



Knowledge Generation in the Field of Grey Literature

A Review of Conference-Based Research Results

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HARNESSING THE POWER OF **GREY**

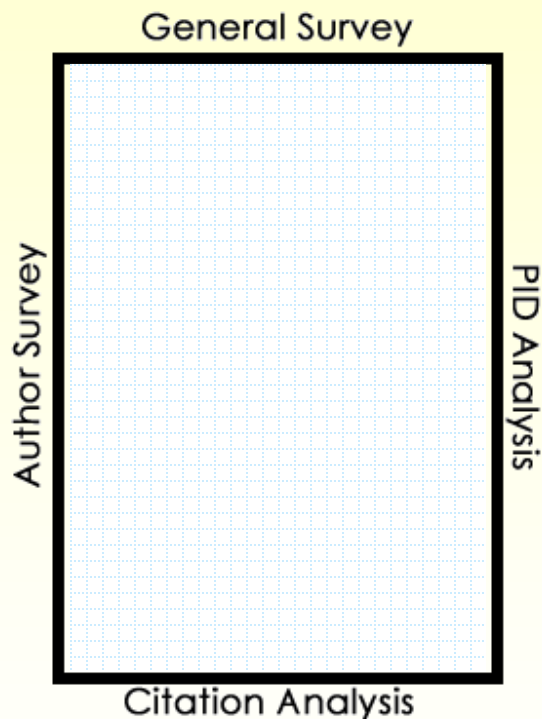
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New Orleans, Louisiana USA

December 4-5, 2006

Research Quadrangle

Introduction, Background, Harnessing the Power of Grey



- ↙ **GL5**, a review of four 20th century pioneers in the field of grey literature, 2003
- ← **GL6**, Citation Analysis based on the GL Conference Proceedings 1994-2004
- ← **GL6**, General Survey on Grey Literature 2004
- ← **GL7**, Author Survey 2005 + Citation Data updated
- ↘ **GL8**, Project Information Document for cost-related data, 2005-2006

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PID – FORM**PID – Project Information Document****GL Project Résumé Sheet**

1.1. Title Project: *(If it carries the title of the Conference Paper enter "Same")*

1.2. Project Type: *(Indicate by placing an [x] in the box)*

- ☐ Institutional (only within your institution)
- ☐ Joint Institutional (in cooperation with other institutions)
- ☐ Individual Research (non-institutional)
- ☐ Team Research (collaborative, non-institutional)
- ☐ Other:

1.3. Is this project linked to an academic title, required publication, etc.?

2.1. Name(s) Project Worker(s):

2.2. Email Contact Address:

3.1. Approach/Methodology:

3.2. Proposed Use and Application of Results:

4.1. Funding/Grant Organization(s): *(If none skip to question 4.3)*

4.2. Project Budget: *(Total estimate in US\$ or Euro)*

4.3. Project Costs and Expenses (Itemized)

4.3.1. Special equipment and supplies:

4.3.2. Salaries *(related to the project)*:

4.3.3. Estimate total N° of days invested

4.3.4. Travel, Lodging:

4.3.5. Conference Registration:

4.3.6. Other:

4.4. Project Costs and Expenses

(Total amount from 4.3 or a global estimate)

5.1. Project History: *(Prior or Related Research Projects and Proposals)*

6.1. **Project Start Date** (mm/dd/yy)

6.2. **Project Termination Date** (mm/dd/yy)

7.1. Other Comments:

GL/PID-FORM/18AUG06

Research Method

PID - Project Information Document

- ← Same pool of respondents, GL Authors
- ← Same research team, INIST and GreyNet
- ← Standardized Form used to collect data
- ← 52 PIDs emailed to GL7 and GL8 1st Authors
- ← 29 PIDs completed 55,8%, data entry via Excel
- ← Comparison with other types of data from literature reviews, Citation analyses, and Surveys



