

# **Knowledge and Information Management by Individuals**

## **A Report on Empirical Research among German Students**



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Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus in January 2013

# PIM & PKM



## Personal Information Management

- the practice and the study of the activities a person performs in order to acquire or create, store, organise, maintain, retrieve, use, and distribute the information ...

## Personal Knowledge Management

- an evolving set of understandings, skills and abilities that allows an individual to survive and prosper in changing environments ...

# Personal Knowledge and Information Management (PKIM)



- An integrated and humanistic approach to three concepts:
  - ¡ Personal Information Management (PIM)
  - ¡ Personal Knowledge Management (PKM)
  - ¡ Information Literacy (IL)

(see Świgoń, 2012)\*

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# Research Questions and Procedures



- Questions of the first part of the survey:
  - ┆ What are the main definitions, dimensions and manifestations of *management of knowledge and information* through the eyes of individuals (students)?
  - ┆ What is the difference, if any, between *knowledge management* and *information management* in the opinion of students?
  - ┆ What is the role of knowledge and information management in studying and other spheres of life?
  - ┆ Which factors influence management of knowledge and information in students' opinion?
- The respondents' group – 62 students of two study programs: 'Culture and Technology' and 'Environmental Studies' at the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus (BTU).

# Findings



- (1) KIM definitions and manifestations
- (2) IM and KM interrelations
- (3) The role of KIM
- (4) Factors influencing KIM

## **(1) KIM Definitions**



- Information process for personal needs
- Abilities and skills
- Coping with information overload

## **(2) IM and KM Interrelations**



- Knowledge vs. information
- Integrated processes
- No differences
- KM does not exist



### **(3) The role of KIM**



- For all spheres of life
- The priority in studying and learning
- Other benefits

## **(4) Factors Influencing KIM**



- Personal characteristics
- The sources of knowledge and information
- The environment

## Conclusion



- Individuals perceive knowledge and information as well as knowledge management and information management as integrated terms, concepts and areas of interests
- Personal Knowledge and Information Management (PKIM) as an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary concept is valuable in theory (e.g. Information Science) and practice (e.g. university / high schools education programmes)



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Thank you for your attention