



Leonardo Fernandes Souto <lfsouto@gmail.com>

research based on NEP

Thomas Krichel <krichel@openlib.org>

6 de outubro de 2007 03:19

Para: NEP editors <nep-editors@lists.openlib.org>

Cc: Leonardo Fernandes Souto <lfsouto@gmail.com>

Hi NEPers,

I hope that you will be happy to read that there is PhD thesis being written about your work. A student from Brazil, Leo, has extensively studied systems to disseminate information about new academic papers. NEP appears to be the only one that is based on human judgement, all other use computer filtering.

Leo is interested to gather data about your experience. Therefore he has put together a questionnaire. He will be sending you the questionnaire shortly. I much hope you will find the time to answer the questionnaire. If you do I will certainly take you out for dinner when you make it to New York City or Novosibirsk.

I have been assisting Leo with the questionnaire. I hope I will be able to look at an anonymous version of your answers at some time. Your answer will be treated in confidence, i.e. your answer will not be linked to your person.

There is other work, that I am doing, to get a better idea on how NEP reports are being used, to find out which reports work well and which ones are failing. The work only uses quantitative evidence. With my student Sergey V. Vovk, we will work on some regression analysis. Our work be totally separate from Leo's work. Results are not expected before May 2008.

Cheers,

Thomas Krichel

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Leonardo Fernandes Souto <lfsouto2@gmail.com>

Research project on the process of human mediation - Questionnaire

Leonardo Fernandes Souto <lfsouto2@gmail.com>

9 de outubro de 2007 08:41

Para: a.mihailov@reading.ac.uk, akuura@pc.ut.ee, angelo.zago@univr.it, anna-borodina@yandex.ru, avv04@aber.ac.uk, b.batiz-lazo@leicester.ac.uk, baum@bc.edu, bbl3@le.ac.uk, bbl3@leicester.ac.uk, beaulieu@ucalgary.ca, bh22@georgetown.edu, bparks@artsci.wustl.edu, c.villosio@repnet.it, christian.calmes@uqo.ca, christian.zimmermann@uconn.edu, danielaraeva@yahoo.com, dhouser@gmu.edu, e.canegrati@lse.ac.uk, ernad@nep.repec.org, ernad@openlib.org, ethomson@uchicago.edu, fabio.sabatini@uniroma1.it, fan@gorodok.net, goffe@oswego.edu, hayo@wiwi.uni-marburg.de, ijf@buseco.monash.edu.au, j.d.brown@hw.ac.uk, jilee@towson.edu, jjmf@ubi.pt, jleitao71@portugalmail.com, joanna.davies@mssm.edu, jonas.holmstrom@hanken.fi, jose.mendoza.1999@alum.bu.edu, jsillari@earthlink.net, k.frenken@geog.uu.nl, karl.petrick@uwimona.edu.jm, kavita_jyengar@hotmail.com, krichel@openlib.org, kscheong@jhu.edu, l.koczy@algec.unimaas.nl, lfsouto@gmail.com, m.berka@massey.ac.nz, marcus.dejardin@fundp.ac.be, marotta@unimore.it, matthew.baker@hunter.cuny.edu, mito@decon.edu.uy, mnovarese@tiscali.it, mongrain@sfu.ca, murielfang@gmail.com, n.dalziel@open.ac.uk, nep-publiceconomics@web.de, nep@leicester.ac.uk, novarese@unipmn.it, olivier.dagnelie@fundp.ac.be, plhyu@hkucc.hku.hk, r.fouquet@imperial.ac.uk, ramosfs@hotmail.com, repec-announce@lists.openlib.org, roberto.santillan@itesm.mx, rol@rolandkirstein.de, rui.baptista@ist.utl.pt, russell.pittman@usdoj.gov, scorcu@spbo.unibo.it, sk_mallick@yahoo.com, sluis@csom.umn.edu, stanmiles@tru.ca, stephen.l.ross@uconn.edu, sune.karlsson@esi.oru.se, tamuray@tcd.ie, v.monastiriotis@lse.ac.uk, viviana.digiovinazzo@unimib.it, walter.frisch@univie.ac.at, yinyang@ms17.hinet.net, yyin@acsu.buffalo.edu, zanola@sp.unipmn.it, zserrasqueiro@clix.pt

Dear editor,

I am a PhD student at the Information Science Graduate Program in the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil.

My research project is on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services. The work of NEP is of great interest to me. Therefore I am sending a questionnaire to all NEP editors. Your participation will be of great importance to me.

I hope that you can to help me with my research.

Please look at the attached file and answer the questionnaire, if is possible.

Cheers

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

PhD student at the Information Science Graduate Program

School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University - Brazil



Questionnaire.doc

52K

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

The questionnaire has two parts. The first deals with your personal information. This part will only be used to understand the context into which to place your reply. We will not relate the contents of your reply to your name, and not reveal any personal data beyond your name. The second part refers to the questions that, we hope, will help us to better understand human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services.

I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job:

A chief accountant, researcher

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):

11/2005

Your current age:

56

Undergraduate degree (name of the course):

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field):

Graduated from Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology 1973, Professional Accountant 2001.

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

First NEP-editorship – 1. I was an unknown young author. To acknowledge my name and works to insure my authorship in my research. 2. To emphasize the field of my research.

Second NEP-editorship – To help to NEP-team (the report was a half a year without an editor) and to force myself to be in course of new works in my professional field.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(Y) Yes. What were your expectations?

To acknowledge my name and works to insure my authorship in my research.

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

Since editorship, my profile is viewed 3-10 times more than before it, and is 70-150 a month. For 2 years I have not seen any plagiarism of my ideas and now such plagiarism is unreal.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why?

I am a member of the team

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

To force myself to be in course of new works. To be a member of the team

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

No. I don't know

Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

I force myself to be in course of new works. I've got a friend. I am a member of the team

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	Y						Y
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		N			Y		
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of ABSTRACTS , keywords, JEL codes	Y					Y	
Reputation of the author	Y					Y	
Language of the document		N			Y		
Number of documents to choose from		?			?		
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							
Quality of the paper's research. The value of results of the paper	Y						Y

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

The first papers may be seen without a search.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

To add journal articles (along with papers) in NEP Reports

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

To interact/communicate with NEP report users is forbidden.

(Y) Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

To interact/communicate with NEP report potential users I use my website.

I use my website to disseminate ideas of my research and to enlarge the NEP-upt.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

(N) No. Why?

I have no tools and rights for this

() Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

() No.

(Y) Yes. Explain.

To change their addresses

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Professional knowledge of the field. Every-week's regularity.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

The following items may be of interest for you:

1. The project of Thomas Krichel and me "The Best of NEP"

<http://ideas.repec.org/g/upt-haa.html>

<http://ideas.repec.org/g/acc-haa.html>

2. A continuation of the ideas of NEP-upt and RePEc

<http://www.harinfo.info/utility.php>

<http://www.harinfo.info/metadata.php>

3. "Scientific Revolution? A Farewell to EconWPA. MPRA is welcome"

<http://econpapers.repec.org/paper/pramprapa/71.htm>

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

The questionnaire has two parts. The first deals with your personal information. This part will only be used to understand the context into which to place your reply. We will not relate the contents of your reply to your name, and not reveal any personal data beyond your name. The second part refers to the questions that, we hope, will help us to better understand human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services.

I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: Assistant Professor

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 10/2001

Your current age: 39

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): B.A Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? *Colleague editor for another econ field. Recruited me for a field missing an editor.*

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why?

I enjoy looking at new papers being released in my area and other areas. If I weren't an editor, I might not make time to do this on a weekly basis.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

[See above]. Also, I benefit from knowing, specifically, the developments in my field.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? Impact: I stay updated with the literature. Recognition: Not really in the field at large, although it does count as "professional service" on my annual performance evaluations.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(X) No. Why?

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		X			X		
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes		X		X			
Reputation of the author		X			X		
Language of the document		X		X			
Number of documents to choose from		X		X			
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							
Length of Report	X			X			

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? *The pre-sorted version has been excellent at recognizing African countries once they have been selected in previous reports.*

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Nothing.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why? *I don't really know how to set these up/haven't dedicated the time to finding out.*

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? *I don't really know how to set these up/haven't dedicated the time to finding out.*

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

(X) Yes. Explain. *The subscriber was an author who was complaining that I missed a paper he released in an earlier report. I explained that based on his title/abstract I did not realize the article concerned Africa. He has since been e-mailing me whenever I should expect a paper of his to be released to NEP.*

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Probably I am one of the less successful report editors as I don't seem to be dedicating the same time others are to understand the system.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

E-mail note:

Yes, Leonardo, I use the criteria sometimes to eliminate "closely related" papers from reports I am generating with many papers already selected for the report. If I have a very short report, I might decide to include those papers.

