Visualization Strategies for Digital Archives – the Case of the Ernst-von-Glasersfeld-Archive

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INTRODUCTION

Ernst von Glasersfeld (1917-2010) developed the epistemological position of radical constructivism together with Heinz von Foerster. In the mid-1960s, he immigrated to the United States, where he also developed "Yerkish", the first sign language for communication with primates.

His estate, the Ernst-von-Glasersfeld-Archive, is part of the Brenner-Archive since 2012. The documents stored here and made available to research come from a period of almost 150 years and range from "traditional" formats to "born digital" objects. The oldest documents are photographs of Glasersfeld's grandparents from the 1860s, the most recent are unfinished essays and e-mails on the hard drive of Glasersfeld's Apple G5 Computer. Thus, the spectrum of archival material reflects the technical developments in text, image, film and sound recording up to the early 21st century that pose new challenges in terms of long-term storage, but also raise questions about the originality of an object and the construction of living archives considering conceptual dimensions of archival content as relevant for design.

GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE

Visualization of different networks in the development and reception history of radical constructivism in general and with regard to Glasersfeld in particular: argument types and discursive structures institutional contexts

personal networks

ARGUMENT & DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

Produkte in die Hand der Praxis legt, und dann auch den Zweck des Denkens nicht in einer Abspiegelung einer sogen. äusseren, objektiven Welt, sondern in der Ermöglichung der Berechnung des Geschehens und des Einwirkens auf das letztere erblicken muss. Für uns hat die logische Funktion des Denkens

Um zu erkennen, ob das Bild wahr oder falsch ist, müssen wir es mit der Wirklichkeit vergleichen.

dieser Vergleich ist logisch ausgeschlossen; die Wirklichkeit können wir
ja nur in Bildern sehen oder denken,
deswegen gibt es nichts mit dem wir
ein Bild vergleichen können als andere
Bilder; die Wahrheit eines Bildes besteht demnach in seiner logischen

never been troubled by epistemological considerations. Thus it is not at all astonishing that the reader will not take it literally when Piaget, one page later, says that the child himself constructs his universe and thereafter experiences it as external to himself. It is asking too much that

ARCHIVAL MATERIAL













FACETED SEARCH INTERFACE

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Ethik und Sozial... (8)

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Continuing the C... (3

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http://www.evg-archive.net/







GOALS

Constructing a **collaborative living online archive** that enables experts to contribute to Glasersfeld's legacy by means of annotations and qualitative analysis of argumentative and discourse structures related to Glasersfeld's work.

Designing visualization strategies that allow for displaying and analyzing the dynamics of development of radical constructivism and networks of people and philosophies of relevance for Glasersfeld's thinking.

Exploring new modalities of research, science communication and technologically-enhanced learning towards an understanding of digital archives as virtual research and learning environments.