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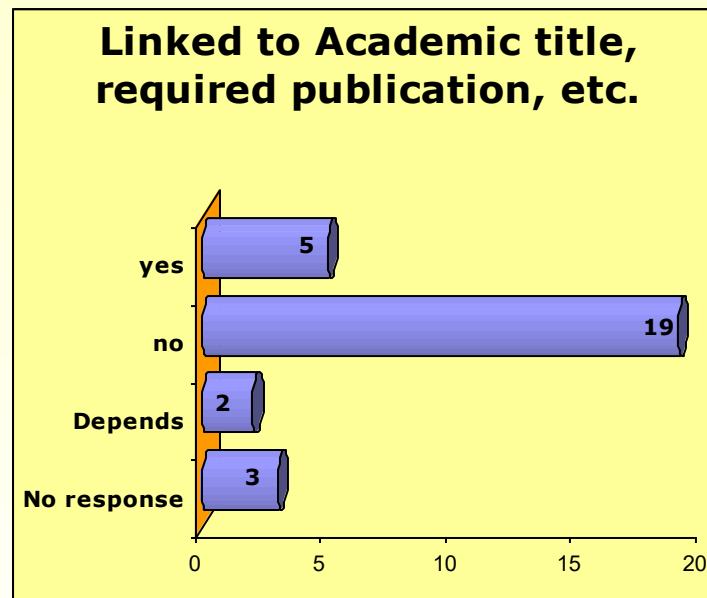
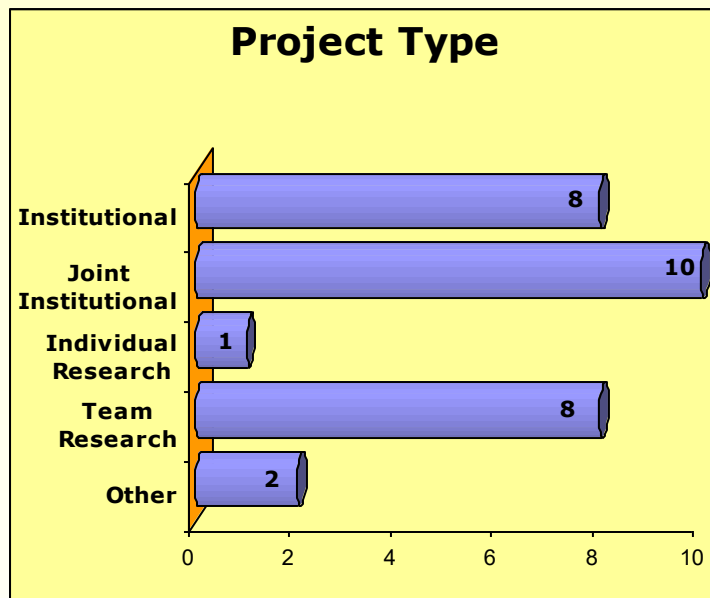
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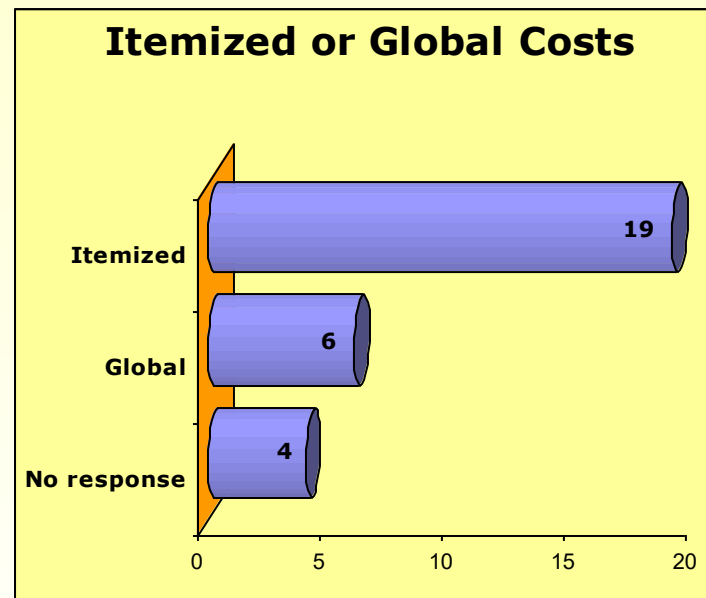
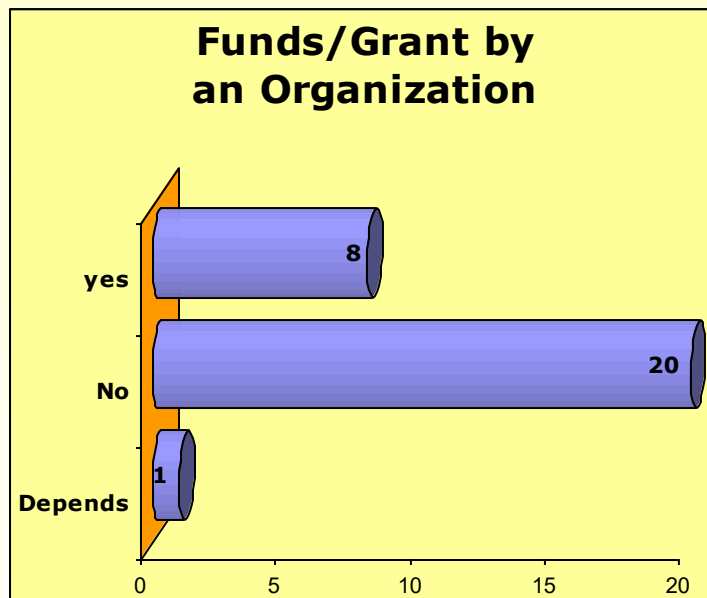
PID Results

