

SWWG Knowledge Organization Systems

Knowledge Organization Systems (KOS)

"The term knowledge organization systems is intended to encompass all types of schemes for organizing information and promoting knowledge management. Knowledge organization systems include classification schemes that organize materials at a general level (such as books on a shelf), subject headings that provide more detailed access, and authority files that control variant versions of key information (such as geographic names and personal names). They also include less-traditional schemes, such as semantic networks and ontologies. Because knowledge organization systems are mechanisms for organizing information, they are at the heart of every library, museum, and archive.

The term *knowledge organization systems* as used in this report was coined by the Networked Knowledge Organization Systems Working Group at its initial meeting at the [ACM Digital Libraries '98 Conference](#) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania." (Hodge, 2000)

KOS Relevant to the Natural Sciences

- [Vocabulary Servers and Databases](#)
- [Taxonomies, Thesauri & Ontologies](#)
- [Gazetteers](#)
- [Lexicons](#)

Selected References

Hodge, Gail, 2000. [Systems of Knowledge Organization for Digital Libraries: Beyond Traditional Authority Files](#). The Digital Library Federation Council on Library and Information Resources, Washington, DC: 37p.

Maffei, Andrew (editor), 2011. "[Coastal Marine Spatial Planning Discovery Vocabularies Workshop](#). A Joint WHOI/USGS/NOAA Workshop". Workshop Report, February 18, 2011. Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Woods Hole, MA: 36p.

Neiswender, C., Miller, S.P., Bermudez, L., Montgomery, E., Isenor, A., 2011. "[Vocabularies: Dictionaries, Ontologies, and More](#)." In *The MMI Guides: Navigating the World of Marine Metadata*. Accessed August 26, 2011.

Attachments

›  Systems of Knowledge Organization.pdf Hodge, G. (2000). The Digital Library Federation Council on Library and Information Resources	8 30, 2011 by Govoni, David L.
›  CMSP Discovery Vocabularies Workshop (2010).pdf 2011 Workshop report; see especially Appendix F, G & H	8 30, 2011 by Govoni, David L.
›  Ontologies - Science Data Sharing (Scitable).pdf Washington, N. & Lewis, S. (2008) Ontologies: Scientific Data Sharing Made Easy. Nature Education 1(3)	8 30, 2011 by Govoni, David L.