I kind of disagree, from the scientific outlook, that the length of report should be an issue when notifying subscribers about research, but it is a practical criteria I use. Probably I should eliminate "closely related" papers from any report I generate, even short ones.

Hope that helps clarify my thinking. I am doing something in the real world that kind of bothers me as a theoretical statistician.

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job:

Associate Professor, Hunter College and Graduate Center, City University of New York.

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):

August 2003

Your current age:

36

Undergraduate degree (name of the course):

Economics – Wesleyan University

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field):

Ph. D., Economics – University of Connecticut

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

Interest in subject matter, desire to see what new research was coming out in my field and other fields.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(X) Yes. What were your expectations?

I thought it would be a great way to see new research and that it wouldn't take much time.

2b) Were your expectations met?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How?

The time commitment is small, and I really get to scan a lot of papers.

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

Usually, all the ones I select are near the top of the list. I browse the entire list, however, just so I can see what is going on in other fields. I typically pick out about 5 papers for my report, and another 10 or so that I will look at strictly for my own interest.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Not much. Some times the reports are very long, however.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

Most of this is just about technical aspects of running the list.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

There is really very little way for the readers of the list to send messages to me or interact.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

(X) Yes. Explain.

Very sporadically – they usually do this only when they are interested in dropping the list and cannot figure out how to do this on their own.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Open mindedness, patience to look through the list, dependability.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

E-mail note:

unfortunately, I do use the language. For example, there are some dutch, scandinavian, and spanish documents that I can't quite piece together the titles for so I skip them. I can speak German and English, so I am able to give these a fair assessment.

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Senior Lecturer in Finance, Heriot-Watt University

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): December 2006

Your current age: 39

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): BA (Global Studies and Russian)

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Ph.D. (Economics)

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? I was asked to do it. I thought it would be a useful service for researchers in my field, and by editing I could see the most recent papers.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Don't have to go through all the abstracts to find the relevant ones.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Nothing.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why? Have not had the need to do so.

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? Not actively, but see q. 13.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. Several users have provided email feedback about the report.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Knowledge of the field, discipline and time management to get the reports out in a timely fashion, entrepreneurship for building up the subscription list.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job:

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):

Your current age:

Undergraduate degree (name of the course):

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field):

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

It was a invitation and is a opportunity to be close with many researches that are doing in my research topic.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(X) Yes. What were your expectations? I hope to contribute in some way, as editor, to identify the most important research (working papers) in my area.

2b) Were your expectations met?

() No. Why?

Yes. How? In some way I think that I contribute to identify the most important researches and to encourage the researchers to keep going.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why? In some way, as an editor I have opportunity to be in contact with many, many researches in the world and identify the best ones.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

The contact with research and team of editors.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How? I think it is a responsible job and this has some impact.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why? Directly no, it is just professional.

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.				X			
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	X						X
Reputation of the author					X		
Language of the document	X					X	
Number of documents to choose from						X	
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? It is just a detail in order to give some indication how the papers are orientating.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

-

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Scientific and academic profile

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: **Professor**

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):**2001**

Your current age: **58**

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): **economist**

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): **PhD candidate**

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I am interested about the dissemination of good economics papers in Latin American Countries

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why? I use unsorted
 Yes. How?

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

It is ok

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

- No.
 Yes. Explain. Generally download problems

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Short lists

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Lecturer in Economics

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): June (?) 1998

Your current age: 36

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): BSc in Business Administration

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD in Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I was directly asked by the previous NEP-PKE list editor if I wanted to take over the editorship. I had been active in heterodox economics in general, and Post Keynesian economics in particular, since my MA degree in 1994, so I was interested in being editor of that particular list.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

Yes. Why?

Generally, I think that NEP is important and for it to function properly and continue to grow it needs people who are committed to the development of the NEP project as a whole

as well as to their own area of interest within NEP. I am one of those people, so in that sense it is important for me to be an NEP editor.

On a personal level, I feel that being a NEP editor has been valuable to my own development as an academic. I took over the editorship not long after I finished my PhD. It is a very good way to keep abreast of current research in economics, and because my research and teaching areas are varied, besides the papers that I include on my list I download a lot of papers to read which do not justify inclusion on NEP-PKE.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

I really like the idea of helping the authors that I include on my list find a wider audience than they would otherwise, and also helping economists link up with people that are working in their area of interest that they didn't know of before.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

Yes. How?

It is an activity that I include on my CV, whether or not that has had an impact on my career I don't know.

I do sometimes (very rarely) get introduced to people as 'the editor of NEP-PKE' at conferences. Somewhat more often, someone will recognize my name at a conference/workshop because they subscribe to the list. And within heterodox economics generally it is reasonably well known that I am the current editor of NEP-PKE.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

It's not a real time consuming task, generally. As the system moved from an email-based system to a web-based system it has gotten easier to edit. An hour, maybe an hour and a half, to edit each report. So I am able to work it into my day without too many sacrifices, apart from the usual opportunity cost.

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.	X					X	
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	X				X		
Reputation of the author	X					X	
Language of the document		X			X		
Number of documents to choose from		X		X			
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							
Just additional information: there are some authors that I would include with just a title. But for most papers I want to see at least an abstract, and if I'm still not sure a link to the full paper so I can investigate further. So in that sense the descriptive quality of the bibliographic reference can make the difference between inclusion or omission. The vast majority of my papers are in English, but I do occasionally include papers in other languages.							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

My general criteria is very broad: do I think that this paper will be of interest to my subscribers. And to that effect, I will include papers that are not strictly Post Keynesian in nature but are either heterodox and/or investigating an area that I know some subscribers are working on, or even papers that are explicitly arguing against a Post Keynesian perspective. The pre-sorted version does not really help me because my starting point is so broad.

And (a pet peeve) I like to know how many papers I have to sort through, and the pre-sorted version messes up the numerical sequence of the papers.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

I would like the report to highlight papers from authors that I have included before, as well as from institutions whose working papers I have included before- preferably a different color of highlighting for authors and institutions. Those are useful criteria for me, because it helps me spot people who are working in areas of interest to my subscribers. I'd still have to carefully look through all of the abstracts, but highlighting papers from authors/institutions that I have previously included would speed up my job.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

A link to my list and my contact details are included in the Heterodox Economics Newsletter, which is sent out once a month. That is to let more people know about NEP in general and NEP-PKE in particular.

I do get to meet subscribers at conferences and workshops, and whenever I do I ask them about their likes/dislikes about the list. When I started I actually knew most of the subscribers, but as the list has grown that is no longer the case.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Not directly, although I do get informal feedback on occasion.

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

Yes. Explain.

A few times I have been contacted after I sent a report, usually to tell me of problems with links to papers – for a few reports the abstracts were being cut off so subscribers were not getting contact information for all of the papers. I sent the emailers the missing links directly, then sent the correct links out over the NEP-PKE list. And a lot less often, a subscriber will contact me with a question, which I will respond to.

In addition, I am occasionally sent papers directly by the author for inclusion in NEP-PKE– I have referred those authors to the Heterodox Economics Newsletter for inclusion there, and strongly encouraged them to register for RePEc, so I can include their paper(s) in later editions of NEP-PKE. And once I was emailed by someone whose paper I had included, asking me why I had included her paper. I am not sure exactly why she asked – maybe she was New Keynesian and felt her orthodox credentials were threatened by being included on a Post Keynesian mailing list.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

I'd like to say punctuality and good looks, but I have neither of those. A commitment to NEP's goal of disseminating information about current research. A sense of professionalism, which anyone should have anyway. With those two things, you will make the time to edit and send out your NEP reports on a regular, timely, basis. Even for someone who is habitually unpunctual like me.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

No, I think it's a well designed questionnaire. I hope that you get a high response rate. You should be able to capture the population of NEP editors, rather than having to take a sample.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job:
Assistant Professor

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):
03/2001

Your current age:
37

Undergraduate degree (name of the course):
Liceo Scientifico

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field):
Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

it's a good project and it allows to contribute to the definition of a field of research

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

() Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(x) Yes. Why?

for the reason I said above

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

the same again

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

(x) Yes. How?

mail from the subscribers, recognition at conferences

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(x) No. Why?

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x					
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x					x	
Reputation of the author	x					x	

Language of the document	x						x
Number of documents to choose from	x						x
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							
novelty of the issue							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How?

just to control of not having forgot relevant papers

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

none

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?
advertising, knowing their interests

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

() No.

(x) Yes. Explain.

suggestion of papers to insert; general remarks on the topic

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

capacity to select papers relevant for the area, capacity to advertise

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Professor auxiliar.

