

What We Do and Why We Do It

...But Mostly Why We Do It

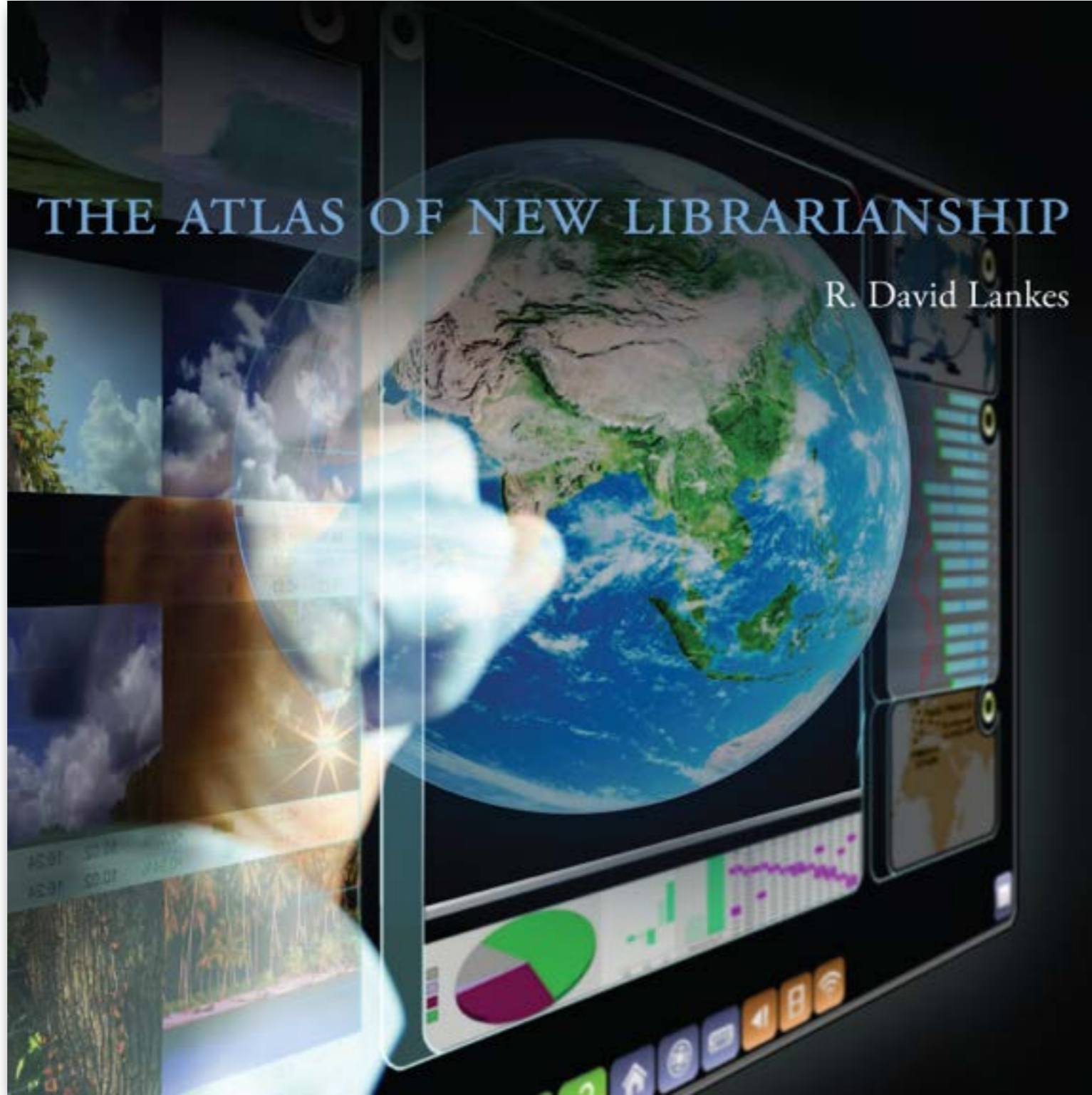
R. David Lankes

Professor and Dean's Scholar for the New Librarianship
Syracuse University's iSchool

