Creation of a new Open Access journal:
Library and Information Science Critique:
Journal of the Information Sciences Recorded in Documents
(*LIS Critique*)
by:

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Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico
31 May 2008

Dear colleagues,

The undersigned, **(Dr. Zapopan Martin Muela-Meza (PhD Information Studies, University of Sheffield, England) and Jose Antonio Torres-Reyes (PhD candidate in Scientific Information, Granada University, Spain), assistant professors with full time tenure teaching at the the undergraduate program of Library and Information Science** and doing research at the **Centre of Research in Information Sciences Recorded in Documents at the School of**

Philosophy and Letters at the Nuevo Leon Autonomous University in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, north east of Mexico) have created the Open Access scientific peer reviewed journal: *Library and Information Science Critique: Journal of the Information Sciences Recorded in Documents,* or *LIS Critique* for short *(ORIGINAL SPANISH: Critica Bibliotecologica: Revista de las Ciencias de la Informacion Documental) .* And the purpose of our message is to inform you about, in case that would like to make contributions to our journal.

STATEMENT ON THE AUTHORS' RIGHTS. The authors of contributions will be the only holders of their full moral authors' rights and copyrights of their work and no one at *LIS Critique* will usurp their moral authors' rights or copyrights (neither the journal, nor the editorial board or any other member of the journal). If the authors wish to publish their works in other journals they can do it; authors are the authors and they could do with their work whatever they freely wish to do.

In the next sections we present the guidelines of contributions for *LIS Critique* and the requirements for authors.

GUIDELINESS OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR AUTHORS

Overall aim of the journal

Library and Information Science Critique: Journal of the Information Sciences Recorded in Documents is projected as the most important public space and with worldwide impact in OPEN ACCESS format totally free of charge without any costs for any of the stakeholders involved for the fostering of the social critique; critical debate; and critical thinking about the most candent issues caused by public policies emerged from capitalism and neo-liberalism which deprive humankind on a global scale from a free, free of charge, democratic, and egalitarian production, organization, dissemination, and use of information recorded in documents, not only at the core of **Library and Information Science (LIS) or Librarianship,** but also in other **sciences of information recorded in documents** such as *Archival Science, Information Science, and others* and through their corresponding **institutions of information recorded in documents** throughout the world.

Particular aims

1. *What* distinguishes *LIS Critique fr*om all other existing journals is the *CRITIQUE* concept which is not only part of the title of the journal, but **CRITIQUE IS THE JOURNAL'S MAIN ELEMENT.** All contributions should be focused from a **social critique perspective** rigorously founded, either with empirical research data or from the literature to underpin the issues addressed.
For non critical contributions authors already have most of the other journals in the world (epistemologically speaking and with no offence or disrespect to

anybody), but *LIS Critique is a critical journal* and **critique, or being critical** from the onset is its distinctive seal.

2. Contributions to *LIS Critique* must analyse, synthesise, and propose (in a critical fashion) sound alternatives to the barriers which currently deprive humankind from a free, free of charge, democratic and egalitarian production, organization, dissemination and use of *information recorded in documents,* either in **library and information science,** or **archival science,** or **information science,** or in other **sciences of information recorded in documents,** theoretically speaking, or through their corresponding **institutions of information recorded in documents** where authors work, in the case of practical cases.

3. Although the lines of research or ideas for contributions of all authors are part of their own free and unhampered choice, some examples of lines of research and/or approaches are suggested for authors that they may try to explore (of course, critically) when they submit contributions to the journal):

- **Critique to** the self-called ideologies of the "information society" and "knowledge society"
- **Critique to** the established, and monopolistic research methodologies and methods in **information recorded in documents.**
- **Critique to** pseudoscience and charlatanism in *LIS and* **information recorded in documents** *with* critical and skeptical thinking.
- **Critique to** the irrational systems of theft of the general intellect such as copyright, patents, and others that impose unreal barriers to production, organization, access of **information recorded in documents.**
- **Critique to** the neo-liberal systems of education in **LIS, and information recorded in documents** where the intrusiveness of powerful neo-liberal elites monopolize the direction of the curricula towards their own particular views and distort the analytical and critical cognitive development of students; sometimes they also affect **LIS** students and education through the abuse of their bureaucratic power they keep under custody illegally.
- **Critique to** the social injustices at the heart of **labour issues** on **the sciences of information recorded in documents: LIS, librarianship, documentation, archival science, etc.: e.g.** sexism, racism, discrimination, homophobia, nepotism, abuse of power, sexual harassment, opression, etc.
- **Critique to** the salary tabulations or **critique to** their none existence, in which **librarians, archivists, information scientists and all other professionals of information recorded in documents,** are dealt in inhuman and unworthy ways.
- **Critique to** the access barriers to **information recorded in documents** and their correlations with politics and society.