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): Junho de 2001

Your current age: 35

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Gestão de Empresas

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Doutor em Economia

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

Necessidade de integrar uma rede mundial ligada à investigação e à sua disseminação.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

Reforçar os contactos e integrar outros corpos editoriais de revistas.

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

Pelos diversos convites que fui recebendo ao longo dos anos para integrar outros projectos.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why?

Acesso a workingpapers recentes.

Projecção e prestígio internacional.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

Automotivação e gosto por disseminar os novos resultados da investigação em Economia.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

Reforço da rede de contactos

Facilitador de contatos.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

É necessária muita disciplina para editar 4 reports.

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x	X				
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x						X
Reputation of the author	X						X
Language of the document	x						X
Number of documents to choose from (In case you use other criteria please add them below)		x	x				
The JEL Code	x						X

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

Cria, habitualmente, uma selecção adequada.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Em geral, estou satisfeito. Sugiro que o sistema incorpore uma funcionalidade que faça a selecção por tema ou palavras-chave em diferentes línguas.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

Divulgar o service NEP junto de potenciais utilizadores.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? Prefiria que fosse instituido no site NEP.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain.

Solicitam conselhos e ajuda nas submissões.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Disciplina, Organização, Capacidade de resposta rápida e interacção com os utilizadores actuais e potenciais.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

O NEP deveria marcar presença em conferências internacionais de referência para divulgar o serviço, bem como organizar um evento anual para reunir os editores.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

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Sincerely

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Associate Professor in Economic Geography, Utrecht University

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): summer 2005

Your current age: 35

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Applied Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I wanted to support the NEP initiative

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why? Gives me some visibility among peers and I like being part of the NEP enterprise to see how it is evolving

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

- Gives me some visibility among peers
- keeps me updated regarding all working papers
- like to be part of the NEP enterprise

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How? People approach me during conferences with “aren’t you the guy from repec? Nice to see you in person.” Etc.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x		x			
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes		x		x			
Reputation of the author		x		x			

Language of the document		x		x			
Number of documents to choose from		x		x			
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Saves time because I don't need to go through all documents; I usually stop after like 100 documents

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

nothin

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

() No.

(x) Yes. Explain. Some approaches me to have a paper included, which is not part of a working paper series. Then I explain them that they first should submit their paper to such a working paper series, before I can include it.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Fair and without prejudice

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Good luck and looking forward to reading the results

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: lfsouto2@gmail.com

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: Ph.D. student

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 09/2006

Your current age: 29

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): B.A. Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Ph.D. Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? My willingness was to support the NEP team

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations? Improve my knowledge about knowledge management.

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Reading a lot of abstracts I had a broad idea about the most recent works in the field.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why? Being a NEP editor has a return in terms of reputation.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor? My willingness was to support the NEP team

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Sometimes authors send me papers via e-mail asking me for a review.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why? NEP activity is a part of my professional life.

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x			x		
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x					x	

Reputation of the author	x				x		
Language of the document	x					x	
Number of documents to choose from		x		x			
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? It facilitates the task.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

I think it is already an effective process. I would not change anything.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

() No.

(x) Yes. Explain. I am sure I was contacted but it was a long time ago and I do not remember the reason.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Experience, knowledge.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: lfsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

The questionnaire has two parts. The first deals with your personal information. This part will only be used to understand the context into which to place your reply. We will not relate the contents of your reply to your name, and not reveal any personal data beyond your name. The second part refers to the questions that, we hope, will help us to better understand human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services.

I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: University Professor

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):

Your current age: 47

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics and Statistics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Ph. D Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? I was asked by colleagues

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(X) Yes. What were your expectations? Increase the readership of the report

2b) Were your expectations met?

(X) No. Why? Don't know

() Yes. How?

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? The degree of attention is decreasing over the sequence of papers.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Add a filter which return the year/month of the paper

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? Increase the actual number of subscribers

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why? Takes time; if the subscriber doesn't like or find of little use of report he will unsubscribe.
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

- No.

() Yes. Explain.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Time availability; knowledge of the field

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Associate tutor

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 03/2003

Your current age: 38

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Marketing

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? As a favour to a friend's request

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. Why? It's a growing community, and increasing its respectability in international arena.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor? Being part of a respectable community.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? I can get my work published easily in NEP.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(X) No. Why? It has no relevance to my personal life.

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		X			X		
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	X						X
Reputation of the author		X				X	
Language of the document	X			X			
Number of documents to choose from		X			X		
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

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8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? Speeds up the process

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)? Cannot think of any.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? To update the process of editing, sorting problems as they arise, inform each other new updates, such as technological ones.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why? Don't have time. And I think this is done centrally rather than editor-base.
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

- No.

(X) Yes. Explain. To unsubscribe themselves.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor? Being knowledgeable in the given area, skills in electronic communication.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Prof

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):2004

Your current age:

Undergraduate degree (name of the course):

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD Computer Science, PhD Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? – Tracking current research interest

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations? see 1)

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How? on a certain level - Yes

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? SPEED

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

NONE

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users? depending on subject and quality

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?
enhancement of research, opinion forming

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

- No.
 Yes. Explain. uploading procedures of works

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

recomend to do a correlation analysis good luck to you - Walter **Frisch**

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job:

Associate Professor of Economics, Towson University, Maryland, U.S.A.

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):

April, 1999

Your current age: **40**

Undergraduate degree (name of the course):

B.A. in Economics, Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea, 1990

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field):

Ph.D. in Economics, Stanford University, CA, U.S.A. 2000

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I became an NEP editor because I would like to promote the awareness of recently available working papers, some of which would be eventually published in academic journals. Indeed, publishing academic journals in economics takes long time (some times it takes several years to get your paper published). So, it would be very valuable to spread your work through a working paper. And I think NEP has done a good job letting researchers know of the current research in economics.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

() Yes. What were your expectations?

I thought NEP could help with speeding up the expansion of the frontier of the knowledge space of research in economics. I believed that the accumulation of the knowledge could have positive externalities to a society.

2b) Were your expectations met?

() No. Why?

() Yes. How?

I've been receiving numerous (un-solicited) thank-you e-mails from my list subscribers during my 8 years of service. Most of them indicated that my service had been invaluable to their research. In addition, a steady increase in the number of subscribers could be another indicator that I've been doing decent job to my list subscribers.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why?

I think it is important for a scholar to give whatever he has back to the society. (At least I feel that this is what we should do as a scholar.) It may sound naive. But by participating in NEP as an editor, I think that I've been doing my part (even if it is small) to help to create a better world.

As you know, NEP has two basic functions: 1) aggregation of working papers and 2) dissemination of those working papers. While I haven't played any role in the first function (I'm not even sure how NEP aggregates recent working papers around the world), at least I have played some roles in the second function: I have been participating in disseminating them to intended subscribers, namely a) Development and b) Law & Economics

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

While being a NEP editor is a free & volunteer service, I find it very rewarding. As I said earlier, I think NEP has been filling the gap between the recent work (new findings and new frameworks, etc.) and the eventual published work in the academic journals, which would take long time. Certainly, NEP is a useful resource for those who are interested in recent work. And I'm helping them with getting more up-to-dated research information.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

First, yes, it does have a positive impact on my academic life. Because I receive recent working papers (NEP-ALL) every week, I get to know what have been studied lately. Obviously, some of papers would get my personal attention primarily because of my own research interest.

Second, yes, I feel that I've got some recognition in my academic life by being an editor of NEP. Occasionally I've been approached by other researchers about their own work when I attend some academic conferences, which wouldn't be possible if I were not an editor of NEP.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

It doesn't take too much of my time. Each week, I spend around 3-4 hours to select relevant working papers for both NEP-DEV and NEP-LAW.

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Reputation of the author	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Language of the document	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Number of documents to choose from		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

I also look at the references of a paper.

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Because I try to look at each paper carefully before I finalize my selection, the pre-sorting version is not useful to me. I think that pre-sorting could be helpful for some editors who would like to save their time

Yes. How?

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

I would improve NEP's aggregation function (the first function before editors select relevant papers) so that NEP-ALL has only "recent" working papers: I really think NEP could be even more valuable if NEP-ALL had only "current" working papers. At the moment, some working papers in NEP-ALL are quite old ones. (some are even published papers, which I think should not be selected in any NEP lists.)

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

I think that NEP is the announcement service and that is what I think my list subscribers want. If I would like to go beyond what is expected, I should consult with my list subscribers first. However, at the moment, I do not have any intention to do that. By the way, I often talk about what I'm doing in NEP to my friends in academia so that they know about the NEP service.

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Occasionally, I receive (un-solicited) suggestions/feedback from my list subscribers regarding my NEP service. And if those are reasonable, I try to incorporate them to my selection process. Indeed, it would be nice if we could get some regular feedback from the list subscribers.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain.