Screencast: <http://www.DavidLankes.org>

THE ATLAS OF NEW LIBRARIANSHIP

R. David Lankes

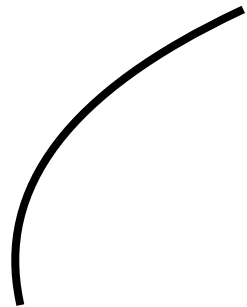




“The mission of librarians is to improve society through facilitating knowledge creation in their communities”

The *mission* of *librarians* is to
improve society through
facilitating knowledge creation
in their *communities*

The *mission* of *librarians* is to
improve society through
facilitating knowledge creation
in their ***communities***



Access to
Materials

Reference
Questions

The *mission* of *librarians* is to
improve society through
facilitating knowledge creation
in their *communities*

Access to
Materials

Reference
Questions

The *mission* of *librarians* is to
improve society through
facilitating knowledge creation
in their *communities*

Access to
Materials

Storytime

Promote
Democracy/
Education

Reference
Questions

The *mission* of *librarians* is to
improve society through
facilitating knowledge creation
in their **communities**

Access to
Materials

Storytime

Promote
Democracy/
Education

Reference
Questions

The *mission* of *librarians* is to
improve society
EXPECT MORE
facilitate knowledge creation
in their communities

Access to
Materials

Storytime

Vision

Mission

Strategy

Execution



Vision

Mission

Strategy

Execution



Vision

Mission

Strategy

Execution

The Question

What is the future of libraries?

Refining the Question

What **should be** the future of libraries?

Refining the Question

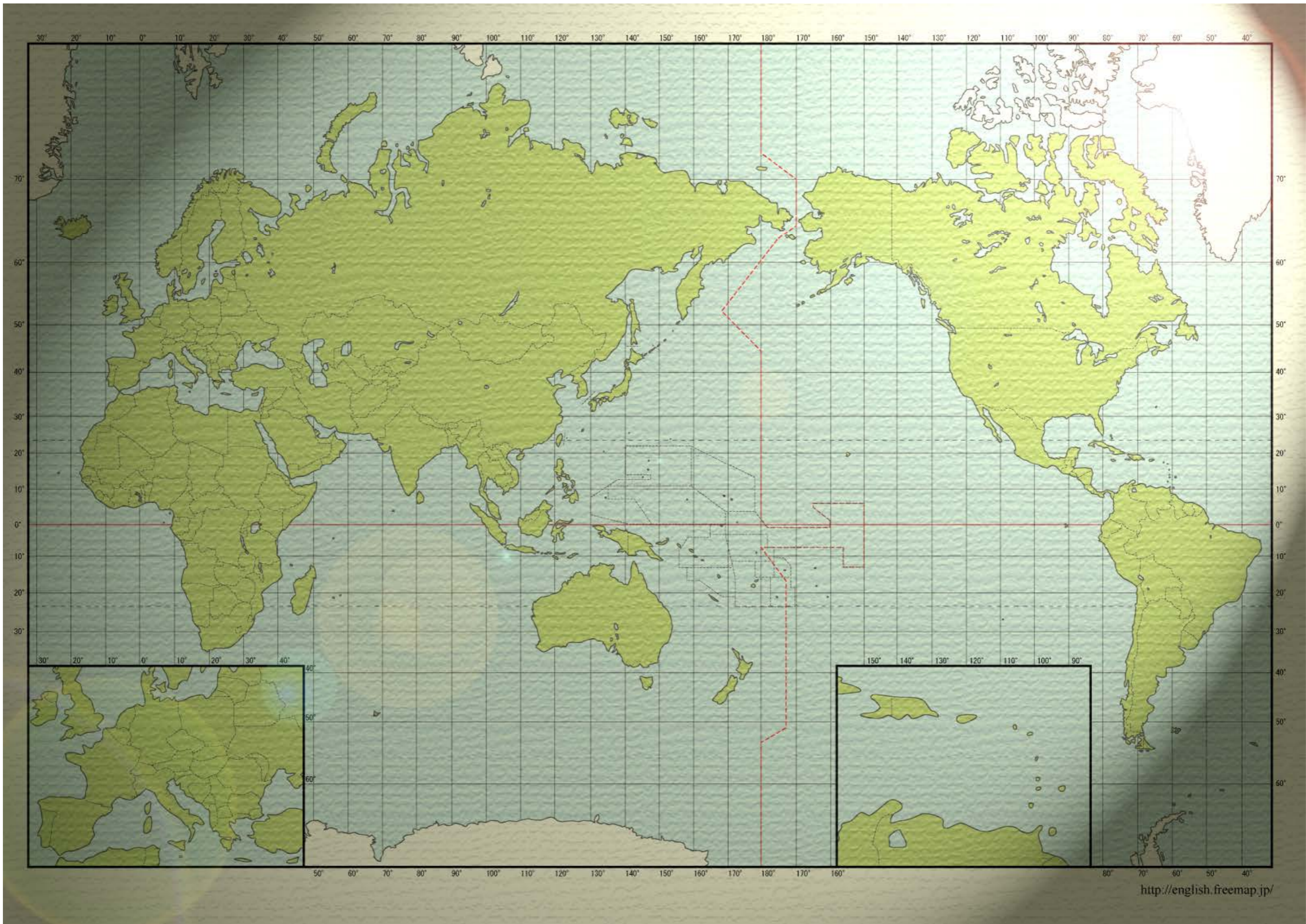
What **should be** the future of libraries **and**
librarians?

