



# Proceedings of the Informing Science + Information Technology Education Conference

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June 30 – July 4, 2019, Jerusalem, Israel

## WORKSHOP: KEYWORD DISCOVERY: VISUALIZING YOUR TOPIC IN RESEARCH, THESIS AND DISSERTATION DEVELOPMENT

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### ABSTRACT

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Aim/Purpose	Participants will learn various digital tools to assist them in the discovery of appropriate keywords for their own research and writings as well as in teaching.
Background	Experiences teaching undergraduates and graduate students information literacy and retrieval have identified several areas where students have problems in searching databases because of misconceptions as to what they should be using as keywords.
Methodology	The use of visual tools to identify keywords.
Contribution	The visualization software demonstrated and used in the workshop can enhance the literature review portion of any research project.
Recommendations for Practitioners	With the vast expansion of the amount of information available via the Web, it is time to go back to a more considered approach to keywords (as in the past when searching a database could cost hundreds of dollars) rather than just the first words that might occur.
Recommendations for Researchers	In addition to using these techniques in your own research, teaching them to research assistants and students and not assume that everyone knows how to use keywords.
Impact on Society	These same approaches can be used in continuing education or by independent scholars.

Accepting Editor: Eli Cohen | Received: November 18, 2018 | Revised: December 7, December 16, 2018 | Accepted: December 18, 2018.

Cite as: Gregory, V. L., & Cox, K. L. (2019). Workshop: Keyword discovery: Visualizing your topic in research, thesis and dissertation development. *Proceedings of the Informing Science and Information Technology Education Conference, Jerusalem, Israel*, pp. 911-912. Santa Rosa, CA: Informing Science Institute. <https://doi.org/10.28945/4335>

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## Keyword Discovery

Future Research	We plan to demonstrate at the conclusion of the workshop visual tools that can take it another step and help in organizing sources.
Keywords	information literacy, keywords, information instruction, undergraduate students, graduate students, researchers

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

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Participants will learn various digital tools to assist them in the discovery of appropriate keywords for their own research and writings as well as in teaching. These methods can be adapted to the requirements of various institutional settings and the needs of many age groups. Participants will need to bring their own laptop or tablet with Wi-Fi internet connectivity in order to fully participate in the workshop. (The exercises can be completed using a smart phone, but prior experience indicates that a larger screen is helpful.) Work done during the workshop will be posted to a blog or wiki of your choice or a Facebook page created by the presenters in order that that all participants can view and comment on the work. Attendees will learn to enhance communication by adding links to social media, such as Twitter, Instagram, Research Gate and Linked-In, which will allow colleagues access to on-going discussions in their research area. The presenters will use Google Scholar and the Informing Science Institute websites in the demonstrations of techniques. In the exercises, participants will be able to choose from the various tools presented and try them out for future use. We also plan to demonstrate software that can be used to organize the sources that you find in a visual rather than simply text manner.

Intended Audience: Graduate Students and Researchers

## BIOGRAPHIES

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**Vicki L. Gregory** is a professor in the School of Information at the University of South Florida. She holds a Ph.D. from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey in Communication and Information Studies. Before beginning her teaching and research career, she was Head of the Department of Systems and Operations at Auburn University at Montgomery. She currently teaches classes in Digital Libraries, Collection Development and Management, Information Retrieval, and Library Administration. The second edition of her textbook, *Collection Development and Management for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library Collections* will be available in January 2019. She has recently been a member of the ALA Committee on Accreditation and the ALA Notable Books Council. She served three terms as Treasurer of the Association of Information and Technology (ASIST).



**Kiersten Cox** is a Senior Instructor in the School of Information at the University of South Florida. She earned a Master in Library and Information Science degree from the University of Hawai'i and a Master of Arts in International Affairs from Ohio University. She spent many years as a librarian in a variety of settings. She was a research assistant for a Fulbright Scholar which allowed her to live in Indonesia and the Netherlands. She has been teaching in the School of Information at the University of South Florida for over nearly 20 years specializing in teaching information literacy skills to students in an online environment. Her research is based in information literacy and with gender issues in communication. She recently published a chapter in ACRL's *The Discovery Tool Cookbook: Recipes for Successful Lesson Plans*.