Occasionally, I receive e-mails from my list subscribers regarding my NEP service. Most of times, they would like to inform me about their recent work by sending me electronic copies of their papers. I normally look at them carefully to see if those papers are relevant to my lists. If so, I try to select those papers in my future NEP lists (NEP-DEV or NEP-LAW) when those papers are included in NEP-ALL.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

First, I think editors must understand the main objective of NEP: it is an announcement service. The goal is to provide subscribers with up-to-date information about the research literature. Second, editors should be passionate about this service. In fact, being an editor and being in academia are complementary. So, it does not take too much of the editor's time and it would help the editor himself for doing their own research. Third, I think it

would be desirable (even though not essential) for editors know about their list areas so that they can select the most relevant papers and distribute to their list subscribers.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Personally, I would be very much interested in the results of your dissertation. So, when your work is ready to circulate, please send me a copy. Good Luck on your dissertation.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 22th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Post-doc researcher

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): August 2006

Your current age: 32

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Development Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

It's a kind of commitment to read abstracts and to be kept informed about new papers in the field. I also liked the idea of contributing to such an interesting project.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(*) Yes. Why? Not really important but I'm glad I'm editor. I like the principle of nep and I'm happy to contribute to its success.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

It doesn't take much time and it is a service to the research community.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

(*) No. Why? Actually, I don't know. It might have an impact but I'm not aware of it. Maybe my name is more familiar to people working in the same field. So maybe it has an impact. I really have no clue.

() Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(*) No. Why? So far, nothing that I know of. Maybe I'll meet Thomas in Barcelona soon...

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	*						*
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		*		*			
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	*					*	
Reputation of the author		*		*			
Language of the document		*		*			
Number of documents to choose from		*		*			

(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? In most cases, the sorting is quite efficient and the selected papers are among the first in the list. (Still, I check with keywords.)

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?
???

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why? I don't know if it is my role. People receive so many emails and spams, I don't want to overflow their mailbox. Sometimes, I wonder whether or not to send info about conferences, though. (I never did it so far)

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? Same reason as before. I don't know if the readers are interested. I don't know exactly what they want me to do.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

(*) No.

() Yes. Explain.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

I don't know. Dedication to good work.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

While answering your questionnaire, I realized that as an editor I didn't know exactly what I was supposed to do beyond sending emails... maybe I'll get in touch with my subscribers to know what are their expectations towards me.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 22th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: Associate Professor

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 3/2000

Your current age: 41

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): B.Sc. in Mathematics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD. in Statistics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

To understand the latest research direction in my areas and help other researchers

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? This helps me to identify the relevant papers

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Require authors to enter at least one keyword

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? For promoting the NEP

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why? Don't know how to do it
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

- No.
 Yes. Explain. When they have problem in downloading a selected working paper

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Understand well in most topics in the theme, willing to serve

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

No, thanks.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

S18

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: **Lecturer and Researcher at University**

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): **November 2001**

Your current age: **41**

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): **BA in Economics, Management and Social Sciences**

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): **PhD in Economics**

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I was selecting the papers of interest for me (entrepreneurship) from nep-all. I have thought that it could be fine to disseminate the result of my job to other scholars in the field.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

Simplicity in dissemination (automatisation) + Increase (by participating actively through the medias) the recognition of this field of research in economics.

2b) Were your expectations met?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? Automatisation was there (mailing list by JISC mail at the beginning of my job) and is still growing (with suggested selection given the backcatalog and keywords emerging from this material; Thomas knows what I mean whether it is not clear)! However I keep safe “the value of my job”, by looking to innovative topic in the field.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. Why?

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

It is funny to be recognized now in congresses or through emails I may receive as “the guy from nep-ent”.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? See above.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

() No. Why? The job is not heavy enough (time-consuming) to disturb my personal life.

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X					X	
Reputation of the institution to which		X			X		

the author of the document is affiliated.							
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	X					X	
Reputation of the author		X			X		
Language of the document		X			X		
Number of documents to choose from		X			X		
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

Before the nice presorting procedure Thomas has implemented, the nep-ent content resulted basically from my selective reading of the nep-all issues and a "hand-made" search for keywords according to abstracts. Keywords that were used as filters for NEP-ENT included (i.a.):

Entrepreneurship; Self-employment; Small Business; SMEs; Spin-off; Start-up; Gazelle.

And in association with Entrepreneurship:

Occupational Choice; Entry and exit; Firm Demography; Industrial Organisation; Innovation; Markets; Venture Capital; Institutions; Rent-seeking; Economic Growth; Economic Development; Territorial Development; Public Policy.

Now, I use the presorting procedure + (according to the time I have) I do a selective reading of the nep-all issues and a "hand-made" search for keywords according to abstracts. Before my posting, I do also some reordering. The most attractive papers for ENT researchers are generally appearing first.

The ENT topic is a fast moving one. I believe that an active (human) editorship is very valuable to the list as it garanties a dynamic approach of the ENT research and literature.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

It could happen that the report that is automatically generated after the selecting process contains some typos. It would be nice to allow some editing.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

To inform about nep-ent and to encourage registering to the mailing list.

To inform about what nep-ent is not (I receive sometimes demands for dissemination of congress announcements. I suggest then the use of existing devices for that).

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

Not systematically. It happens from time to time through emails.

The comments by users I have received are very positive about the content.

From my point of view, however, there is basically one problem as most of the papers in RePEc are from economists (yes, of course, you could say, as it is Research Papers in *Economics*) and papers from Management Dpts are still less well represented (it seems the situation is going better, slowly. According to me, the reverse is maybe true for SSRN).

As a consequence, some users (from management dpts) may consider nep-ent as too "economistic". It is not my fault. NEP-ENT just reflects the entrepreneurship content of RePEc.

SSRN and RePEc may reveal in some way as complements (as regards contents !).

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. To ask for an announced paper with broken link, or papers unavailable from its university. It is marginal.

I have also received an interesting demand from a researcher doing a metaresearch on Entrepreneurship. Link: <http://ideas.repec.org/p/dgr/uvatin/20030046.html>

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Empathy; Having the sense of Public Services; Alertness; to be NOT narrow-minded as regards (especially new) topics of interests for its field.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Good work !

I will expect the results with the greatest interest.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: lfsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Harper Fellow/ non tenure track assistant professor, University of Chicago.

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):
April, 2006.

Your current age:
34.

Undergraduate degree (name of the course):
History, BAH.

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field):
History, Ph.D.

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I wanted to keep an eye on work in economics, and particularly in the sort of history of economics written and read by economists.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

() Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(x) Yes. Why?

I feel I am providing a service to intellectual life, generally, and selfishly, because I have the opportunity to see current work in economics every week.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

The desire to be a broader scholar, and that service is an important part of scholarly life.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No, I'd have to say. Historians aren't really interested in economics, and certainly don't understand the role of NEP/ informal paper circulation in the field of economics. Historians still are completely blinded by the monograph.

() No. Why?

() Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(x) No. Why? It takes relatively little time.

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x	x				
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic	x						x

record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes							
Reputation of the author		X	X				
Language of the document	X				X		
Number of documents to choose from							
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? I scrutinize the first twenty-five presorted papers carefully, no matter their titles, and then look for other interesting titles in the rest.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

None, I think.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

I'm institutionally and professionally a historian of ideas, rather than an historian of economic thought.

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How? I keep an eye on subscription, and receive the odd email about the service.

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. Occasionally people thank me for a paper, but more commonly one of the links to a paper stops working.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Patience, rapid reading, command of multiple languages.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Reading, UK

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): April/2006

Your current age: 42

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Diploma (International Economic Relations), 1991

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD (Economics), 2004

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

For three reasons: (1) to have a quick update every week of the most recent research in the area of my interest and editing; (2) because the editing process is to a large extent helped by automatism and, so, does not take more than about half an hour per week; (3) to also become part of the volunteer but qualified RePEc network and, perhaps, have my name and research becoming more associated with the field I am editing, in the sense of building up some reputation within that particular research community around the world.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

As stated in (3) to answer 1), i.e., my name and research to become better known within the special field of economics I am working in, and to which I am also a NEP editor.

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

To some extent: by people recognizing me at conferences as the respective NEP editor and talking with me on the reports and on my and their research.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why? Not of big importance, good research publications matter much more in our profession.

Yes. Why? But of some importance still, as summarized by my answer to 1) above.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

Essentially, the same three reasons stated in my answer to 1) above.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Yes, see my answer to 2b) above.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why? Not so far, apart from the half an hour taken away while editing each week.

