UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualifications:–

Grad Dip   M.A.

SLAIS P30: Professional Awareness

COURSE CODE   :   **INSTP030**

DATE   :   **22–MAY–06**

TIME   :   **10.00**

TIME ALLOWED   :   **3 Hours**

TURN OVER

INSTP030: Professional awareness

Answer **THREE** questions, **each in a separate answer book.**

1. Discuss the roles and responsibilities of all those involved in the collection management process in a typical academic, public or special library.

2. Describe the procedures you would follow in carrying out a systematic literature search in a topic of your choice.

3. The Dewey Decimal Classification issues a new printed edition about every seven years, usually with some major changes. What factors would you take into account in deciding whether to adopt the changed schedules in your library?

4. To what extent is it necessary constantly to update systems? To what extent do market trends in the issuing of updates and new versions of popular software match the principles of the systems lifecycle? Do most individuals, and organizations, upgrade their systems in an appropriate way, in accordance with the principles of systems theory? Explain your reasoning and give examples.

5. Suppose you had to train a new cataloguer in the use of *AACR2*. Which features would you most wish to emphasize, and why?

6. The world wide web contains many resources compiled, or contributed to, by individuals. How far should these be regarded as reliable compared with institutional or commercial information sources? What criteria might you apply in coming to a decision?

7. Why is it important to have a strategic approach to management in today's libraries? Illustrate your answer with relevant examples.

8. What is the impact on the average user of the current trend in internet search engines towards a focus on citation ranking? Explain the different mechanisms internet search engines typically use to index and retrieve data, and their pros and cons. Is the popularity of Google a good thing or a bad thing for the internet end user – and for information retrieval?

9. 'In a professional association, service to members should have a higher priority than financial considerations.' Discuss, both in general and with reference to recent events at CILIP (the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals).

END OF PAPER