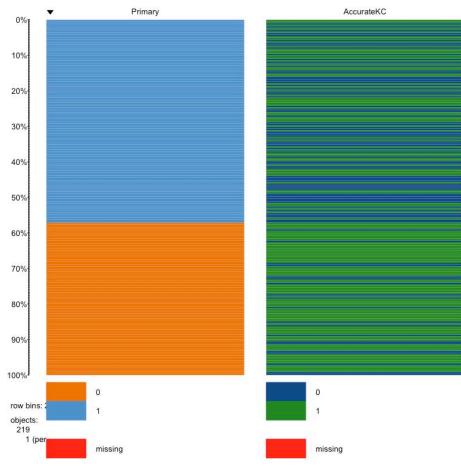


Table plot showing that ARL library alternate names (column 1, orange rows) were more likely to display an accurate KC (column 2, green rows)

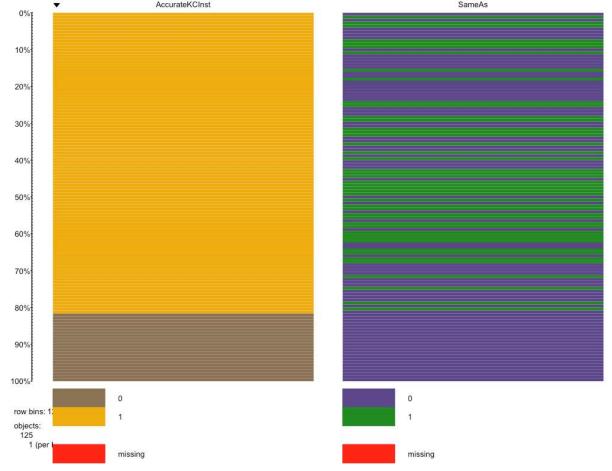


Table plot showing that 82% of ARL libraries displayed an accurate KC (Column 1, yellow rows), but that many of the KC were not the same for the primary and alternate names of the libraries (Column 2, purple rows).

RQ2: Are records or profiles present for ARL primary and alternate library names in the five knowledge bases?

FINDINGS



Records for ARL members in Knowledge Bases

Alternate (% of 94)

43%

20%

28%

41%

39%

Total (% of 219)

31%

19%

26%

32%

29%

Primary (% of 125)

22%

18%

24%

24%

21%

Knowledge Base

Google My Business

Google Plus (verified)

Wikipedia (w/infobox)

DBpedia

Wikidata

RQ2, Sub-question 1

Is an accurate KC likely to display in search results if the library organization has <u>not</u> been claimed and verified in Google My Business?

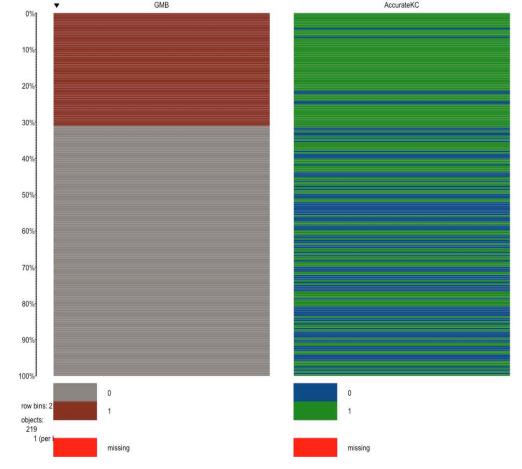


Table plot showing libraries that had claimed and verified their businesses in GMB (column 1, dark red rows) were more likely to display accurate KC (column 2, green rows)



Q Library of Congress

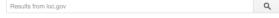
About 182,000,000 results (0.76 seconds)

Books

Library of Congress: Home

https://www.loc.gov/ ▼

The Library of Congress is the nation's oldest federal cultural institution, and it serves as the research arm of Congress. It is also the largest library in the world, ...



Discover

Music - ...

LC Classification Outline

Outline of the Library of Congress Classification (Cataloging ...

Digital Collections

Building digital collections at the Library of Congress.

Prints and Photographs

The Prints and Photographs Online Catalog (PPOC ...

Researchers

Main Reading Room - Getting Started - Reading Room Hours

Map Collections

only a small fraction ...

Books - Audio Recordings - Notated

The online map collections represents

Settings

Tools

Library of Congress - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Library of Congress >

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Congress.gov | Library of Congress

https://www.congress.gov/ ▼

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The Library of Congress | Flickr

https://www.flickr.com/photos/8623220@N02/ ▼

Explore The Library of Congress's 27834 photos on Flickr!

Why the Library of Congress's Twitter Archive Can't Get Off the Ground ...

www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2016/08/can...library-of-congress/494339/ In 2010, the Library of Congress and Twitter announced a historic and incongruous partnership: Together, they would archive and preserve ...

