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*Similarities and differences of web search tool awareness of BLIS and BSCS students in UP Diliman**

The bulk of information on the web vastly changes on a daily basis and the search tools available are innumerable. A web user must have the knowledge of how to navigate through a system where the information is being stored, organized, and categorized. Librarians and computer experts study computer-based information systems and they are expected to know the right resources to use for a specific query. This study intends to find out what web search tools the Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BLIS) and Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BSCS) students know of, what the students think are the appropriate web search tools for particular search queries and which web search tools are recommended for such. The study determined how the BLIS and BSCS program courses affect the web search tool awareness of students under each program and in what aspects they are similar or different from each other, and what other factors affect the web search tool awareness of BLIS and BSCS students. Fourth year BLIS and BSCS students who were currently enrolled in the 2nd Semester of AY 2006-2007 were the respondents of the study. A total of 47 out of 47 (or 100) questionnaires were retrieved from the BLIS respondents. However, only 32 out of 48 (or 67) questionnaires were retrieved from the BSCS respondents. Majority of the BLIS and BSCS students are heavy users of Google and Yahoo and they recommend both for simple keyword-searching and academic research. Almost half of the BSCS respondents recommend Google to start with any particular search query in any subject. Some BSCS students are aware that web search tools are

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human-powered and crawler-based but majority of the BLIS and BSCS students cannot determine the human-powered directories from the crawler-based search engines. For BLIS students, the course LIS 160 (Information Handling and Processing) is the most influential among the IT-related courses in their web search tool awareness because it tackles information storage and retrieval of online resources. On the other hand, BSCS students consider CS 145 (Computer Networks) as the most influential among IT-related courses in their web search tool awareness because it gives an overview of the web/internet and telecommunications services. Moreover, significant factors that affect the web search tool awareness of both BLIS and BSCS students are their friends, reading search engine reviews in magazines/online reviews and their personal web experiences. It is recommended that both BLIS and BSCS students should read more about search engine reviews whether online or print. Aside from the courses in school, web search tool awareness must be supplemented by reading about web search tool reviews.