Refining the Question

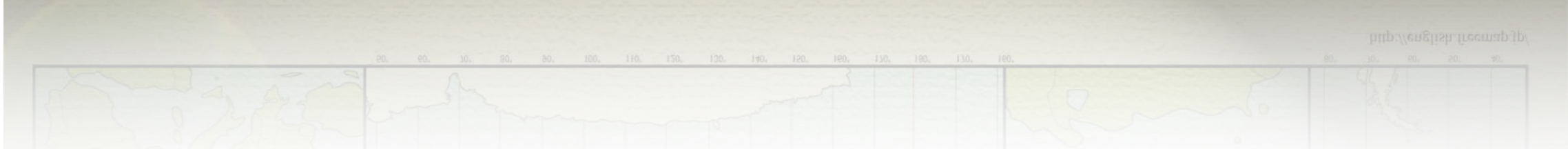
What **should be** the future of libraries **and**
librarians in a democracy?

The Importance of Worldview

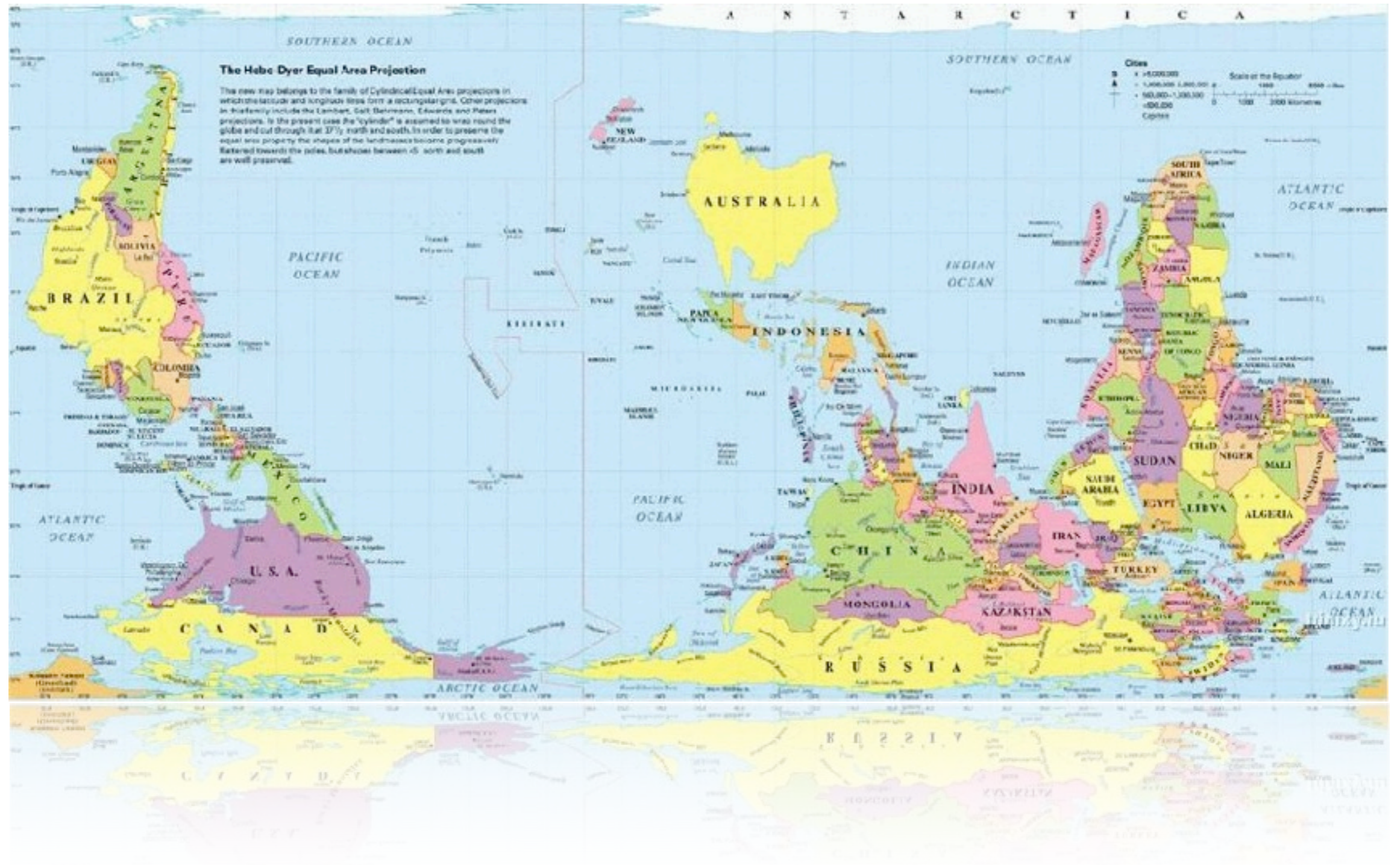
- Librarians are Defined By What They Do It and Why They Do It
 - Over Time What We Do Changes...Driven By Why We Do It
- In Times of Great Change, Functional Models Fail
- The Paradox of Success
 - Past Success Does Not Guarantee Future Success



