

Abstract

Library and information science is a dynamic interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary field of study. This bachelor's thesis defines LIS in an international and Czech context and identifies the main trends in the field based on a literature review of papers published between 2017 and 2020 conducted in major LIS databases. An overview of metrics used to measure the prestige of conferences is also provided and 20 major LIS conferences are briefly described. From these two prestigious conferences with a wide scope of LIS are selected, namely IFLA's World Library Congress and iSchools' iConference. In the practical part of the thesis, a qualitative content analysis using grounded theory is conducted to analyze the years 2011, 2015, and 2019 of the proceedings of both conferences. Four main thematic groupings were identified: Information Science, Librarianship, ICT and Society. It was found that the thematic distribution of topics is relatively constant during the analyzed period. WLIC is dominated by themes related to academic and public libraries, innovation of library services, social problems, information literacy, LIS education and catalogization. On the other hand, topics related to the internet, social media, ICT, information behaviour and health information are most prevalent in iConference.

Key words: conferences, library and information science, content analysis, research trends, IFLA WLIC, iConference