

'Information Experience' as a research object: What to research? How to research? Where to apply?

Abstract:

'Information experience' (IX) is an emerging area of inquiry in the broader domain of information research. 'Information experience' is understood as people's engagement with information in a specific context. When we research information experience, we think about things like how people engage with information, what they experience as informing, and their thoughts and feelings related to the experience. To date, only a few studies have investigated the concept of 'information experience' as a research object. As a result, our understanding of what constitutes information experience is still emerging, and we lack an agreed definition. We also lack a defined research agenda to guide a strategic approach to building the base of research in the information experience space.

The aim of this panel discussion is to start a conversation about information experience and the IX research agenda. It will pose key questions including:

Is IX a domain of research, and object of study, or both?

What is the relationship of IX to other information research phenomena including information behaviour, information practice and information literacy?

What distinguishes information experience from user experience and other experience research domains?

What are the considerations IX researchers need to take into account when designing IX research studies?

What opportunities exist for information research and how might these be prioritised?

How might practitioners benefit from IX research, and how can researchers drive the IX research agenda forward in a way that serves the professions?

How might we operationalise IX research through information experience design?