

Interview with Mimi Dudley, Research Librarian, UCLA College Library

encyclopedia's used to provide an overview of a topic; a lot of high school kids come in wanting to go directly to journals and it is necessary to discourage this; encyclopedia seen as a more appropriate entry to a lot of subjects than the journals or specialized books

kids are not able to use Britannica all that well or easily; have a lot of trouble going from micro to macro; macro not that well indexed in micro; propaedia useless; most people don't have the understanding necessary to get to anything by using it

kids are coming less well prepared; therefore want to do more with AV stuff; believes that kids will take things off a screen where they won't use a book

claims that students (not high school or ESL, but regular UCLA students) don't know correct alphabetical order; blames this on Sesame Street

says that most of the librarians prefer to use the last edition of the Britannica

in contrast to public and school libraries where encyclopedias are most often used for fact reference, college library use is more on the order of topic overview

Bob Hayes 825-4351 Head of Library and Information Science
Mort Freedman director of office of Instructional Development

the office fo Instructional Development will be funding a lot of purchases in the AV area for use in the college library, she mentioned a 30 ½hour course in psychology (perhaps Coast Telecourse)

Interview with Ann Hinckley, Research Librarian at UCLA URL Library

full-text search (on a database) gives you a lot of garbage (presumably this is what the Britannica has on Nexis and Lexis) she says you need "authority structure" as well; hierarchical indexing necessary also (so that if you are researching a question that applies to all European countries, you could enter 'Europe' and expect to get all relevant references, rather than having to enter each country by name)

bibliographies in Britannica quite useful as a starting point; Britannica (and other encyclopedias) used mainly to get an overview of a topic (rather than fact reference); other more specific volumes are used for fact reference (the point being that this as a research library would have all the relevant specific specific-topic reference books, which your average public or school library probably wouldn't

over

Propaedia a laugh; not used by anyone; people use earlier editions of Britannica; this one is too hard, too tedious to use

Tony Kwak - Bio-Med Library, 825-3034; he is helping to put the library catalog and other services 'on-line'

Addendum to Dudley interview;

she claims that the Britannica often goes into greater depth in its articles than the so-called specialized encyclopedias like the McGraw Hill Science Encyclopedia.

Addendum to Hinckley interview:

she feels that with the ever narrowing areas of concentration of today's scholars etc, the need for a truly general encyclopedia can only grow