



**University
of Victoria**

Graduate Studies

Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Master of Science

of

ELENA VOYLOSHNIKOVA

BSc (University of Victoria, 2012)

“A Conceptual Framework for Evaluating and Designing Information
Discovery and Curation Tools”

Department of Computer Science

Tuesday April 21, 2015

11:30 A.M.

Engineering and Computer Science Building
Room 468

Supervisory Committee:

Dr. Margaret-Anne Storey, Department of Computer Science, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Melanie Tory, Department of Computer Science, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:

Dr. Ray Siemens, Department of English, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:

Dr. Abdul Vahabour Roudsari, School of Health Information Sciences, UVic

Abstract

Everyday life revolves around the discovery and curation of digital information. People search the Web continuously, from quickly looking up the information needed to complete a task, to endlessly searching for inspiration and knowledge. A variety of studies have modeled information seeking strategies and characterized information seeking and curation activities on the Web. However, there is a lack of research on how existing Web applications support the discovery and curation of information, especially concerning the motivations behind them and how different approaches can be compared. In this thesis, I present a study of information discovery tools and how they relate to the nature of information seeking. I propose a conceptual framework that deals with Web application design elements that support different aspects of information discovery and curation. This framework can be used when designing, evaluating or updating Web applications.