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.	X					X	
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes		X				X	
Reputation of the author	X						X
Language of the document		X				X	
Number of documents to choose from	X					X	
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)	X					X	

(i) I try to keep a rule of thumb whereby the selected papers are roughly between 5 to 10% of all works each week, but readily allow for exceptions both ways when deemed reasonable.

(ii) Also, I try to rank the papers in each report starting from the most topical/prominent in terms of authors and topics.

Both these additional criteria have been discussed, in part even suggested and approved, in a few conversations with Bernardo Batiz-Lazo when he instructed me for the job initially, for which I am grateful to him

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which? Particular discussion paper series.

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Saving time by facilitating search.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

I think it works fine, I have no any strong view of what to change.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? Initially, I often spread out NEP printouts with a publicity purpose; more recently, I have had comments with some positive feedback on the reports I am editing.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Imprecisely and indirectly via occasional checks (including for technical problems, i.e., “have you received the report?”) with a few subscribers I personally know.

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. See my responses to 11) and 12) above.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Not yet sure...

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Nothing particular.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: [Senior Lecturer \(management\)](#)

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): [November 2006](#)

Your current age: [50](#)

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): [D.E. \(Mechanical Engineering\)](#)

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): [PhD \(Public Administration\)](#)

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

[I think that NEP is a great thing, but there was no report on my field \(project, program and project portfolio management\). So I contacted with General Editor \(this time was Bernardo Batiz-Lazo\) and proposed such report. He agreed and said that a volunteer is needed - to become an editor – and I decided to try...](#)

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

[I expected that there will be a big and growing number of papers in my field.](#)

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

[This has not happen yet – or the progress is very slow.](#)

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

() Yes. Why?

It is difficult to say yes or no – somehow yes, because I think that NEP is important; but somehow not, because this is not comparable to the position of a journal editor.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

Mainly because I am interested in the field of my report.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

() Yes. How?

It is also difficult to say yes or no, but I would say probably not or very little, also because this is not comparable to the position of a journal editor.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

() No. Why?

(x) Yes. How? It takes some time, but not very much, so the impact is not strong.

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x		x			
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x					x	
Reputation of the author		x		x			
Language of the document		x		x			
Number of documents to choose from		x		x			
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							
General scientific quality		x				x	

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? The most relevant papers appear first, it makes editing more comfortable, but I do not trust the system entirely, because usually some relevant (and sometimes good) papers do not appear among the first 10%.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Unfortunately I am not enough experienced to say that, for me everything seems quite OK.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why? I do not like these yes/no options: the good answer is (very) little – I have told about it on a conference, during some university courses, but not much, i.e. mainly no.

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? The instructions say: “*Only NEP reports should and can be distributed through to the subscribers' list*” – so there is no possibility for that.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

I think that the editors should: 1) be fanatics of their fields; 2) have corresponding scientific qualification; 3) be patient, dedicated and accurate people; 4) know many foreign languages (for instance, I have made a dictionary of most important specific terms in 12 languages).

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

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Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 22th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: Professor

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):

Your current age: 46

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): B.Comm(Hons.)

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD(Economics)

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? Profession

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(X) Yes. What were your expectations? To edit high quality

2b) Were your expectations met?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? Quality of research and number of members improving

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. Why? Career reasons as well as academic satisfaction

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor? Has become part of the routine

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? Given points by employer and looks good on my c.v.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(X) No. Why? It is part of my profession

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		X		X			
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	X					X	
Reputation of the author		X		X			
Language of the document	X					X	
Number of documents to choose from		X		X			
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? Reduces search time

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)? Nothing it has evolved substantially.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? I have used NEP report references in my paper to make people use NEP

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? I try to promptly respond to their queries.

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

- No.

(X) Yes. Explain. With various queries like why particular papers have not been included or for a copy of an old report.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor? Knowledge & Understanding

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space. You could rewrite these questions as numbers 16-30 and I may have slightly different answers.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Phd

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): april 2007

Your current age: 31

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Law & Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Phd in History of Economic Thought

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? To be aware of the latest works in Economics and Social Sciences

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(x) Yes. What were your expectations? To spread knowledge

2b) Were your expectations met?

() No. Why?

(x) Yes. How? The number of subscribers is continuously increasing

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why? For me it is important to be part of a network working on my research field

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor? Curiosity, the need to gain more knowledge

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Renown and visibility

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why? It is part of my work

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x		x			
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x					x	
Reputation of the author		x			x		
Language of the document		x			x		
Number of documents to choose from		x		x			
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

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8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
- None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
- Yes. How? It is a first check

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
- Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? To upgrade interested people about new issues

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why?
- Yes. How? Occasionally I ask opinions to mailing list's subscribers to my issue

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

- No.

(x) Yes. Explain. I generally promote NEP report at conferences with leaflets. Some participants subscribe and ask me for more informations about NEP

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor? Being well-informed about the current state of research, having a good network of relationships

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

I think NEP is a very democratic instrument:

1. it is not subject to the references of any Journal or referee: authors can submit a paper at their own responsibility;
2. it makes knowledge to diffuse faster.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 22th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: provisional researcher (so-called “ricercatore precario”)

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 05/2005

Your current age: 36

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD in Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

a. to deliver a public service to all people interested in my research topics; b. to keep myself continuously posted on the economics literature on my research topics.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

My expectations were related to the motivation of my choice to edit a NEP report, i.e. points a. and b. of the previous answer.

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

I have to state that I'm well informed on who and what publishes papers on social capital and related topics. Moreover, my work of public service provision has provided me with some useful feedback from my subscribers.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why?

It's useful and funny.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

Utility and fun! ☺

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

In a random order: a. it improves my cv; b. it creates new bridging social ties; c. it fosters my reputation (I hope!).

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

It requires just few time, let's say half an hour a week for each report (I edit two weekly reports, nep-soc and nep-hrm).

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x			x		
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x						x
Reputation of the author		x	x				
Language of the document		x			x		
Number of documents to choose from	x					x	
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How?

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

No time.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

No time.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain.

To submit new papers (not being aware of the way papers enter the NEP archive), to exchange ideas.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Patience, interest in her/his research topics, a certain familiarity with informatic stuff.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

The great limit of NEP is the fact that we cover just the economics literature. It would be great to refund RePEc expanding it besides the narrow boundaries of economics, to include also studies from other social disciplines.

Ciao Leonardo, good luck with your research!
Fabio

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: lfsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 22th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Associate Professor in Public Economics

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): October, 2002

Your current age: 42

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Scientific Liceum

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): D.Phil in Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I used to read nep reports and I realized that there did not exist one on cultural economics, I field of research I work on. Hence, I suggest to open a new list and my proposal was accepted.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations? My expectations were to build a group of people working on the field, allowing them to share specific (draft) contributions

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why? Partially. IN fact, I would like to make the list more interactive, a sort of forum of people.

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why? Yes, since it allows me to know what happen in the world within cultural economics. Furthermore, checking for papers good for my list, I succeed in being dawning on economic productions.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor? A cost-benefit analysis: it takes a short time to fill in the list, and I have an high return to my effort, both in terms of knowledge and visibility.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why? Unfortunately no. IN fact, it is regarded as a minor role compared to editor of referred reviews.

Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why? No.

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X

Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.							
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes		X	X				
Reputation of the author		X	X				
Language of the document		X (but it can happen s that I do not underst and the content)				X	
Number of documents to choose from		X					
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? Before pre-sorted version I needed to check each document with great attention. Now, I use pre-sorted to identify papers, and then I check quickly the rest of the full report.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?
I would introduce some automatic way to let authors known that their papers are be inserted in the nep-report

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. IT can happen that something is wrong with the program and they contact me. No contact for scientific reasons.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Enthusiasm, economic skills, and (public or private) incentives

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

Questionnaire to NEP editors¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lhsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: PhD student

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): December, 2006

Your current age: 30

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics

Highest Graduate degree(name of the field): MSc in Economics & MSc in Cognitive Science

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? I support the motivation behind NEP - to provide public-access to up-to-date information about the research literature.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations? My expectations were not related to the NEP as organization, but to the subscribers of the NEP. I expected that subscribers are more active and open to the idea of freely available scholarly communication.

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why? Due to the specificity of the research area, it turns out to be more difficult to encourage subscribers to submit papers than I expected initially.

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(V) Yes. Why? It is important to me to be a NEP editor, but it not important that I am a NEP editor. It is important to me to do well my job as an editor, but there is more for me than the individual aspect of being a NEP editor. It is the goal of the NEP in general.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor? Motivation.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

(V) Yes. How? Through the distribution of my report my name is known to more scholars (so there is definitely an impact), but in my understanding this is not suppose to cause academic recognition (but your work).

