social sciences and the sciences of the artificial (engineering). It may well intersect strongly with the life sciences and the physical sciences as well. It is a mathematical science as well. I will try to substantiate and illustrate some of these points and to shed some light on specific issues that motivate the concern about the kind of science it is.

Information science as an emerging discipline
K. Samuelson

The emerging nature of information science is explained through the impact of knowledge growth, telecommunication, computer technology and new media. The paper gives an analysis of the other disciplines and scientific fields from which certain paradigms have been lifted to form a true science of information. It appears to be a trans-science and a constitutive outcome with derivatives of general systems research and cybernetics with epistemological frames of reference. The gist of information science stems from pragmatism and a need for measurement and evaluation of sufficient observable or controllable phenomena. A formalization is presented which includes the majority of related subjects and activities such as: classification, management systems, networks, library operations, information storage, retrieval and dissemination, organizing, recycling and cost assessment. The overall approach of the presentation is based on ten years experience of running and improving an interdisciplinary university program in information science and a five-year evaluation of the graduates' work activities and professional career.

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