Type of Project and Requirement-based Publication?



PID Results (continued)

Grant/Funding Organization and Project Costs



PID Results (continued)***Uses & Applications and Project Duration***

Uses and Applications	
Development of Resources	8
Theory and Knowledge	6
Quality Assessment	4
Management & Practice	8
Source of revenue	1
No Response	2

Project Duration in months	
Average	23
Maximum	108
Minimum	1

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A Study in Grey, 2004

Selected Results from a Review of the Literature

At GL5 the work and careers of a number of 20th Century pioneers in the field of grey literature were reviewed.

A need to look at the direction GL would take in the 21st Century.

The GL-Conference Series offered a framework in which various types and aggregates of empirical data could be compiled and further examined.

Accomplishments in Grey Literature	Timeline
Weinberg Report - Careers Started for Four Information Professionals	1960s
Peter Auger - First Edition Reports Literature ... Sources in GL	1970s
Vilma Alberani, Director ISS Ed. Services European Association for GL Exploitation	1980s
Ulrich Wattenberg - Edited Oeuvre Japanese Information in ST&Commerce	1990s
Andrei Zemskov, Director NPLS&T Russian-German Digital Archive, RusDML	2000s



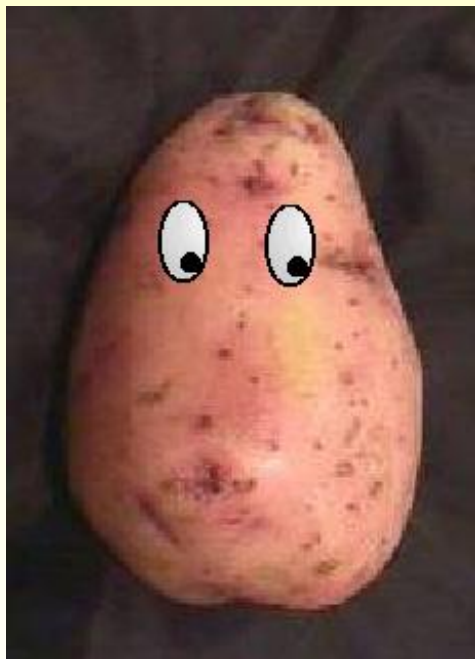
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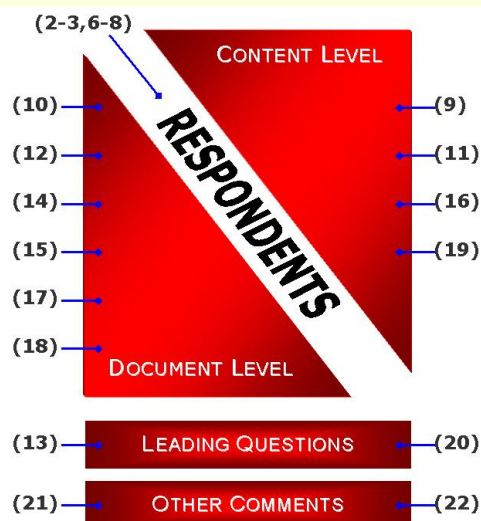


