

Preface

The present volume includes most of the keynote and contributed papers that were presented at the Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries International Conference (QQL2009) held in Chania, Crete, Greece, May 26-29, 2009, which was organized under the umbrella of ASMDA International Society.

The conference aims to serve as the intermediate between theory and applications, in this case between Quantitative and Qualitative Methodologists and Library and Information Scientists. As expected, the conference, consequently its proceedings, is addressed to the library professionals in a more general sense: professors, researchers, students, administrators, librarians, technologists, museum scientists, archivists, decision makers and managers.

Qualitative and Quantitative Methods (QQM) have proven to be popular tools for Library scientists, because of their usefulness to the everyday professional life. QQM are involved in the improvement of the services, the measurement of functional effectiveness and efficiency, decision-making and fund allocation.

The book covers a wide variety of themes in both theoretical and applied such as the modern methodological approaches, the library's management and marketing, the change of libraries, the digital resources and the new library models, the focus on users and user groups, the information literacy, the qualitative options, the application of the QQM in digital library education and research, the evaluation and the impact assessment, the information and communication technology services, the support to research and the application of QQM to the catalogues and manuscripts. The papers come from all over the world and referred to every kind of libraries, so the book helps the reader to have a holistic view on the subject.

Some of the subjects that are discussed in the enclosed papers are: teaching methodologies to LIS students mixed methods, leadership, the quality of information, e-resource management, semantic Web, personalised virtual digital libraries, user evaluation of library services, information behavior, information ecology, user profiles, quality management, quality metrics, digital library education, knowledge management, open access, performance based software, self-efficacy, infopragmatics, web dynamics etc.

We acknowledge the support of MAICH in Chania, Greece. Sincere thanks must be recorded to colleagues, friends and partners who worked hard for the success of the conference and especially the conference committees, speakers and keynote speakers, authors and reviewers. Finally, we would like to heartily thank Aggeliki Oikonomou, Mary Karadima, Iro Tzorbatzaki, Aris Meletiou, Ioannis Dimotikallis and George Matalliotakis for their valuable support.

Athens, November 1, 2009

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