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Can we define community informatics not as a social movement or service project, but as a research field? Do we have a global, empirical, picture of informatization in communities? What does the field tell us?

INTELLECTUAL SPACE: With articles concentrated in three disciplines, we do see a research community forming. Four leading journals have published more than half the articles.

We collected 524 empirical studies of one or more local, historical, organic (place-based) communities and information technology. We found these by reviewing TOCs of 5 social/community informatics journals and 3 journals in other fields, 1990-present.

HUMAN SPACE: Although 50% of people are rural, community informatics studies mostly urban settings. Certain regions are overrepresented, others underrepresented. Different disciplines help create a global picture of informatization by studying rural settings.

SOCIAL SPACE: Community informatics does see the importance of local institutions, focusing thus far on nonprofits.

NEXr NEXT STEPS: Citation analysis by university and keyword.

Coding by theory ... methods ... technologies ... findings. Examining cultural heritage organizations, including libraries. Comparing LIS and ICTD. Analyzing conference proceedings and edited volumes. Collecting in other languages, especially Chinese.