The Library of Last Resort | Online Only | n+1

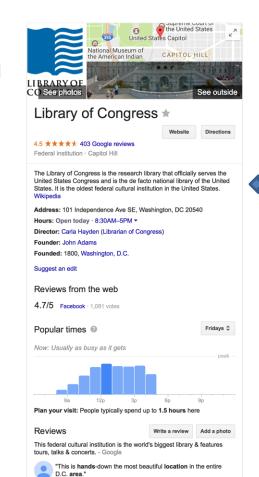
https://nplusonemag.com/online-only/online-only/the-library-of-last-resort/

The job Carla Hayden has before her is to prepare the Library of Congress to serve another century of US citizens where we've become most ...

America's 'national library' is lacking in leadership, yet another report ... https://www.washingtonpost.com/...library.../fad54c3a-d3fd-11e4-a62f-ee745911a4ff st...

The Government Accountability Office says the Library of Congress lacks the leadership to remedy its problems.

The Library of Congress | Facebook



Description field

RQ2, Sub-question 2:

Is a KC likely to display a description field if no Wikipedia article exists for the primary or alternate name of the library

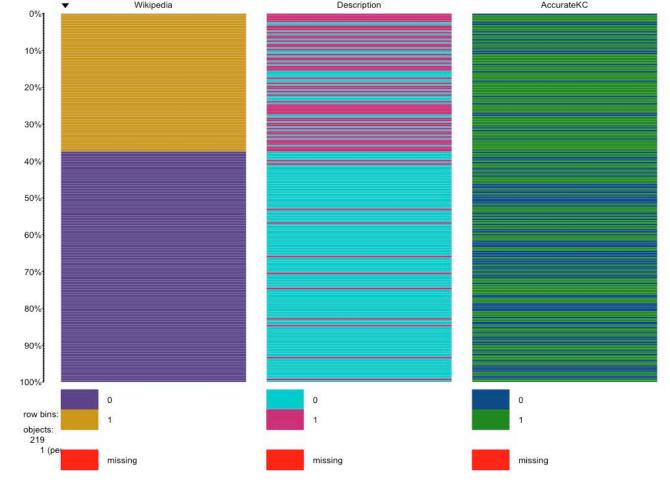
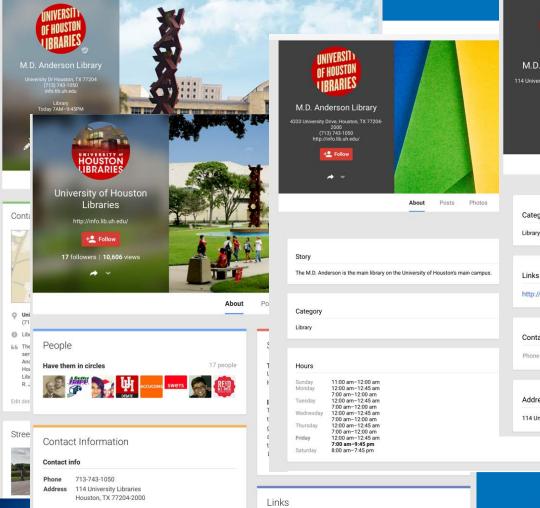


Table plot showing that Wikipedia articles (column 1, yellow rows) tend to result in descriptions (column 2, pink rows) on accurate KC (column 3, green rows).

