

Repositioning the Future Libraries and Librarianship through Innovation: *Observation and Suggestions*

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Abstract

The higher education system of the future will undergo a transition from a heavy emphasis on teaching to a heavy emphasis on learning. Experts will create the courseware and the students will learn anytime or anywhere at a pace that is comfortable for them, learning about topics that they are interested in. In the future, teachers will transition from topic experts to a role in which they act more as guides and coaches. The Mission of Librarians is to improve society through facilitating knowledge creation in their communities. In this paper the authors identified and presented the trends that are affecting the development of future generation library. The concept, points and reasons raised in this paper are not the only trends, but ones that have been selected to give clear insight into the rapidly changing technologies and equally fast changing mindset of library patrons.

Keywords : Repositioning libraries, Librarianship, Future libraries, ICT.

1. Introduction

The library was the center of information revered by most because each contained the foundational building blocks of information for all humanity. The future of libraries is being shaped today by emerging technology that is transforming the way information is created and disseminated. One indicator of the future of libraries is the push to provide increasing amounts of information in electronic and digital format. Traditional libraries are being converted into new flavors of 'electronic' or "digital" or "virtual" libraries. One measure of that pace is the extent to which content buying centers are spending on print vs. electronic content products. We have transitioned from a time where information was scarce and precious today where information is vast and readily available, and in many cases, free. People who in the past visited libraries to find specific pieces of information, now they are able to find information through online. The vast majority of people with specific information need no longer visit libraries. However, others who visit for pleasure as example, still regularly patronize their local library.

2. Transition of Libraries and Librarianship through the years

Ever since the peoples of ancient began storing and classifying their knowledge, experiences and information produced by the different scholars are recorded in the form of palm leaf, parchment, papyrus, clay tablets, stone inscription etc., and some housed in temples, churches, mosques or of these documents may be with individual kings, priests, scribes etc. But, after the invention of paper and printing technology are revolutionized the entire world and these technology cause for establishment of libraries, educational, scientific and cultural institutions around the world. Each and every institutions and society given prime importance to establishment of libraries for the overall development of the mankind and the same time libraries are started spreading the knowledge and information without any discrimination by adopting library management tools and techniques. Up to 19th century libraries have been hallowed and largely unchanging bastions of learning. But in the information age, libraries have been caste with a new identity, and the future is evolving into a very different place. In the 21st century, as the Internet