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(V) No. Why? I do not see the connection with my personal life. If it is about the time spent, I think it is a matter of organizing well your time.

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	V					V	
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		V		V			
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	V				V		
Reputation of the author		V				V	
Language of the document	V				V		
Number of documents to choose from	V		V				
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							
Message of the paper (with relevance to the thematic area)	V					V	

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which? Author

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? It presorts the papers (it assists in the identifying the relevant papers quicker).

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

If I could I would ask for a subject-specific paper submitting procedure (so to have the papers presorted by the authors in advance and distributed separately to the NEP editor for the selection process).

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? The objective is to collect more subscribers, and more specifically more paper submitting subscribers.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Unfortunately, I can make only informal satisfaction evaluation: asking scholars I am connected to for a feedback and also informing my subscribers that their comments are welcome.

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. I've received supporting e-mails during the report initiation. Also, I've been contacted with comments about the quality of the reports.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Knowledge, motivation and contacts.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

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Sincerely

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Government economist and part-time, professor

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): Sorry, I don't remember.

Your current age: 56

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Ph. D. in Economics; major field Industrial Organization

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? I enjoyed the issues I was receiving and responded to a call for a volunteer when an editor left. I considered that this would be both beneficial to me – an interesting way to keep track of the most recent working papers – and a service to my colleagues.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(X) Yes. What were your expectations? As just mentioned, I expected to find it enjoyable and beneficial to see the titles and abstracts of the most recent working papers.

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why?

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor? For the same reasons that I signed up – easy access to new working papers and an opportunity to contribute to the work of my colleagues. I regularly get thanks for the product when I meet people at conferences.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How? As mentioned, people who see me at conferences mention how much they enjoy and appreciate the product. My perception is that my being the editor enhances my stature in their eyes.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		X		X			
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic	X					X	

record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes							
Reputation of the author		X		X			
Language of the document	X				X		
Number of documents to choose from	X					X	
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							
Sometimes when a new archive is added, there are multiple papers by the same author. In that case I will be more selective than usual, and not include some papers that I would have included had they been the only ones by that author for that issue.	X					X	

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Of course it is not perfect, but it allows me to save a lot of time by skipping, say, the lowest $\frac{3}{4}$ of the entries.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Mostly I'm quite satisfied. Occasionally for some reason the paper has an abstract but the abstract does not make it into the file that I can use for the report, and of course this is a loss of information for the recipients. I would love to be able to cut and paste the abstract in when it is missing.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

(X) Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? Rarely, but occasionally I do suggest to colleagues who I think might be interested that they subscribe.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

(X) No. Why? If people sent me suggestions, I would use them. But they don't.

() Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

() No.

(X) Yes. Explain. I think there have been 1 or 2 occasions when subscribers asked me to suggest potential authors or participants for conferences they were organizing. But it is not at all frequent.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor? I do think it is important that the editors try to make the reports as interesting and "grabbing" as possible to readers. So I try to order the papers so that the most interesting and important are higher up in the ordering (to the extent that I can determine such things from a quick look).

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: lfsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

The questionnaire has two parts. The first deals with your personal information. This part will only be used to understand the context into which to place your reply. We will not relate the contents of your reply to your name, and not reveal any personal data beyond your name. The second part refers to the questions that, we hope, will help us to better understand human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services.

I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job:

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year):

Your current age:

Undergraduate degree (name of the course):

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field):

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I was asked to participate quite early and was motivated by two things: a) provision of a useful public service b) some sort of advertising my name across the community. Since I have tenure, b) has become less important to me.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(X) Yes. What were your expectations?

To participate in a voluntary effort to disseminate information on economic working papers, in contrast to the fee-run SSRN. In addition, spreading my name in the relevant community.

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How? My service has a number of subscribers and thus the aim of providing a useful service has been met. I am not sure how successful the “name advertisement” issue really was.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why? Useful for both, community and myself.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

As stated above, the more personal advantage of name spreading is no longer a prime concern of mine. One important problem of NEP is the every increasing length of NEP-All reports. Due to that I would have given up if Thomas Krichel did not implement the pre-sorting algorithm that works splendidly in my case.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why? I cannot see any direct effect of that and frankly, there seems little reputation effects involved.

Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why? It costs a bit of time but I can see no noteworthy impact.

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

	Do you use it?	Do you agree that it is a criterion?
--	----------------	--------------------------------------

	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		X	X				
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes		X		X			
Reputation of the author		X	X				
Language of the document	X					X	
Number of documents to choose from	X					X	
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? It significantly reduces the time I need to spend on the reports. Since I am participating for quite some time, the algorithm makes few mistakes.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

I would have my NEP reports split up in smaller and more even-sized issues, as I fear that overlong reports will not receive enough attention.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

To solve problems that occur with my list and/or subscribers.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? Too time consuming.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. Problems with downloading specific papers, requests for inclusion of their papers in the reports, problems with receiving the reports.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Enough spare time at the beginning (until the pre-sorting works), knowledge of the relevant area he is editing, sense of duty to issue reports regularly.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 22th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: Professor of Business Economics

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): May 2006

Your current age: 42

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD and Habilitation in Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

- I like the idea and the service of this network,

- I commit myself to skipping through the list of all new working papers every week

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

- meet friendly people

- get famous within “my” community

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

-I am famous now (serious!: you really get friendly feedback from “customers”, e.g. during conferences), and I certainly met nice people (online).

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(x) Yes. Why?
see 1) and 2)

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?
see 1) and 2) (perhaps I'm not famous enough?)

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

(x) Yes. How?
see 2)

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(x) No. Why?
what should the impact be??

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x	x				
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x					x	
Reputation of the author		x	x				
Language of the document	x				x		
Number of documents to choose from		x		x			
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

I started a new report (IPR) and after a short training period, it worked as reliable as the sorting in the old report (CDM) I edit. Hence it is a very useful, i.e., time-saving tool. If you are in a hurry, you can rely on it.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

If possible, English abstracts added to papers in other languages would be helpful, I guess also for the sorting software.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why? Haven't seen any reason for this yet.

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

yeah, this would interest me, too ;-)

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

Occasional offline encounters (see 1) and 2) above)

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. only offline, during conferences, see above

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

reliability, good organization, above the average competency in his field, internet addiction

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Good luck with your PhD! And keep us informed about the outcomes!

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: lfsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: Senior Lecturer in Business and Accounting History

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 1998

Your current age: 42

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Licenciado en Economia (Mexico)

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Ph D in Business (UK)

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

As a way to boost my profile/career, create 'a name' amongst people researching in my field, seemed like a good idea

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why? See below

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

I keep regular contact with people in my field, they now recognize my 'name' as a 'brand' for interesting and hard to find papers (ie stuff they would not otherwise be aware), it has also facilitated meeting interesting people in conferences (many see my name and always say "Ahh you are the guy who sends all these interesting emails, many thanks! Keep up the good work") So they are very appreciative – particularly those really committed to research. So it continues to 'open doors' with 'big names' in the area as it is a neutral currency to start a conversation.

I also think the report is increasingly seen as a way for people to advertise their own work and have queries.

As the largest report (in terms of number of subscribers) in a relatively small area of the field, it is quite satisfying to know you are serving the most needed (ie doctoral students) and the well established.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How? In more than one job interview (as I've moved around) has been recognized as part of my formal research allocation. See also above.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

Yes. How? It was demanding too much time over weekend and other unsociable hours. Hence quit as General Editor (but not as editor).

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		X	X				
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes		X	X				
Reputation of the author	X					X	
Language of the document	X					X	
Number of documents to choose from	X					X	
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							
Things that the audience might think as interesting or innovative	X						X
Research method / approach	X						X

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which? Language I will add it if the document is written in something I can read or in a common second language in the area – namely, French and Spanish, perhaps German.

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Enables effective use of my time. I would not have continued without it.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Other than teaching Thomas how to cook, I would delete the presorting (ie next to last) and just show one draft report before posting,

Scrolling through the titles in the first page is also slow.

I would also add a confirmation message that the report has been distributed to X number of subscribers

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? Learning about their preferred content, add subscribers, invite submissions

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Anecdotal (i.e. ask people now and again)

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain The most common message is for “unsubscribe”, others (as I explain, to express their thanks) then very seldom some have approached me to discuss content (perhaps because there were too many things which were not really considered part of the subject area)

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Consistency, open minded, resilient, patient, willing to learn, being a good cook

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

You assumed I only edited one report and performed tasks as editor. At one point, I edited three reports, I was responsible for creating (i.e opening, editing, attracting subscribers, and then passing on) for many others as well as being GE for many years.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Researcher

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): April 2007

Your current age: 35

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): BA (Psychology), BA (Economics)

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD (Economics)

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

Because there was no NEP report for the field.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? It does save time by reordering.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why? (I might in the future, but there hasn't been any need for it so far.)

