Editorial

*LIS Critique* launches its second issue of its third volume (Jul-Dec 2010), by: Zapopan Martin Muela-Meza (MEXICO)

Dear reader,

*LIS Critique: Journal of the Sciences of Information Recorded in Documents* puts in your hands its second issue of the third volume. This corresponds to the semester July-December 2010, fully edited by Zapopan Martín Muela Meza.

*LIS Critique* maintains firmly its editorial policy to be critical against censorship and intellectual impostures within the sciences of information recorded in documents (e.g. LIS), publishing both in English and Spanish. And at the same time it maintains its editorial quality through a rigorous double blind peer review process through its editorial board comprising 23 experts both in the theories and practices of the various sciences of information recorded in documents from several parts of the world: Germany (1); Brazil (1); Colombia (1); USA (1); Spain (2); India (2); Italy (1); Kenya (1); Mexico (4); Nicaragua (1); Peru (2); Portugal (1); Serbia (1); South Africa (1); Venezuela (1).

What’s new in this issue? Only 4 articles were published in this number: 1 from Germany and 4 from Mexico, writing 6 authors in total.

Sabine Nuss (GERMANY) opens up the critical debates with her paper (originally written in English): “Private property and public goods of information in view of copyright and copyleft.” Through a comprehensive analysis of the concept of capitalist Private Property she conducts a sound critique to both the proponents of the capitalist ideological fallacies like the self-called “information societies,” “knowledge societies,” “globalization,” etc, and the proponents of the allegedly radical alternatives against capitalism such as those of the “Free Software,” “Copyleft,” “Information Commons,” “open source software,” etc., who in reality support capitalism, since their alternatives are capitalist ones, although driven through free software. Instead, the author calls on the critical analysis by employing concepts epistemologically valid such as those of Marxism, in particular that of the critique to the capitalist private property, either to understand the current stage of capitalism based on information and knowledge (or whatever might come), but still deeply grounded in private property, or to propose real alternatives to capitalism through some other system (that she does not mention) truly alternative to the private property regime. She also criticises the bourgeois policies, either those of the private closed source software (e.g. copyright), or those of the open
source free software (e.g. copyleft), that only tend to worsen the labour conditions of the working class, since this fosters the labour flexibility, and consequently labour insecurity and instability, lay-offs, unemployment, and ultimately labour precarization in general.

Celso Martinez Musiño (MEXICO), continues with the critical debates with his paper “Information as a social object and the library environment” (originally in Spanish). Here he epistemologically argues, through a comprehensive analysis based in documents from the database Library and Information Science Abstracts from the last 40 years, that despite of the big changes in the history of information recorded in documents, since its beginnings it has always been recorded in some recording – encrypting—material for its transcendence as social object. He criticizes to some extent the bourgeois fallacies of the self-called “societies of information or knowledge,” particularly the aspect of the social inequalities that ICTs bring in parallel to such ideologies, and how these changes in one way or the other affect the professional environment where librarians work on.

Samuel Bonilla Nuñez and Beatriz Elena Rodriguez Garcia, (MEXICO), continue with the critical debates with their paper: “The public library as a determinant factor for the people’s use of the laws of transparency and Access to public information,” (originally in Spanish). Since 2006 they make an innovative proposal consisting in the intention to connect the Mexican public libraries with the new policies of the laws of transparency and access to information recorded in documents, with the purpose that the first serve to promote among citizens the culture of accountability and anti-corruption from the governmental sector of Mexico.

And Maria Esther Ramirez Godoy y Alma Silvia Diaz Escoto, (MEXICO), finish the critical debates, and the contributions of this issue with their paper: “Development of specialized digital collections” (originally in Spanish). Here they present a comprehensive analysis of several of the many variants that accompany the development of specialized electronic collections in libraries. Their analysis is very interesting because they approach the phenomenon as a complex entity, and they propose integrated methodologies, and at the same time critiques to approach this phenomenon from all of its possible facets and implications. Hence, they analyse and criticise many pros and cons that imply to maintain only printed serials against electronic serials, or only the latter against the former, or both, within a context where the information and publishing industries just care about maximizing their profits, while libraries must strive to optimize their meagre budgets, and at the same time to achieve the maximal durability of publications despite the economic ups and downs in order to offer their users an effective, and efficient serials and periodicals service at the lowest cost, and with the widest retro and prospective coverage.

Announces: The deadline to receive manuscripts for the number 1 of the volume 4 (corresponding Jan-Jun 2011) is June 30, 2011 to be published on July 30, 2011.
Without more preambles, we leave with this great collective and international effort for you to submit it to your rigorous critique and analysis, and even more we wait for you to send us your critical manuscripts. And we thank you earnestly, authors and readers that through these 2 years and 6 months for keep on following us with your critical reading and papers. Thank you very much to all of you. With you and for you is that we continue restlessly ahead with our editorial project. We continue in communication with you in the next number.

Errata (misprint): In the previous number we published (in Spanish) the essay “Trends of conformism in the library labour discourse and reality of librarians in Mexico” by José Ángel González Castillo y Carlos Alberto Martínez Hernández (MEXICO). However, we must clarify that due to an involuntary mistake we initially made public the final issue draft without saving the changes of the final version where we added the final versions of all the papers as they were officially published in the final issue. Nevertheless, we corrected the mistake and subsequently we made public the final official issue available at these web links: At the official site of the journal: http://sites.google.com/site/criticabibliotecologica/critica-bibliotecologica-vol-2-no-2-vol-3-no-1, or through our mirror site at E-LIS: http://eprints.rclis.org/19328/1/critica.biblio.final.vol.2.no.2%26vol.3.no.1.pdf. To our readers, but above all to our authors we apologize for this involuntary error. Thank you.

CB.

NB: Translated and proofread by Z.M. Muela-Meza. This version keeps the same pagination of the original Spanish version (see also: http://eprints.rclis.org/bitstream/10760/15723/1/c.b.vol.3.no.2.editorial.pdf).