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FINDINGS – CASE STUDIES



Basic SWI Process

Claim and verify business in GMB

 Generates Google+ profile Write and publish article in Wikipedia

- Generates DBpedia record
- Generates Wikidata record

Populate Wikidata record



Web

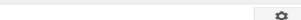
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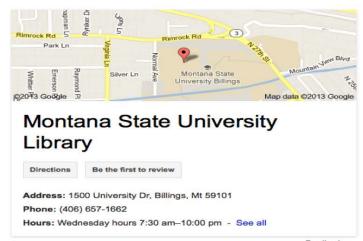
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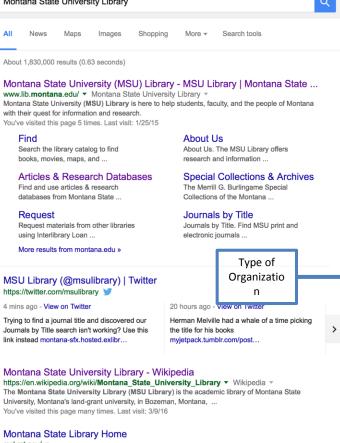
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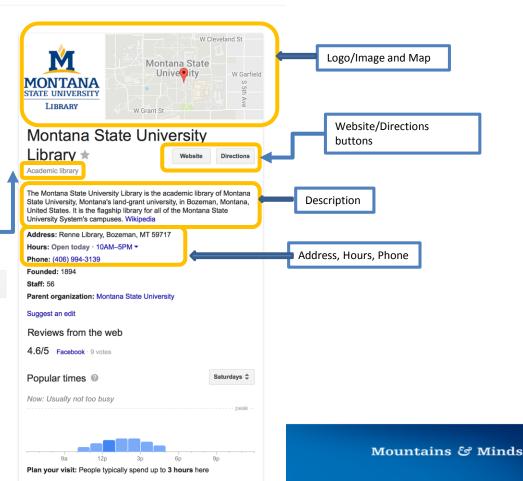
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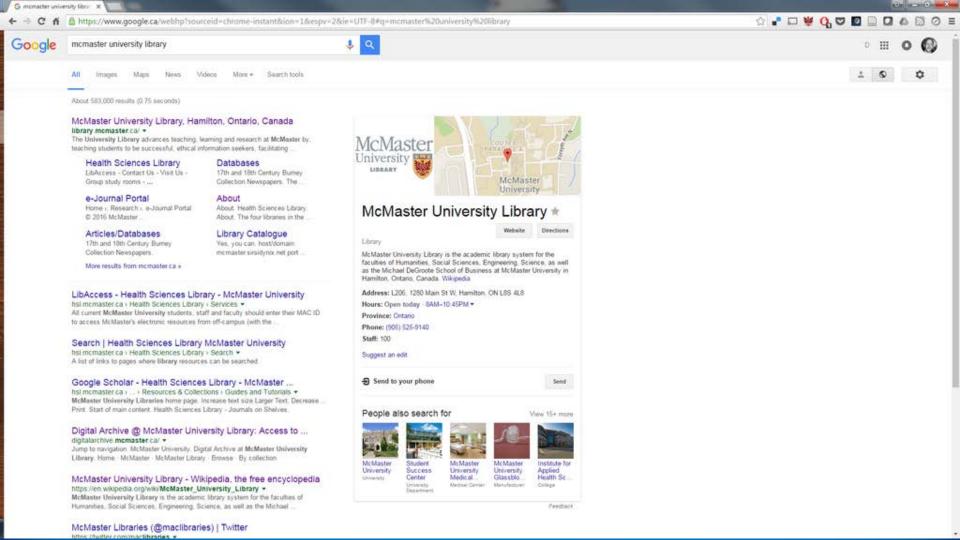
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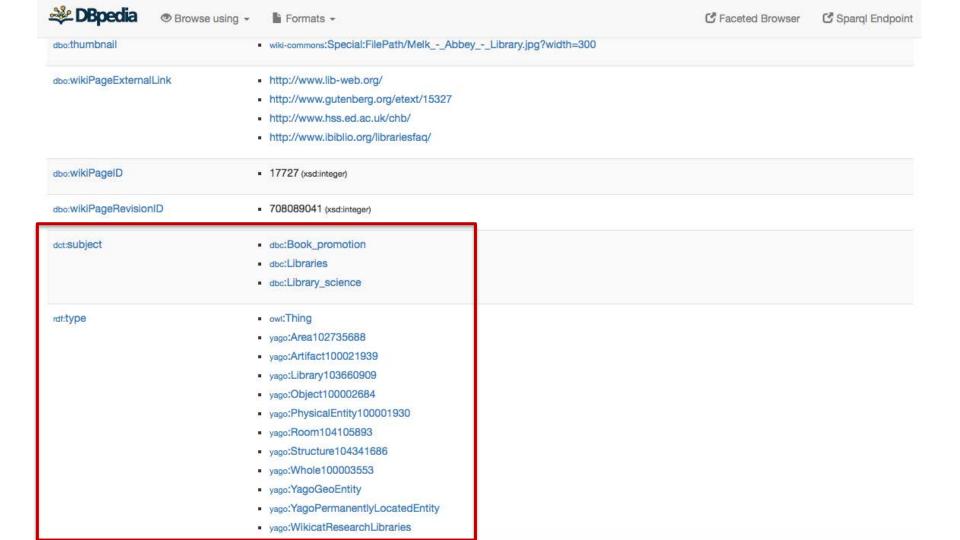




Results of SWI Study

- Lack of records in knowledge bases corresponds to lack of KC
- Proposed process to improve SWI is successful
- Library-related concepts and entities are poorly defined on SW





CONCLUSIONS



Librarians struggle with SEO/SWI

- Lack of awareness/formal strategies
- Traditional outreach/marketing practices don't work on the SW
 - Inconsistent use of names
 - Lack of explicit "same as" declarations for machine comprehension
- Disregard/disdain for Semantic Web opportunities
 - Are not proactively creating and maintaining records in knowledge bases
 - Absence of formal strategy results in independent efforts by employees
 - Creates confusion for search engines



Broader Impact

- More than the tactical approach
- Opportunities
 - Develop cohesive marketing strategies and consistent processes
 - Expand skill sets of library faculty and staff
 - Offer SWI services to campus constituents



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