

Tracing the Interdisciplinarity and the Evolution of Information Science through a Study of the Journal of the Association of Information Science and Technology (JASIS&T) and iConference Proceedings

323

Susan B Corieri, DPS Candidate sbcorier@syr.edu
School of Information Studies at Syracuse University

OVERVIEW



REFERENCES

- Agarwal, N. K., & Islam, M. A. (2020). Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology: Analysis of two decades of published research. *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology*, 57(1), e220.
- Apostel, L., & Others, A. (1972). *Interdisciplinarity Problems of Teaching and Research in Universities*. OECD Publications Center, Suite 1207, 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. Archives of Robert Taylor. (n.d.). Syracuse University Special Collections.
- Klein, J. T. (1990). *Interdisciplinarity: History, Theory, and Practice*. Wayne State University Press.
- Klein, J. T. (1996). *Crossing Boundaries: Knowledge, Disciplinaries, and Interdisciplinaries*. University of Virginia Press.
- Klein, J. T. (2021). *Beyond Interdisciplinarity: Boundary Work, Communication, and Collaboration*. Oxford University Press.
- Lattuca, L. (2003). Creating Interdisciplinarity: Grounded Definitions from the College and University Faculty. *History of Intellectual Culture*, 3(1), Article 1.
- Madsen, D. (2012). Interdisciplinarity in the information field. *Proceedings of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 49(1), 1–7.
- Zhang, P., & Benjamin, R. I. (2007). Understanding information related fields: A conceptual framework. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 58(13), 1934–1947.

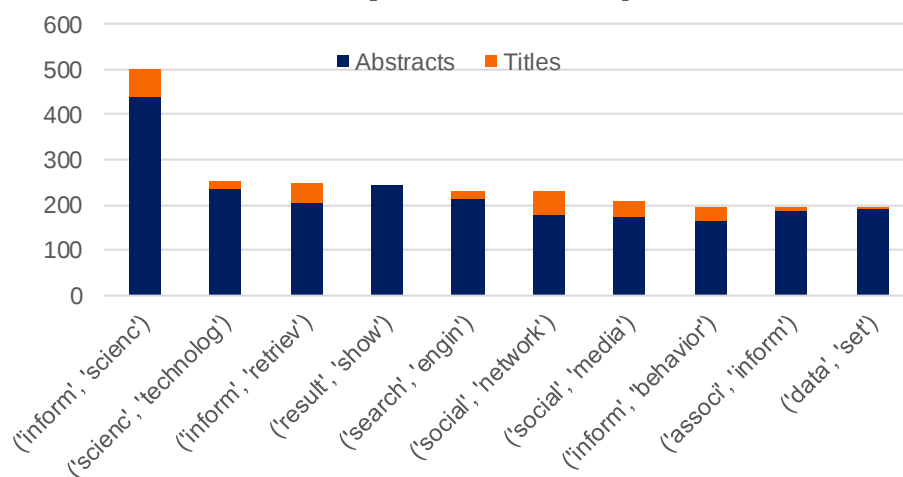
Term	JASIS&T Ranking	iConference Ranking	
('inform', 'retriev')	3	79	High JASIS&T & Low iConference
'citat'	7	144	
('social', 'media')	7	1	High JASIS&T & High iConference
('case', 'studi')	16	3	
'librari'	101	9	Low JASIS&T & High iConference
('public', 'librari')	263	2	

A text analysis of *JASIS&T* and the *iConference Proceedings* over a sixteen-year period provides evidence of the evolution of interdisciplinarity by highlighting fluctuations in research topics. Unlike most studies of academic publications, this study did not rely on controlled vocabularies. Instead, text analysis was chosen to enable future application to unpublished documents.

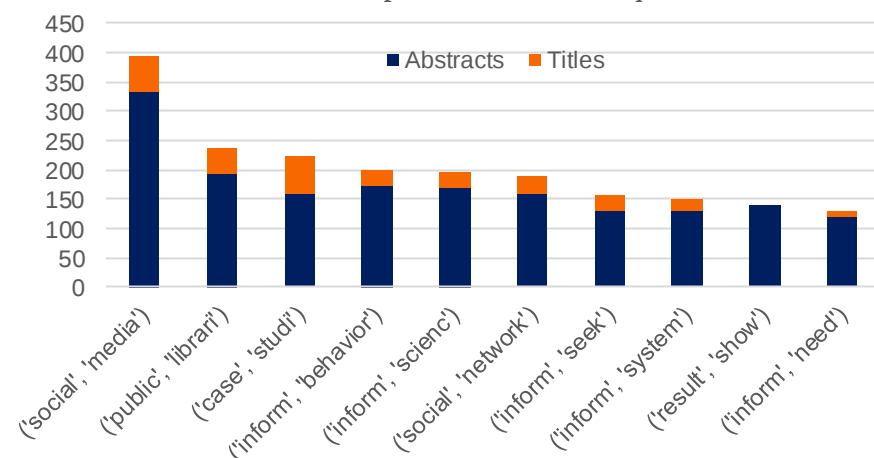
In conclusion, this study demonstrates that text analysis can effectively reveal the evolution of interdisciplinarity and distinguish academic communities through term frequency patterns that reflect the research interests of their members. Research related to libraries remains a significant focus for *iConference* researchers, while *JASIS&T* researchers are more likely to concentrate on citation analysis and technology studies.

