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Contents pages

Howarth, Lynne C. **Clare Beghtol: Exploring New Approaches to the Organization of Knowledge.** *Knowledge Organization*, 37(2), 95-100. 4 references.

ABSTRACT: This issue of *Knowledge Organization* honours Clare Lawton Beghtol, recently retired from teaching at the Faculty of Information, University of Toronto, Canada. Clare Beghtol's research and theoretical writings have been important in and to the development of the field of knowledge organization, and have exerted a palpable influence, such that Beghtol would appear to align with the definition of "pioneer." In this special issue, academics with various scholarly connections to Beghtol contribute either an examination and critical assessment of a piece of her work that had especially impressed or influenced them in some manner, or a paper of original research reflective of directions also pursued by Beghtol.

Williamson, Nancy J. **Clare Beghtol: Teacher, Researcher, and Theoretician.** *Knowledge Organization*, 37(2), 101-105. 18 references.

ABSTRACT: The trajectory of the scholarly oeuvre of classification theorist Clare Beghtol is described and evaluated in terms of its significance for the development of modern information systems and the extension of classification theory. Focusing on a distinguished body of research sometimes characterized as "outside the box," Beghtol's explorations of concepts of "aboutness," of faceted classification systems, and of a number of types of warrant, are examined. The article concludes with a consideration of more recent themes of "naïve" classification, ethical approaches to knowledge organization, and the nature of relationships in classificatory structure and meaning.

Kwaśnik, Barbara H. **Semantic Warrant: A Pivotal Concept for Our Field.** *Knowledge Organization*, 37(2), 106-110. 2 references.

ABSTRACT: Through its focus on the semantic, rather than the syntactic axis of bibliographic classification systems, Beghtol's 1986 article on four perspectives of warrant provides us with a set of conceptual tools that can be

used to understand, analyze, evaluate and design any knowledge-representation system. In this way warrant, as a concept, joins the ranks of relevance as a pivotal notion, offering a lens for contextualizing the meanings and uses to which ever-evolving classifications are put. With reference to examples, this paper concludes by invoking Beghtol's warrant as a means for systematically evaluating how legacy and emerging classification systems measure up to their mandates.

Jacob, Elin K. **Proposal for a Classification of Classifications built on Beghtol's Distinction between "Naïve Classification" and "Professional Classification".** *Knowledge Organization*, 37(2), 111-120. 27 references.

ABSTRACT: Argues that Beghtol's (2003) use of the terms "naïve classification" and "professional classification" is valid because they are nominal definitions and that the distinction between these two types of classification points up the need for researchers in knowledge organization to broaden their scope beyond traditional classification systems intended for information retrieval. Argues that work by Beghtol (2003), Kwaśnik (1999) and Bailey (1994) offer direction for the development of a classification of classifications based on the pragmatic dimensions of extant classification systems.

Olson, Hope A. **Earthly Order and the Oneness of Mysticism: Hugh of Saint Victor and Medieval Classification of Wisdom.** *Knowledge Organization*, 37(2), 121-138. 22 references.

ABSTRACT: Hugh of St. Victor's *Didascalicon* is a twelfth-century classification of knowledge, or as Hugh would put it, of Wisdom, written in the context of medieval, Christian mysticism. This study reads the text through its cultural and intellectual context, including medieval themes of the problem of universals and the importance of numerology. The study addresses the question of whether or not Hugh's classification is part of the Aristotelian tradition of classificatory structure characterized by mutually exclusive categories, teleological progress toward a goal, and hierarchy, which is still with us today. It also examines

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the role of the liberal arts in Hugh's pedagogy and philosophy as exhibited in the *Didascalicon*.

Craig, Barbara L. **Twilight of a Victorian Registry: The Treasury's Paper Room before 1920.** *Knowledge Organization*, 37(2), 139-148. 16 references.

ABSTRACT: Experiential knowledge of government business among clerks in the Treasury's paper room stimulated new logs to control transit of records and classified indexes to expand recall of business beyond personal memory. Despite a flowering of expertise in records matters before the First World War, effective changes were compromised by

the volume of paper work, inherent limitations of format, and the increased speed of business. Additional staff was the favoured option for keeping up because it did not imply re-thinking the format of records, optimum linking of their physical and intellectual control, or changed operations of the paper room and re-assignment of staff. Classified indexes, a Victorian achievement in the Treasury, held the central service together until the restrictions of format and space for files and for registration notes and for paper room operations led to a new system of registration and classification in 1920. The Victorian separation of initial registration from ultimate classification was replaced by the union of the two processes at the beginning; the principle of file formation changed from one letter, one file, to one subject, one file.