Welcome
by Jody Condit Fagan - Wednesday, 1 March 2006, 01:48 PM

Hello, everyone & anyone!

Just wanted to let everyone know that I've logged in successfully and so if you post a message here, I'll get an email and respond. I am almost finished processing my usability video recordings, and I'm finding some really interesting results to share at the conference. One day, I'll also have to publish my procedures for using Morae, the usability software, online. I would just die for some best practices right now.

I look forward to hearing from any of you, before, during, or after the conference!

Jody

Re: Welcome
by Lauren Fancher - Thursday, 16 March 2006, 09:33 AM

Hi Jody,
There's a lot of interest in this direction -- would it be possible to summarize a little bit of what you've learned, and were your results able to provide any input into the EBSCO release?

Re: Welcome
by Jody Condit Fagan - Friday, 17 March 2006, 10:22 AM
Hi, Lauren!

So far, I've learned that some of my assumptions about student search behavior are totally wrong. For example, I would have said that students only scan the titles on results pages - not reading abstracts - and this wasn't true. They were much more careful than I thought they would be.

Also, I am quite surprised at the huge variance in search expertise - that is, some students were quite savvy about their searching, while others were pretty much at the Google level. (This wouldn't be so surprising except JMU has a mandatory information literacy tutorial and information seeking skills test, so all students should have learned at least a base level of searching).

I think EBSCO is looking forward to the results of these sessions as they work on both their traditional search and visual search: but, these usability tests occurred after the beta version of Visual Search was constructed, so the current release does not reflect any of the results of the usability tests.

Jody
How do we get the audio portion?

by Ron Burns - Friday, 24 March 2006, 07:01 AM

How do we get the audio portion? Is there a dial in number? Or link?

Re: How do we get the audio portion?

by Charlene Barina - Friday, 24 March 2006, 09:14 PM

We're not doing live streaming, but we're posting recordings within 24 hours, barring technical difficulties. I just finished redacting the audio version, and it's going to be up presently.

--Charlene
Ebscohost subject/keywords
by Sara Blaszczak - Saturday, 18 March 2006, 11:51 AM

While doing a search in EBSCO, (Academic Search Premier and Business Source Elite), on content analysis, I note with interest that of the several citations which came up, some citations have both Subject Terms and author-supplied keywords; some have subject terms only with no author-supplied keywords; and some citations have NO subject terms or author-supplied keywords.

I never noticed this discrepancy before. Did not realize that EBSCO has this degree of unevenness, or inconsistency, if you will, in their indexing practices. Wouldn't it likely affect the Visual search performance, as well as traditional?

Sara Blaszczak

Re: Ebscohost subject/keywords
by Jody Condit Fagan - Monday, 20 March 2006, 05:11 AM

Hi, Sara!

Hmm... I'll run this question by EBSCO before the conference and see what they have to say. It certainly would affect Visual Search. thanks for bringing it up!

Jody

Re: Ebscohost subject/keywords
by Joy Mark - Friday, 24 March 2006, 12:12 PM
I didn't think EBSCO did the indexing. I thought E. was an aggregator and the producers of the databases (presumably different for these two you mentioned) are the indexers. That's why some of the limit/expand options in E. are different--according to the databases chosen and the way indexing is handled in each. Is this a wrong understanding?

Joy Mark

Re: Ebscohost subject/keywords
by Noella Natalino - Tuesday, 28 March 2006, 08:13 PM
Is it done by Grokker?

Re: Ebscohost subject/keywords
by Jody Condit Fagan - Wednesday, 29 March 2006, 02:20 PM
Heya -- yes, Grokker is the underlying technology. EBSCO is continuing to partner with Groxis (the company that makes Grokker) to continue adding enhancements from Grokker.com

tks,

Jody

Re: Ebscohost subject/keywords
by Jody Condit Fagan - Wednesday, 29 March 2006, 02:22 PM
Okay I finally got the response from EBSCO (the time delay is as much with me keeping up with email as their response).

"ASP will get author-supplied keywords if they're supplied by the publisher. Its Subject Terms are all in the Subject Terms Authority.

BSE does not get author-supplied keywords. Its Subject Terms include both thesaurus terms using the Business thesaurus, and other non-thesaurus topical terms.

The display of author-supplied keywords depends on the database; since they're author-supplied, there's no real consistency among them.

The categories in Visual Search are based on the subject terms from the SU or DE fields. However, we do look at other text in the records when building the map.

The actual search is the same as a traditional search as far as which fields are searched. We only return the first 250 relevancy-ranked results for building the map."
Fri2B

0.184058 secs
Included 23 files
ticks: 19 user: 14 sys: 3 cuser: 0 csys: 0
Load average: 0.31