A Study in Grey, 2004

Selected Results from a General Survey on Grey Literature



The Luxembourg definition on grey literature (1997) was expanded and modified. Grey publishers were encouraged to include a statement of the review process in which their print and electronic documents underwent.



Curricula specific to grey literature should be further developed for LIS studies.

Organizations involved in grey literature should formulate and publicize their policy statement

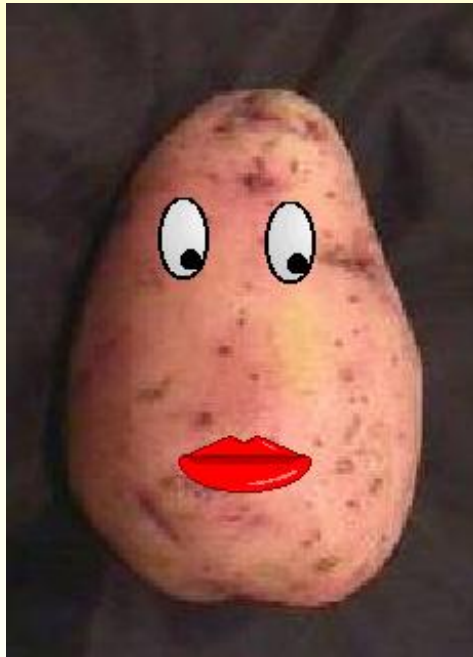
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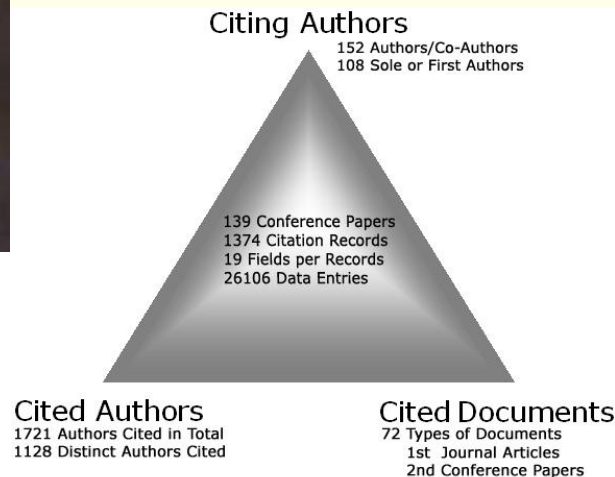


A Study in Grey, 2004-2005

Selected Results from Citation Analyses



- Self-citations are decreasing, serial citations are increasing;
- Hyperlink citations are increasing but not at the cost of standard bibliographic citations;
- Citations to reports are decreasing, citations to articles and papers are increasing;
- Age of citation is decreasing commensurate to the increase in hyperlink citations.



- A bare URL is insufficient as a citation;
- Guidelines for GL citations would enhance the overall use and value of grey literature.