FINDINGS

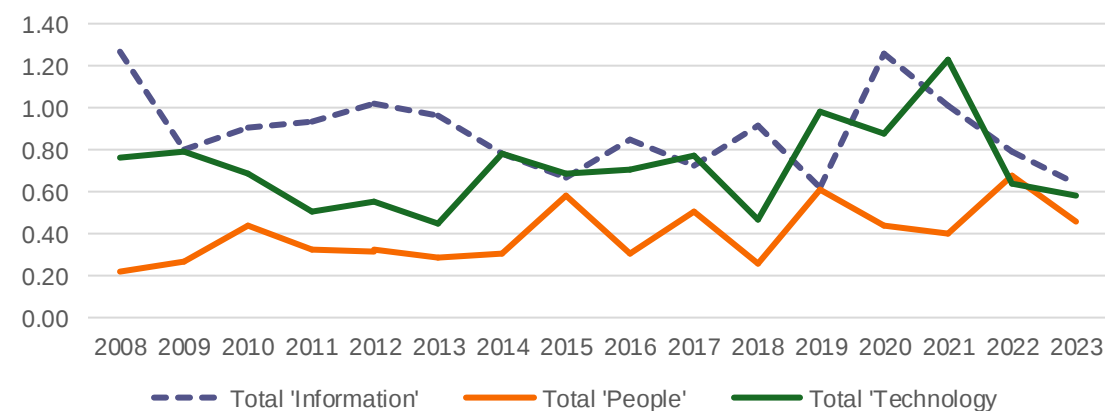
JASIS&T Top 10 BIGRAM Frequencies



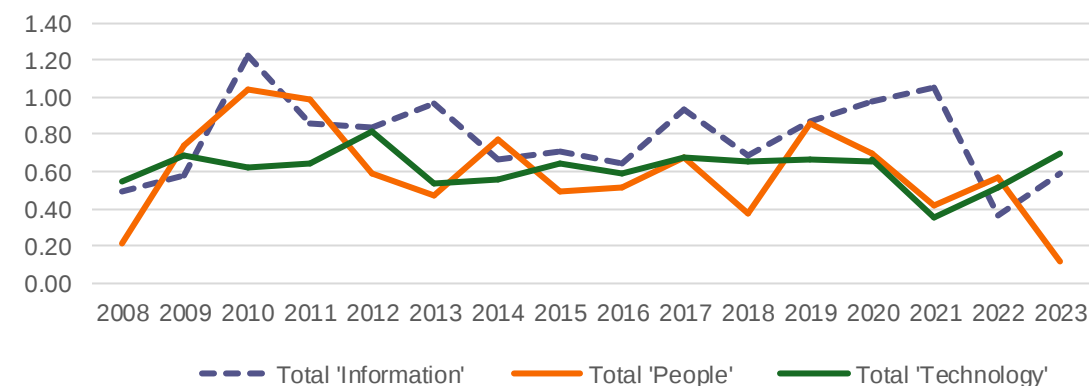
iConference Top 10 BIGRAM Frequencies



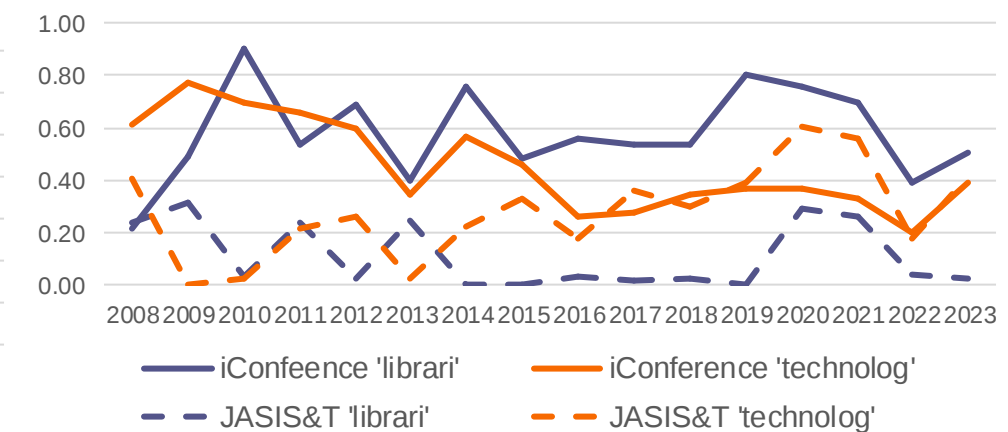
NORMALIZED JASIS&T Bigram Groups
Abstracts plus Titles



NORMALIZED iConference Groupings
Abstracts plus Titles



Term Frequency UNIGRAMS Normalized



JASIST UNIGRAMS Normalized - Compare to
bibliometric study of Agarwal and Islam

