Knowledge and Information Management by Individuals
A Report on Empirical Research among German Students

MARZENA ŚWIGOŃ
UNIVERSITY OF WARMIA AND MAZURY IN OLSZTYN, POLAND

KARSTEN WEBER
BRANDENBURG UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY COTTBUS, GERMANY

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1. Introduction
2. Research Questions and Procedures
3. Findings
4. Tentative Conclusion

This presentation is an result of a DAAD scholarship and research carried out among students at Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus in January 2013
## PIM & PKM

<table>
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<th>Personal Information Management</th>
<th>Personal Knowledge Management</th>
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<td>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 ...</td>
<td>an evolving set of understandings, skills and abilities that allows an individual to survive and prosper in changing environments ...</td>
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An integrated and humanistic approach to three concepts:

- Personal Information Management (PIM)
- Personal Knowledge Management (PKM)
- Information Literacy (IL)

(see Świgoń, 2012)*

* The publication of Zarządzanie wiedzą i informacją [Knowledge and Information Management] (Olsztyn: Wydawnictwo UWM, 2012, PP. 368) was funded by National Science Centre in Poland as a part of the research project No. 2011/03/B/HS2/04436
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
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).
Thank you for your attention