Scientific information, much of which is published as grey literature, can play a pivotal role in the search for solutions to global problems. Diversity invigorates problem solving and science benefits from a community that approaches problems in a variety of creative ways. Despite their diversity, the hundreds of authors and researchers across the globe involved in grey literature can be seen as part of the same community contributing to the scientific enterprise in valuable ways.

Diversity speaks directly to the effectiveness of information professionals working together as a team and is an essential ingredient for innovation. People from different backgrounds bring with them new information. If you want to build teams, communities, and organizations capable of innovating, you need diversity. It enhances creativity and encourages the search for new information and nuanced perspectives, leading to better decision making and problem solving. Diversity can improve the bottom line of companies as well as organizations, because exposure to it changes the way one thinks. A diverse community of researchers anticipate differences and understand that they will have to work harder to achieve consensus, but their diligence can lead to better outcomes. Authors in the GL-Conference Series come from different societal cultures and geographic regions; however, in their research, they are united by the culture of science, which is without borders. This diverse community has over the past two decades applied research methods and offered explanations that have helped this field of information through blind spots, shedding light on what were once seen only as inherent problems. Their evidence based approaches have opened up new areas of research in grey literature.

Where in the early ’90s the focus was primarily on the demand side of grey literature, equal emphasis today is directed to its supply side. Speed and scale of communication are significant factors that contribute to diversity. The proliferation of technologies has allowed for an exponential growth of knowledge in information science just as in other sciences. However, the diverseness of grey literature resources has become a major challenge to its exploitation. The availability of systems for collecting and aggregating data and its semantic analysis has now become a priority.

GL18 will focus on evidence and will seek to further raise awareness among the wider public to the strength of grey literature based on a shared commitment by a diverse community of authors and researchers responsible for its production and open access. GL18 welcomes information professionals in government and non-government, in academics, business and industry to engage in this year’s international forum by responding to the Call for Papers, http://www.textrelease.com/gl18callforpapers.html.
Eighteenth International Conference on Grey Literature
Leveraging Diversity in Grey Literature

1216 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY USA
November 28-29, 2016

Call for Papers

Title of Paper:  
Author Name(s):  
Organization(s):  
Postal Address:  
Postal/Zip Code – City – Country:  
Conference Topic(s):  
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URL:  

Guidelines for Abstracts

Participants who seek to present a paper at GL18 are invited to submit an English language abstract between 350-400 words. The abstract should deal with the problem/goal, the research method/procedure, an indication of costs related to the project, as well as the anticipated results of the research. The abstract should likewise include the title of the proposed paper, conference topic(s) most suited to the paper, name(s) of the author(s), and full address information. Abstracts are the only tangible source that allows the Program Committee to guarantee the content and balance in the conference program. Every effort should be made to reflect the content of your work in the abstract submitted. Abstracts not in compliance with the guidelines will be returned to the author for revision.

Conference Related Topics

☐ Diversity in Publishing and Disseminating Grey Literature
☐ Open Access and Shared Grey Resources
☐ Aggregating Data and its Semantic Analysis
☐ Public Awareness to Grey Literature via Social Media
☐ Effectiveness of Grey Literature in Decision Making and Problem Solving
☐ Other Conference Topic:

Due Date and Format for Submission

Abstracts in MS Word must be emailed to conference@textrelease.com, on or before April 15th 2016. The author will receive verification upon its receipt. In early May, shortly after the Program Committee meets, authors will be notified of their place on the conference program. This notice will be accompanied by further guidelines for submission of full text papers, accompanying research data, PowerPoint slides, and required Author Registration.

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GL18 Program and Conference Bureau

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TIB joined GreyNet as an Institutional Member in 2016

Hannover as well as interested local citizens with literature and information in both printed and electronic form. The library has outstanding collections of fundamental and highly specialised literature on science and technology. Its remit is to preserve the knowledge recorded and to provide the latest information for research and industry, both now and in the future, irrespective of the time and the place. The aim of TIB is to provide its customers with innovative, efficient and smooth access to data, information and knowledge, and to make large information spaces available to them in a structured, suitable manner. One of its specialist areas is grey literature from its subject areas, which is difficult to procure and cannot be obtained commercially. With its portal, TIB offers a search and order portal for specialist and research information with a focus on science and technology. Knowledge objects such as audio-visual media, 3D models and research data are also integrated in the portal. More than 170 million data set are currently available. TIB conducts applied research and development to optimise the services it offers. In cooperation with research facilities, emphasis is placed on the topics of visual search, the visualisation of data, future internet and semantic web. By allocating DOI names (digital object identifiers) and ensuring they can be detected and accessed at TIB safeguards the quality, long-term availability and referencability of research data. TIB is a member of the Leibniz Association, and became a public-law foundation of the Federal State of Lower Saxony in 2016. http://www.tib.eu

GreyNet’s Stakeholder Study: Leveraging Grey Literature

Based on a comparison of statistics compiled on the use of GreyNet’s sustained information resources with the results from an online survey carried out among its stakeholders in 2015, significant findings are reported here. While seven of the nine resources in the study demonstrate an accepted level of comparison, two of GreyNet’s resources point to needed leveraging.

Over 67% of the survey respondents had not posted, shared, or liked content via one of GreyNet’s channels of social media - while data indicate an increasing number of members and a steady number of new postings. This apparent discrepancy can perhaps be explained by the fact that only a relative few stakeholders provide content and feedback via GreyNet’s social media, while the vast majority can be characterized passive recipients.

Survey results also indicated that 80% of the respondents had not accessed one of GreyNet’s datasets found in DANS or in another data archive. This perhaps can be explained by the fact that only 21 of the 344 full-text conference preprints are currently crosslinked to accompanying data files. However, now that the acquisition of data has become part of GreyNet’s workflow, there is more potential for increased access and use of the data. In order to maintain and improve its positional advantage and ability to act effectively on behalf of its stakeholders, GreyNet will have to explore better ways to leverage its social media as well as the data issuing from the International Conference Series on Grey Literature.

Since the close of the stakeholder study, a Facebook account has been added to GreyNet’s LinkedIn, Twitter, and Netvibes accounts. However, this in itself will not ensure that more content and discussion will arise via social media. Likewise, since the close of the study, a poster was presented at GL17 in order to better inform the authors on how they can enter their research data in the DANS Data Archive. However, such a demonstration requires much needed follow-up. While the results of this study may have produced a method of approach in identifying GreyNet’s information resources that require leveraging, the work ahead to accomplish this remains a challenge. A challenge that not only confronts GreyNet, but other grey literature communities worldwide.

http://www.greynet.org/researchandeducation/workshops.html
About GreyNet’s Newsletter
This serial publication endeavors to keep information professionals abreast of developments in the field of grey literature. The quarterly newsletter gives exposure to GreyNet’s information resources and frontline activities with special emphasis on the International Conference Series on Grey Literature. The GreyNet Newsletter is licensed by EBSCO Publishing and can also be accessed via the Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts (LISTA-FT) full-text database. This serial publication is made possible through the support of GreyNet’s Associate Members and Corporate Authors: DANS-KNAW (Netherlands), CVTISR (Slovakia), ISTI-CNR, (Italy), Nuclear Information Section, NIS-IAEA (Austria), FEDLINK, Library of Congress (USA), Inst-CNRS (France), New York Academy of Medicine (USA), EBSCO (USA), National Library of Technology (Czech Republic), and the Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information, KISTI.

Grey Literature is a field in library and information science that deals with the production, distribution, and access to multiple document types produced on all levels of government, academia, business, and organization in electronic and print formats not controlled by commercial publishing i.e. where publishing is not the primary activity of the producing body.