

Is Dewey Obsolete?

Information Management in the Digital Age

A presentation by Brian Ferguson

Definitions:

Metadata - "Data about other data", of any sort in any media. In data processing, metadata is definitional data that provides information about or documentation of other data managed within an application or environment.

Tag - A **tag** is a non-hierarchical keyword or term assigned to a piece of information (such as an internet bookmark, digital image, or computer file). This kind of metadata helps describe an item and allows it to be found again by browsing or searching. Tags are chosen informally and personally by the item's creator or by its viewer, depending on the system.

Folksonomy - The practice and method of collaboratively creating and managing tags to annotate and categorize content. Folksonomy describes the bottom-up classification systems that emerge from social tagging. Folksonomy (from *folk* + *taxonomy*) is a user-generated taxonomy.

The above definitions were excerpted from Wikipedia.

Web sites:

<http://bubl.ac.uk> "BUBL uses the Dewey Decimal Classification system as the primary organization structure for its catalogue of Internet resources. The Dewey Decimal Classification is (c) 1996-2007 OCLC Online Computer Library Center. Used with Permission."

<http://www.flickr.com> "Share your photos. Watch the world." Online photo management and sharing.

<http://www.librarything.com> "What's on your bookshelf?" Catalog your books online. Connect with people based on the books you share.

<http://delicious.com> Save, tag, and share your web bookmarks. Keep your bookmarks online and they will be available to you from any computer and any browser.

Articles:

Ontology is Overrated: Categories, Links, and Tags by Clay Shirky

http://www.shirky.com/writings/ontology_overrated.html

Another Library Drops Dewey by Norman Oder

<http://www.libraryjournal.com/blog/1010000101/post/610033661.html?q=Frankfort+Public+Library>

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