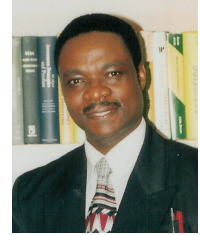


Welcome to UNE Leximancer Affair – a column in this Bulletin dedicated to keeping the UNE community informed about the on-going use and development of the functionality of Leximancer qualitative software at UNE. This edition focuses on: EXPLORING Leximancer FUNCTIONALITY



As educational researchers, we often collect large amounts of data through dialogue, narrative or conversation transcripts. The data is often about human behaviour and is suited to qualitative analytical tools rather than quantitative algorithms. It is quite cumbersome to visually read all the information transcribed from such interviews, carefully noting and coding for the key points in the data. The process of defining the concepts to code for, is not only painstakingly slow but also tends to impose our reality on the data. Leximancer takes the pain and the subjectivity out of this process.

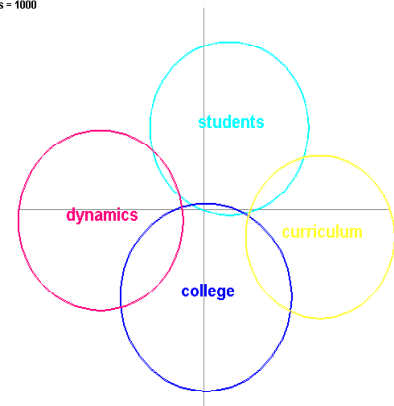
Rather than work with predetermined concepts, Leximancer mines the data and inductively extracts the concepts for you. It analyses the transcribed data and displays the extracted information visually via a "concept map". From the concept map you can see at a glance the main concepts in your data and the interrelationships among those concepts. This way, the concepts emerge from the data rather than being imposed upon the data by the researcher. The focus is not on what you want to find in the data but rather on what the data is telling you. This enables high quality content analysis and relational investigation to be undertaken. Here is an example.

The concept map to the right was derived from interview data I collected from 133 interviewees including 21 principals, 50 teachers, 24 students and 14

Iterations = 1000

parents in 14 secondary schools in NSW. I asked each one of them to "tell me your understanding of how the new dynamics created with the establishment of the new college impact on the curriculum that the college can offer to students".

It is clearly evident from this Leximancer concept map that there is a very close relationship between the structural-cultural dynamics created with the establishment of the new college that was studied, and the curriculum that can be offered to students. From this concept a directed search was then



performed to navigate the data so as to investigate deeply, what interviewees told me about the structural-cultural dynamics, what makes their college special, how pedagogical intervention impacts on curriculum and on students' subject choice, motivation, engagement and learning outcomes.

If you would like to conduct a similar analysis of your data with Leximancer, you will need to download Leximancer Version 2.25 while the technicians at UNE and Leximancer figure out how we can upload our own data into Leximancer Version 3.0. Following further negotiations with Leximancer, UNE has now been granted the Licence for Leximancer 2.25 in addition to the Leximancer 3.0 Beta Licence. This gives UNE "the best of both worlds according to Leximancer". You can download Leximancer 2.25 from the following link: http://www.leximancer.com/documents/rpJS5a/Lex_Pro_Lease_OSX.zip for a Mac or if you are on a Windows platform: http://www.leximancer.com/documents/rpJS5a/Lex_Pro_Lease.exe. Your software will remain good until October 2008. It is not a Trial Version, so you are free to publish with it. If you need help with it, do not hesitate to contact me.

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The International Cultural Research Network and Ankara University present

Exploring cultural Perspectives - Antalya 2008

Call for Papers

Although culture is the cornerstone of any society it is never static. The objective of this five-day international conference -- June 11-15, 2008 -- presented by the International Cultural Research Network and hosted by the Faculty of Political Science of Ankara University, is to address the realities of culture from an experiential perspective rather than the theoretical applications that are sometimes misleading.

Through round table discussions, workshops containing practical experiences in one-hour individual presentations, we invite delegates to participate in achieving some practical solutions.

Topics for this conference are:

Childhood and Youth, Education, Globalization, Health, Politics, Social Research

Abstracts are accepted until October 30, 2007. Replies will be sent out by November 30, 2007.

Although the deadline has passed, interested academics may contact the co-ordinator.

The Faculty of The Professions - Faculty research support

The Faculty has called for applications for the following schemes:

Faculty Large Grants

These grants will support teams of developing and established researchers for projects preparatory to the generation of an application for substantial external research funding

Institutional Research Grants

These grants are specifically for early career researchers (staff whose first academic appointment or award of their doctoral qualification has occurred within the last two years), in collaboration with an established researcher. This project should lead to an application for external funding.

Research Fellowships

Research Fellowships are designed to support large scale research, tender or consultancy application by individuals and teams.

Guidelines and application forms are available from Sue Whale (swhale2@une.edu.au)



The CRC for Irrigation Futures has aggressive goals for our industry to;

- Double irrigation water use productivity
- Improve profitability for irrigation enterprises, and
- Protect and enhance landscapes and the environment.

In order to achieve these goals we need YOUR help. We are seeking highly motivated and talented students with an outstanding academic record from a range of disciplines to undertake Honours research

within the following programs;

- Tools to support optimised irrigation practice at the enterprise level
 - Storage Dam Evaporation
 - Solute Signatures
 - Tools for Irrigation Profitability and Longevity
 - South East Queensland Irrigation Futures
- The delivery of improved productive and environmental performance through system wide harmonisation
 - Analysis and characterisation of hydrological systems
 - Water productivity, markets and environmental dividends
 - Mechanisms and processes for change
 - Business Planning
 - Northern Australia Irrigation Futures

Education partners include the Universities of Melbourne, New England, South Australia, Southern Queensland and Western Sydney, and Charles Sturt University.

Applications close; 23 November 2007

For details on projects and priority research degree topics within programs obtain a scholarship Info pack by contacting Kelly.salas@irrigationfutures.org.au

Or visit our website for more information:

<http://www.irrigationfutures.org.au/scholarship.asp>



SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ECONOMICS & PUBLIC POLICY

Books

Smith, L. & Riley, D.E, Australian Council for Educational Leaders Yearbook 2007, University of New England, Canberra ACT, 120 (2007).

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Smith, L. & Winter-Irving, M., 'The role of Heads of Schools in a regional Australian University', Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu, Hawaii, 1-12 (2007).

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Lunney, M., 'Federation, fare dodging and false imprisonment - Mr Robertson's evening out', 18th British Legal History Conference: Judges and Judging, Oxford (2007).

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Smith, S., Supplementary Educational Online Material, Thomson Publishing, Australia, on line (2007).

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