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? No time.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Punctuality, unbiasedness,

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: doctoral student / research assistant

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 06/2005

Your current age: 35

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): master of political science

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): master of political science

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I'm doing my dissertation on RePEc and NEP and I wanted to participate and find out for myself how the systems work. In becoming an editor I also wanted to learn, and experience first hand what it means to be an editor – both with regards to the tasks that the editor does and the way the editor himself experiences these tasks.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(x) Yes. What were your expectations?

As I wrote in #1 I wanted to learn about NEP. I feel that I have learned how NEP works from a technical point of view for the editor. I also feel that I have felt the emotions (joy,

pain, etc) that an editor must feel. Experiencing these emotions has exceeded my expectations.

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

It is very interesting to be part of the community of RePEc-NEP.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why?

There are several reasons. First I see #1 and #2. Furthermore I felt that if I was to research RePEc / NEP it would be a good thing to be known in the RePEc/NEP-community. I would so to say become somewhat of an insider. Also the topic that I am editing is relevant to what I am studying.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

I still haven't finished my dissertation ;-). Will still be an editor when I'm done researching RePEc. Most likely, but it depends on my future career choices as well as research interests.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

I feel that as an editor I am sort of "in the know" of things related to RePEc and NEP. I have an easier time approaching the people involved. However, in one respect I am probably an extreme case. I am not an economist, I do not go to different conferences in economics, nor to I produce papers for economic journals.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

Editing does not take that much time. None of my family / friends even know that I edit the report. Hardly anyone at the department knows it either.

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x		x				
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x					x
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x				x		
Reputation of the author		x					
Language of the document		x			x		
Number of documents to choose from	x					x	
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

Most relevant papers show up first!

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Nothings really.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

First I'm not an economist, and second I do not have the time.

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

There is no "automatic" way to do this.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Timeliness and thoroughness.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

The questionnaire has two parts. The first deals with your personal information. This part will only be used to understand the context into which to place your reply. We will not relate the contents of your reply to your name, and not reveal any personal data beyond your name. The second part refers to the questions that, we hope, will help us to better understand human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services.

I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 22th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: **researcher at the LABORatorio R. Revelli, Italy**

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): **4/2007**

Your current age: **39**

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): **Liceo Scientifico (Scientific high school)**

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): **Master in Economics**

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? **I've always found the REPEC stuff very interesting and important, included the NEP reports. A friend of mine, who is volunteering NEP suggested me the idea to edit a NEP report on ageing issues since I'm doing some work on this topic.**

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

() Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(**X**) Yes. Why? **I've the opportunity to be up to date with the latest papers on my interested subjects**

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor? **I think NEP reports are very useful so, I'm happy to do them**

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

(**X**) No. Why? **Not yet but I've just started as a NEP editor**

() Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(**X**) No. Why? **It doesn't takes too much time so my personal life didn't changed**

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X					X	
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		X		X			
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	X					X	
Reputation of the author		X		X			
Language of the document	X				X		

Number of documents to choose from	?	?					
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? **It works very well and in general all papers on my subject are reported at the top**

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)? **Nothing**

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users? **Only e-mails**

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? **To make potential users aware of the NEP reports system**

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

() No.

(X) Yes. Explain. **Asking clarifications or signaling malfunctioning**

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor? **Accuracy, interest to disseminate the reports, interest to communicate with potential users**

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Professor of Economics

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 2003

Your current age: 54

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Political Sciences – Economics curriculum

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): LSE M.Sc(Econ)

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? Job vacancy

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? Time-saving

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

A filter on identical papers issued by differing institutions.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why? Never thought of. Too time consuming.
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why? Time and resources wanted.
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

- No.
 Yes. Explain.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Sense of duty to the profession.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Visiting Assistant Professor

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): don't remember exactly as it was long time ago. A quick check on the archive found the earliest archived report is April 21, 1998.

Your current age: 40

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): BA in Physics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Ph.D. in Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

I was convinced by the founders that I can make some contribution to young faculty members like me while I have to go through the literature anyway.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

() Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

(X) No. Why?

I took this one solely as a voluntary work, not thinking adding to my professional resume, nor impacting the profession in any way.

() Yes. Why?

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

Habit.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

(X) No. Why?

Low profile guy, don't like publicity.

() Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(X) No. Why?

Not really as the only impact I can think of is the time I devoted, but the time is relatively trivial compared with the research time I have been spending at my office anyway.

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		X	X				
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes		X	X				

Reputation of the author		X	X				
Language of the document	X				X		
Number of documents to choose from		X	X				
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

I edit two separate reports and personally I have a wide interest so I decide to read all papers included to make my own decisions which to include.

Yes. How?

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

The current process is pretty satisfactory to me.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Not like promoting anything.

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Thought the general editor would take care of this.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain.

They contacted me mostly for technical reasons. There are a couple of times some one contacted me raising the awareness of certain papers they wrote and want to make sure that I will include them in the report.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Dedication and willing to serve.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

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I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 30th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: **errr. No job yet... still PhD student**

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): **11/2005**

Your current age: **23**

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): **Bachelor of Arts, Economics**

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): **Master of Arts, Economics**

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

Keep all the quality frontier information more accessible to the interested audience, if I could be part of this process. That would be my honor and pleasure.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(**X**) Yes. What were your expectations?

yes, I do expect to read the frontier research in the fields. Also , I do hope people benefit from these research.

2b) Were your expectations met?

() No. Why?

Yes. How?

In all possible ways, somehow expectations are met unexpectedly. Sorry that's too much detailed personal feelings. I am afraid I can't recall any concrete occurrence for evidence.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why?

Same reason why I want to be the editor in the first place.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

Same reason

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Things are hard to tell, I don't think this is the primary reason for my work, or maybe let's wait to see if there is any such ... side effect.

Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

I actually is more actively telling my friends (out of Economics discipline) how interesting the recent research work is, how would those pieces of work be important to us.

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Reputation of the author	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Language of the document	X					X	
Number of documents to choose from	X				X		
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Maybe not much, I have been used to this system.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

Keep updated of research frontier

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

I haven't thought about this – but That's a good point, I should do that!

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

() No.

(X) Yes. Explain.

Some discussions with their interested researches /data/ etc.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Responsible, mature.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Please tell me / and people you surveyed, how would you reveal your research result to us. I am very interested in your research result!

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Associate Professor

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 02/07

Your current age: 40

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): Business Administration

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

It was a good way to keep up with new papers in a variety of fields related to my research

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why? It is a good way to follow recent developments in research and to be part of a network of people with similar interests

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

Same as above.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

Although many people follow NEP Reports in my country, this activity is not recognised as having any professional merit within my university.

Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x	x				
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x					x	
Reputation of the author		x	x				
Language of the document		x			x		
Number of documents to choose from		x	x				

(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Most of the relevant articles (although not all of them) are usually detected and concentrated early in the list.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

None.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

Exchange ideas on how to improve accessibility to recent developments, and on what are the interests of researchers.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? There are no easy means to do so that I know of.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Knowing the field well; doing regular research in the field and in related fields; being able to provide reports regularly.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: lfsouto2@gmail.com

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Personal Questions

Your current job: Assistant Professor Economics

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): Many (too many) years ago

Your current age: 43

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Agricultural Sciences

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD Agricultural Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? I thought it would be interesting

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

No. (move to question 3)

Yes. What were your expectations?

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link
 None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How? Sorting helps me giving an order to the papers, but I anyway read browse over all of them

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

The system works properly for me

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why? I have been probably quite passive about this, but I have been considering doing some advertising of the lists in the future. I would need some material though

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? I feel I would be bugging people and I should not. May be some agreed upon (by Nep editors) user satisfaction survey could be useful.

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. A couple of times. Once to be unsubscribed, another to ask me why I did not include their paper in the report.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

To be committed, methodical, and reliable.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for your attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please feel free to contact me: lfsouto2@gmail.com

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Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

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Personal Questions

Your current job: PROFESSOR

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 1998

Your current age: 52

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): ENGENHARIA ELETRICA

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): DOCTEUR EN SCIENCES ECONOMIQUES

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor?

ACHEI A IDEIA INTERESSANTE, E PARTICULARMENTE POR PODER DISPONIBILIZAR PAPERS PARA A COMUNIDADE MUNDIAL – SERVIÇO RELEVANTE PARA AQUELES QUE NÃO TÊM ACESSO A UMA BOA BIBLIOTECA

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(X) Yes. What were your expectations?

