

4B—Philosophical and Analytical Approaches in LIS

The Labor of Informational Democracy: Towards an Analytical Framework for LIS, Jonathan Cope (College of Staten Island, CUNY).

This presentation outlines a framework that LIS can use to analyze socially generated information. The proposed evaluative framework involves three democratic horizons of analysis: the level of access, the level of production, and the level of communicative speech. This inquiry synthesizes the political economy of communication/librarianship, autonomist Marxist insights about the dematerialization of labor in late capitalism, and the concerns of contemporary democratic theory. The presentation will conclude with a set of proposals for LIS to pursue research and policies that use a critical theoretical framework linking the realm of production (i.e., labour) with communicative democracy.