

Are there characteristics of these models that are universal and relevant to all information environments (from a global perspective)?

Should any, or all, of these models be changed to account for information seeking in different information environments and for the information seekers with diverse social and cultural backgrounds?

When addressing the Wilson model in comparison with the Kuhlthau's process, I noticed that Kuhlthau was one of many notary figures in the field of study that cited information from Wilson's model of human information behavior. Some of Kuhlthau's ideas are also similar to Wilson's model as well. An example of this lies in the process of the Information Search Process (ISP). There are multiple stages in the ISP that relate to Wilson's first model in 1981 paper. His model gave rise to information seeking behavior into psychological, affective, and cognitive needs (*Informational Behavior* 31).

The first stage of *initiation* comes from a psychological desire to know about the universe surrounding the individual. The second stage of *selection* gives the individual optimism to overcome their uncertainty when delving into the early stages of information gathering. The third stage is *exploration* which resumes the user's uncertainty because this stage opens information that is uncommon to the user. This can be lethal to a process of information gathering because the user will give up the search because of overwhelming information brings stress that some users cannot handle. The fourth stage of *formulation*, assuming the user did not give up the search is where the search begins to clear up any doubt that the user had when searching for an answer. The text states "The topic is becoming more personalized at this stage if construction is taking place" (*Retrieval Design* 266) which motivates the user to continue their search. The fifth stage, *collection* is where the user identifies which information to look for and which information to disregard when coming to a search. Essentially this stage is the final stage of searching for information in the ISP. The sixth and final stage is *presentation* which takes the results of a given search regardless of the success. The user will take this information and use it for the purpose they had created hopefully making a note of their research patterns in future research.

You can see through Kuhlthau's steps from ISP are heavily influenced on Wilson's idea of information behavior. In his 1999 problem solving model, he provides 4 elements that problem solvers use. These elements are "problem recognition, problem identification, problem resolution, and solution statement" (*Informational Behavior* 35).

Overall, it's essential that both ideas albeit being similar are kept. As a historian, one of the biggest pet peeves is having limited viewpoints available on a subject. Both systems should be heard and retained. Having knowledge of both of them can allow for an open discussion and analyzing the material further can reveal more information on their specific niches.