- **Critique to** the hegemonic and privative systems of science bibliometrics such as the monopolies of **ISI of Thomson Corporation (Citation Indexes), Elsevier Science (Scopus databases),** etc.
- **Critique to** traditional epistemology of **the sciences of information recorded in documents** and proposing alternative **critical epistemologies**.
- **Critique to** evaluation processes for the effective performance of the **institutions of information recorded in documents**.
- **Critique to** the neo-slavery of the traditional and pay-per production/access/use publishing with alternatives from the **Open Access revolution of information recorded in documents**.
- **Critique to** privative information and communication technologies, i.e. software and proposals of free software for the development of the processes of organization and services of information recorded in documents without having the downsize to pay onerous prices to privative software monopolies.
- **Critique to** the public policies of information that affect negatively particularly public libraries.
- **Critique to** the neo-liberal commodification of information recorded in documents.
- **Critique to** any other issues that arise through the scientific development of **LIS and other sciences of information recorded in documents.**

These are only suggestions, but it does not mean that authors must contribute following these themes or issues suggested here, they are free to choose the issues of their free choice, but what it is requested is that they do it through a systematic critique or with a social critique approach of the subjects or topics they address.

4. In principle *LIS Critique will* accept most of the submissions authors contribute since one of its main ideas is to challenge the mainstream (and even Open Access) onerous and monopolistic journals by trying to cover the wider demand of authors that have been rejected from traditional journals and even from Open Access ones, but priority will be given to those authors that approach their contributions in a **critical manner;** with a **social critique focus; to develop the critical and skeptical thinking in the journal is an essential part.**

Cognitive typology of the journal

The journal comprises three cognitive categories in which authors' contributions will be classified:

1. Scientific peer reviewed articles.
2. Non scientific essays, but peer reviewed (or semi-peer reviewed)
3. Term and research papers from undergraduate or masters' students, non scientific but peer reviewed (or semi peer reviewed or non peer reviewed at all)

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Sections of the journal

1. Scientific peer reviewed articles.
2. Non scientific essays, but peer reviewed (or semi-peer reviewed)
3. Term and research papers from undergraduate or masters' students, non scientific but peer reviewed (or semi peer reviewed or non peer reviewed at all)
4. Book reviews
5. Literary space (poems, stories, etc. related to the thematic of the journal).

Frequency

Initially *LIS Critique* will be published quarterly (4 issues published one by one on each of the following months: January, April, July, October during the year). Each year will comprise a volume and so on and so forth.

Citation style

APA, American Psychological Association will be used. See examples here:

http://especializacion.una.edu.ve/paginas/normasapauniversidad.pdf

http://www.uninorte.edu.co/observatorio/documentos/Apa_Edicion5.pdf
Infrastructure

The journal will be edited in PDF and published in a dedicated Web site in Google Pages, http://critica.bibliotecologica.googlepages.com/ , (but the editorial board is working on infrastructure alternatives, be some website in a free software server, or in some institution where a member works, but what it's being sought from the onset is independence from any institution to avoid that any institution tries to usurp the authors' and journals' rights; and to assure mobility of the journal beyond any institutional restrictions. However, in order to guarantee to the worldwide public a true and permanent Open Access to the journal content, once each issue is published will be archived straight away to E-LIS, while the editorial board will figure it out how to obtain better *Open Access and free of charge journal management systems based on free software*. Hence, the idea of using Google Pages as website is merely for an informative place and to link all the issues uploaded in E-LIS, so the infrastructure matters are not much of a consequence.

You may check the advancements of the journal here at the journal's website:
http://critica.bibliotecologica.googlepages.com

Centre of Research in Information Recorded in Documents (CINFODOC, at UANL, Mexico)

http://cinfodoc.uanl.ffyl.googlepages.com

Languages of the journal:

Spanish (original), and English. Spanish is the original language because the authors of the project, Muela-Meza and Torres-Reyes, crafted it from the onset having the Latin American (Spanish speakers) public in mind. But English is also included to go beyond Latin American boundaries and have a truly global scale focus and impact.

When will the first issue be published?

It is planned to be published shortly, so if you already have some papers to submit, there is a good chance to begin submitting now. It is also planned to take pre or post prints from E-LIS and other Open Access repositories as long as they meet with the guidelines explained above and as long as authors authorize their publication.

The details missing in this press release will be solved by the members of the editorial board in the next weeks.

If you'd like to know about the authors' academic profiles please check our full CVs:

Muela-Meza's:
http://zapopanmuela.googlepages.com/

Torres-Reyes's:
http://joantreyescv.googlepages.com/
Or even better, check our contributions (publications and pre-prints) at E-LIS:

Muela-Meza's:
http://eprints.rclis.org/view/people/Muela-Meza,_Zapopan_Mart=n.html

Muela-Meza's:
http://eprints.rclis.org/view/people/Torres-Reyes,_Jos=_Antonio.html

Thank you very much for your attention and we hope that you would submit your contributions to the our journal, first, most important and worldwide **critical journal in library and information science and other sciences of information recorded in documents** in totally full , free, free of charge, democratic, and egalitarian Open Access for all: authors' and the public reader.

«Omnia Sunt Communia!»
(«All the things belongs to everyone in community!»)
 -- Luther Blisset, novel *Q*

Torino: Inaudi, 1999,
[free, free of charge, democratic, and egalitarian access online here]
http://www.wumingfoundation.com/italiano/downloads.shtml

Sincerely truly yours,

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E-LIS Mexico Editor:
http://eprints.rclis.org/view/people/Muela-Meza,_Zapopan_Mart=n.html

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