Grey Literature Survey 2004
A Research Project Tracking Developments in the Field of Grey Literature

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Dr. Dominic J. Farace, GreyNet
Jerry Frantzen, Boer & Croon
The Respondents

(7) Number of years ago you first encountered the term ‘grey literature’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>&lt;= 1 Year</th>
<th>2-5 Years</th>
<th>6-10 Years</th>
<th>11-15 Years</th>
<th>16-20 Years</th>
<th>21-30 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
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</tbody>
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(*) First Contact with GreyNet, Grey Literature Network Service

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<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Respondents

(2) Country of Residence

(3) Sector Currently Employed

North America 37.5%
Europe 48.1%
Other 14.4%

Government 29.8%
Business 4.8%
Other 11.5%
Academic 53.8%
The Respondents

(6) Title or position held within the department
- 34.6% Managerial
- 33.7% Teacher/Researcher
- 29.8% Technical/Operational
- 1.9% Other

(8) Way(s) you are involved in grey literature
- Processing: Yes 61.2%, No 38.8%
- Production: Yes 32%, No 68%
- Distribution: Yes 37.9%, No 62.1%
- Other: Yes 32%, No 68%
The Document Level

(12) Grey literature is best described by the type of document it embodies

(15) Once Grey literature is bibliographically controlled, it ceases to be grey
The Document Level

(17) Grey literature should be Free to Access

(18) Grey literature should be Free of Charge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Depends</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>NA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(17) Grey</td>
<td>61.5%</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>literature</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(18) Grey</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
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The Document Level

(10) Your Business/Organization has a Policy or Position Statement on GL

(14) GL Collections are better managed by centralized repositories...

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<tr>
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<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>69.2%</td>
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<td>31.7%</td>
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<td>10.6%</td>
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</table>
(11) Grey literature is always subject to a Review Process

(16) Commercially Published Literature is superior to GL
The Content Level

(9) Authored one or more publications on the topic of grey literature

(19) Grey Literature itself constitutes a field in Information Studies
(20) *The Luxembourg Convention on Grey Literature still holds*

- Yes: 72.1%
- Yes, but needs a revision: 4.8%
- No: 13.5%
- NA: 9.6%

(13) *The Average Net User should at least recognize the term Grey Literature*

- Yes: 6.7%
- Depends: 50%
- No: 35.6%
- NA: 7.7%

“Information produced on all levels of government, academics, business and industry in electronic and print formats not controlled by commercial publishing.” (Luxembourg, 1997)
Other Comments

(21) In what way could GreyNet better serve the Grey Literature community? 84% of the Respondents commented

- Address its role in the Open Access Movement
- Assist in the best practices tailored to different information communities
- Increase public awareness of its presence and value
- Re-launch a Journal on Grey Literature
- Etcetera
Other Comments

(22) **Other Comments?** 28% of the Respondents commented

- A Survey in advance of a conference is a great idea
- Studies on Grey Literature should receive strong research backing
- I found this online survey via Google
- Etcetera
Grey Literature Survey 2004

Conclusions

- The Luxembourg definition on Grey Literature should be maintained with or without modification.
- Grey Publishers should in some way acknowledge the review process in which their print/electronic documents have undergone.
- Colleges and Schools of Library and Information Studies should develop curricula programs, modules, and courses on grey literature.
Grey Literature Survey 2004

Recommendations

- Ways should be found to correct the disproportion between geographical and sectoral involvement in Grey Literature
- Organizations involved in grey literature should formulate and publicize a Policy or Position Statement on Grey Literature
- The Raw Survey Data (i.e. without names, email addresses, and URLs) should be made available to researchers for secondary analysis

Thank You!