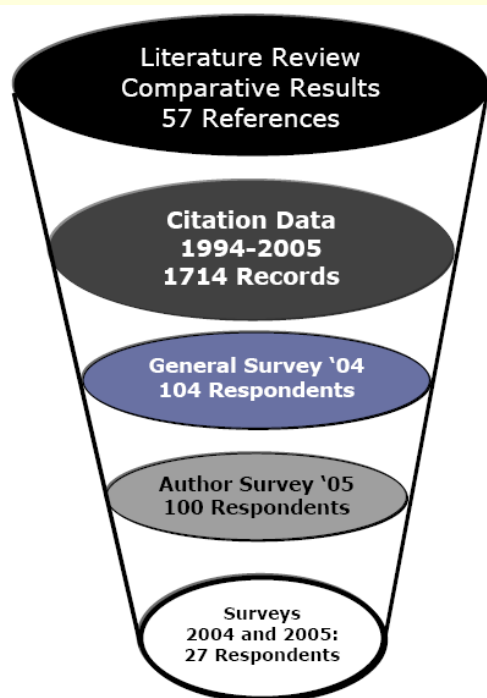


A Study in Grey, 2005

Selected Results from a GL-Author Survey



- Europe and North America account for 87% of research on grey literature;
- 55% hold that a Citation Style for GL would be of benefit to them;



- 49% have published via a commercial publisher;
- 59% have published on other topics than GL;
- 66% have a positive view on Open Access;
- 29% have a positive but qualified standpoint on Open Access.

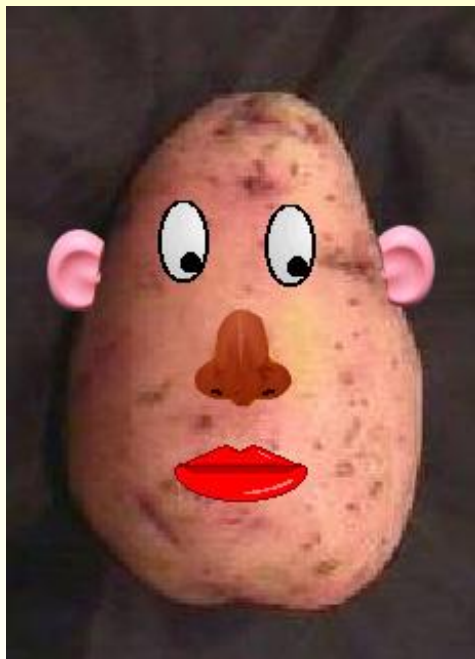
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A Study in Grey, 2005-2006

Analysis of Results from the Project Information Documents



Research on grey literature is not a professional hobby of individuals;
Currently the majority of research on GL is without outside funding;
Project workers are able and willing to itemize costs related to their research;
The uses and applications of research results are multiple and diverse;

Average research results presented at the annual conferences represent 23 months of project work.



And now to top it off...

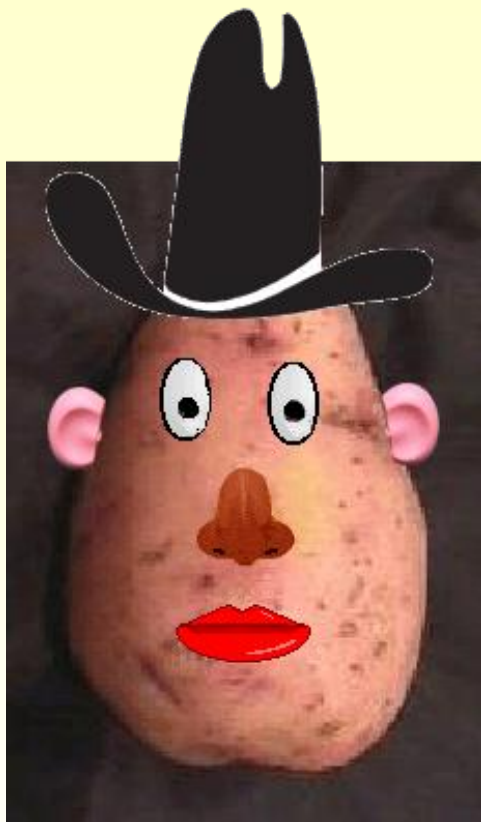
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Conclusions and Recommendations

A typical figure in grey?



In our attempt to 'Harness the Power of Grey', our team has introduced over the past four years a number of methods for gathering, compiling, comparing, and analysing research results within the GL-Conference Series.

While these results have enabled GreyNet, Grey Literature Network Service, to enhance and expand its print and electronic products and services, the question still remains:

Are these results indicative for other conference structures based on a call-for-papers?

Thank You!



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