A Call for a New Librarianship

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I Believe...

• Best Days of Librarianship are Ahead of Us

• We are the Right Profession, Uniquely Positioned to Lead in the Knowledge Age

• However, We won’t get there Following Current Trends and with our Current Focus on “Recorded Knowledge”
We Need a New Librarianship

• Unencumbered by an Artifact-Centrality

• Focusing on Knowledge and Conversation

• Dedicated to Social Action, Leadership, and Innovation
• “Unencumbered by an Artifact-Centrality”
• How do we Figure out “Forward”
Thought Experiment

• $10 “Content” Fee on Every Device

• Ubiquitous Network Connection

• Any Book, Any Time
Question

• Would this be good or bad for libraries?
• Would this be good or bad for librarians?
Bad for Libraries:
Libraries Value is in Collections and Buildings
Don’t Need Stuff ≠ Don’t Need Libraries

Good for Libraries:
Libraries Value is in Knowledge
Don’t Need Stuff = Need Libraries
• Shift from Ownership to Rental
• Databases, DRM, Digital Content
• Explosion in Artifact Production
• Disaggregation of Content
• Explosion in Data
• Disintegration of Traditional Publishing Models
What is the future of libraries?

What should be the future of libraries and librarians in democracy?
The Mission

This is the Public's Library. Our mission is to enrich the educational, recreational, and cultural life of our community through materials, information, and programs that foster a lifelong love of learning.
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The Mission of Librarians is to Improve Society through Facilitating Knowledge Creation in their Communities.
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What is the future of libraries?
You