<http://english.freemap.jp/>



<http://english.freemap.jp/>



**INFORMATION
AGE**

**KNOWLEDGE
SOCIETY**

Bringing the world's information
to the community

Pushing the community's
information to the world

Expert in finding the right
piece of information

Expert in curating and
putting content in context

Platform for searching
and finding

Platform for creating and
innovating

Physical media and
text dominate

Digital media and
multimedia dominate

Circulating and distributing
physical collections

Facilitating access to
digital content

Collecting and preserving
local content

Creating and sharing
local content for reuse

Purchasing and owning
collections

Purchasing access to
digital content

Describing and organising
information
held in the library

Working with users to
enrich and link information
beyond the library's walls

Place of consumption of
knowledge

Place for creating
new knowledge

Stand-alone library

Multi-purpose facility
- library located
with other functions

A place primarily for
housing collections

A place for people
engagement

Libraries working mostly
within their local
authority boundaries,
or collaborating regionally

Public libraries in
NZ work as one to
maximise benefits for
customers and rate payers

Services developed
with customer focus

Services developed
with customer involvement

Librarians as keepers of
knowledge and information

Librarians as enablers
and teachers of skills

Physical spaces

Physical, virtual, ubiquitous
and mobile spaces

The *mission* of *librarians* is to
improve society through
facilitating knowledge creation
in their *communities*

The *mission* of *librarians* is to
improve society through
facilitating knowledge creation
in their *communities*

Knowledge is Created Through Conversation

| | Collection Centric | “New Librarianship” |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Mission | Mission of the Library Distribute content to create knowledge | Facilitation Mission of the Librarian and Library can be different |
| Knowledge | “Actionable Information,” Can be Stored and Organized as “Knowledge Containers” | Uniquely Human, Dynamic, Creates Artifacts that can be Stored and Organized |
| Improve | Indirectly | Transformative Social Engagement |
| Communities | Collection of Users/Customers/Consumers | Members who Co-Own the Library, “Half” of a Conversation |
| Facilitating | Provide Equitable Access | Access, Training, Environment, Motivation |
| Librarians | Employees of the Library | Creators of the Library |



- 
- Technology
 - Management for Participation (Professional Competencies)
 - Asset management
 - Cultural Skills
 - Knowledge / Learning / Innovation
 - Transformative Social Engagement

