Theme 1

PHILOSOPHY OF INFORMATION (PI)

Considers the concepts that structure our thinking and assumptions about the form, purpose and validity of information

SEMANTIC INFORMATION

Involves one thing carrying information about the other, may refer to:

- Information about something
- Information for something
- Information as something
- Information is something

PURPOSE OF INFORMATION

Information as data:

- Referring to a physical resource, it is stored in a physical format

Information as a medium or as recovered knowledge:

- Can be organised according to any ontology which is acceptable to a body of practitioners

ONTOLOGY

- Has been taken from Philosophy where it means a systematic explanation of existence

INFORMATION

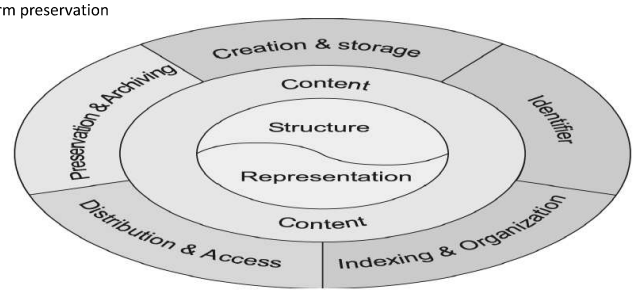
The pattern of organization of everything

PI AND FLORIDI LUCIANO 1964

- Floridi is a philosopher
- Defines his PI as a branch of philosophy primarily concerned with the conceptual and foundational investigation into the nature of information, its dynamics and utilization
- When data acquires meaning it becomes context
- Therefore to have factual information we need meaningful data(content)
- Data is resources that make the construction of certain models possible and the best models are those better tuned to their constraining affordances
- Identifies the Digital Information Life Cycle as a form of PI, involves various stages which includes
    - Discovering, designing, authoring, collecting, validating, modifying, organizing, indexing, classifying, filtering, updating, sorting, storing, networking, distributing, accessing, retrieving, transmitting, monitoring, modeling, analyzing, explaining, planning, forecasting, decisionttimaking, instructing, educating, and learning

DIGITAL INFORMATION LIFE CYCLE

- Structure – extensible markttiup language
- Representation – such as HTML
- Capture and Storage – Relates to file formats and hardware/software on a computer
- Identifier – DOI, Uniform Resource Name
- Indexing and Organisation – Metadata
- Distribution and Access Management – for the purposes of rights management and access transaction
- Preservation and archiving – what kind of file format, software and hardware are needed for long term preservation



CHARACTERISTICS OF INFORMATION

- Relevancy – The extent to which information is applicable and helpful for the task at hand
- Completeness – The degree to which information is not missing
- Accuracy – The degree of correctness and precision with which information is an automated system
- Currency – The information upttitottidate?
- Ubiquitous – Information is everttipresent and universal via our technology

STRUCTURE

- Refers to formatting or rettiformatting data so that they can be acceptable to a particular software application
- Cohesive whole built up of distinct parts

ORGANISATION

- To arrange things, people, information or objects into an effective working whole

REPRESENTATION

- Allow the recreation of the significant properties of the original data object
- Should contain as much structure and semantic information as is required for a defined to access the information stored within a digital object

WHY ORGANIZE INFORMATION

Aim of organisation of information is retrieval

1. We organize information so that others can find it, read it or otherwise absorb it
2. Retrieval of information depends on it having been organised
ft. For information to be useful it has to be structured
4. Information is only valuable to the extent that it is structured

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES IN ORGANISING INFORMATION

1. Organising information – Bringing all the same iformation together and to differentiate what is not exactly alike
2. Prototypical form of organisation – Things brought together with respect to one or more special attributes such as same colour
ft. Different editions of a work – Bringing together not only the exact same information but also bringing together almost the same information