DISPONIBILIZAR INFORMACAO GRATUITA PARA PESSOAS DO MUNDO INTEIRO SOBRE ARTIGOS CIENTIFICOS, A FIM DE ESTIMULAR SUAS PUBLICACOES., PRINCIPALMENTE PARA PESSOAS DE PAISES EM DESENVOLVIMENTO

2b) Were your expectations met?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

TORNOU-SE UM TREMENDO SUCESSO.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

No. Why?

Yes. Why?

SINTO-ME UTIL A COMUNIDADE E TENHO ACESSO A INFORMACOES SOBRE TODOS OS PAPERS QUE TEM SAIDO MUNDIALMENTE SOBRE A MINHA AREA DE TRABALHO

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

O SENTIDO ALTRUISTICO E O TRABALHO INCANSAVEL DOS EDITORES QUE COLOCARAM EM ANDAMENTO ESTA REDE.

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

No. Why?

PELO MENOS AQUI NO BRASIL, AINDA NAO.

Yes. How?

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

ME TOMA ALGUM TEMPO....MAS É GRATIFICANTE.

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X					X	
Reputation of the institution to which		X			X		

the author of the document is affiliated.							
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	X					X	
Reputation of the author	X				X		
Language of the document		X			X		
Number of documents to choose from		X			X		
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

FACILITA O TRABALHO, APESAR DE TER QUE OLHAR TODOS OS PAPERS PARA ME CERTIFICAR QUE NADA ESCAPOU AO PRE-SORTMENT.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

MANTERIA COMO ESTA

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why? O TEMPO NAO PERMITE.

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why? CREIO QUE DEVA SER ALGO QUE DEVE VIR DIRETAMENTE DOS USUARIOS. TENHO RECEBIDO PALAVRAS DE ELOGIO

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

No.

Yes. Explain. TENTANDO COLOCAR PAPER OU ELOGIANDO O TRABALHO, OU INFORMANDO QUE ALGUM LINK NAO FUNCIONA

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

DEDICACAO, DEDICACAO, DEDICACAO

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

The questionnaire has two parts. The first deals with your personal information. This part will only be used to understand the context into which to place your reply. We will not relate the contents of your reply to your name, and not reveal any personal data beyond your name. The second part refers to the questions that, we hope, will help us to better understand human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services.

I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 12th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to lfsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: Assistant Professor, etc.

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 6-2006 (I think)

Your current age: 31

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): BA in Mathematics with Computer Science

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): MSc in Economics (or does PhD in Economics count?)

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? There was a vacancy, I thought the report was important, so I thought I might as well do it myself.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(X) Yes. What were your expectations? 1. I will know recent developments of the field better (since I will HAVE to read every title/abstract). 2. My name will circulate among hundreds of researchers hopefully helping me in publishing my works.

2b) Were your expectations met?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? Maybe coincidental, but my research is booming.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. Why? A bit. See above. But there will be a time when I will be willing to hand it over to the younger generations.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

I quite like surfing around the internet, and this way I am doing something useful ☺ I get quite a lot of positive feedback, which is always nice, is not it?

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? At conferences people come to my talk just to see me. It is a bit funny, but it certainly helps to get a bigger audience, more comments, more cites.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? As I do this in my free time, obviously I have less time for my family. This is not always nice, but I try to do it so that it is tolerable. What is frustrating though is when on holiday and yet I have to do the reports. I sometimes postpone them, although I know that regularity is nice, so sometimes I prefer to go to an internet café.

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	X						X
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		X			X		
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	X (indirectly)			X			
Reputation of the author		X			X		
Language of the document		X		X			
Number of documents to choose from	X				X		
(In case you use other criteria please add							

them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

- Abstract
 Keywords
 JEL code
 Full-text link
 None
 Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

- No. Why?
 Yes. How? I do not have to carefully go through 500 papers . I look at the top 50, usually that is more than enough and then quickly browse through the rest. I also do a search for keywords in the rest.

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?
Use (also) JEL codes in the sorting.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

- No. Why?
 Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication? When I have time for this, I regularly let authors in the reports know about the fact that they have been included and invite them to subscribe.

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

- No. Why? I see no direct way to communicate with subscribers (other than copy-paste 800 addresses). I also see no point. They could say that some things are unnecessarily included (that is a matter of taste and field), but they do not know what is not included, so they cannot really evaluate my performance.
 Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

- No.

(X) Yes. Explain. Usually to ask how to have their papers included.

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

To have some free time on hand. To understand where the borders of the field are. To be free from bias in including papers (both in terms of subfields, authors and institutions). To be willing to do that extra to keep up membership of the list.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

-

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: ifsouto2@gmail.com

*Questionnaire to NEP editors*¹

Introduction

This questionnaire is sent to all NEP editors. It is part of a research project on the process of human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services, by me, Leonardo Fernandes Souto. I work on a PhD dissertation at the Information Science program, at the School of Communication and Arts at São Paulo University in Brazil. The dissertation is supervised by Prof. Dr. Sueli Mara S. P. Ferreira. The experience of NEP as a development of the Selective Dissemination of Information service based on human mediation is singular and innovative. Therefore your participation is of great importance to this research. I will acknowledge all respondents in the PhD dissertation.

The questionnaire has two parts. The first deals with your personal information. This part will only be used to understand the context into which to place your reply. We will not relate the contents of your reply to your name, and not reveal any personal data beyond your name. The second part refers to the questions that, we hope, will help us to better understand human mediation in Selective Dissemination of Information services.

I thank you in advance for your help with our research. I am ready to answer any question you may have. I promise to send you the results of our research as soon as we have finished it.

Please answer in English, Portuguese or Spanish, up to the October 22th, 2007. Kindly send the completed questionnaire to ifsouto2@gmail.com

Sincerely

Leonardo Fernandes Souto

¹ The questionnaire was translated by Central de Traduções: <http://www.centraldetraducoes.com.br>, and revised by Thomas Krichel.

Personal Questions

Your current job: Associate Professor of Economics, University of Connecticut

When did you start working as a NEP editor (month/year): 6/1998

Your current age: 42

Undergraduate degree (name of the course): Economics

Highest Graduate degree (name of the field): PhD, Economics

Research Questions

1) Why did you become a NEP editor? I was already involved in RePEc.

2a) When you started to collaborate with NEP as an editor, did you have some expectations?

() No. (move to question 3)

(X) Yes. What were your expectations? I was hoping this would become a important mailing list for my field, and promote the use of RePEc

2b) Were your expectations met?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? RePEc is certainly used a lot. Whether this was due to NEP remains to be seen. Regarding my field, I have many subscribers, but few of the important people subscribe. They seem to have other ways to get the information.

3) Is it important for you to be a NEP editor?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. Why? As a RePEc team member, it allows me to see how well it is doing.

4) What makes you remain working as a NEP editor?

See 3)

5) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact or recognition in your professional/academic life?

() No. Why?

(X) Yes. How? But it is relatively minor.

6) Does the activity of editing NEP reports cause any impact in your personal life?

(X) No. Why?

() Yes. How?

7) Please mark the corresponding option below about criteria to select documents for inclusion in a report issue.

Criterion	Do you use it?		Do you agree that it is a criterion?				
	Yes	No	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	True	Completely True
Relation of the document with the thematic area of the NEP report	x						x
Reputation of the institution to which the author of the document is affiliated.		x			x		
Descriptive quality of the bibliographic record: the presence/absence of abstracts, keywords, JEL codes	x					x	
Reputation of the author	x					x	

Language of the document		x		x			
Number of documents to choose from		x			x		
(In case you use other criteria please add them below)							

8) In addition to document titles, what other bibliographic record fields may help in the selection of the documents? Please mark the corresponding options.

Abstract Keywords JEL code Full-text link

None Others. Which?

9) Does the pre-sorted version help you with your report?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

10) In case you had the autonomy to decide, what would you change in the document selection process (procedures/routine, system functionalities, etc)?

Nothing. The system is working well now.

11) Do you use any means such as discussion list, e-mails, blogs, conferences, university courses, professional publications and meetings etc to interact/communicate with NEP report users and potential users?

No. Why?

Yes. What is the objective of this interaction/communication?

12) Do you do any kind of evaluation of user satisfaction regarding your NEP reports?

No. Why?

Yes. How?

13) Have any users who are subscribed to a NEP report ever entered into contact with you?

() No.

(x) Yes. Explain. But only few, for subscription matters

14) Which characteristics, abilities or qualities are part of the profile of a successful NEP report editor?

Be consistent and reliable. Do not delay.

15) If you want to tell me something that was not covered by this questionnaire, please use this space.

There should be the ability to add things to messages, like calls for papers and similar announcements.

Thanks for you attention! I really appreciated your cooperation. As soon as possible I will disseminate the results of this research. But if you need some additional information, please fell free to contact me: lfsouto2@gmail.com