Librarianship in the Growing Information Domain

...or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Information

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viscosity

Peak of Inflated Expectations

Plateau of Productivity

Slope of Enlightenment

Trough of Disillusionment

Technology Trigger
The diagram illustrates the cycle of technology adoption and impact over time. It starts with a **Technology Trigger**, leading to the **Peak of Inflated Expectations**. After the peak, the technology enters the **Trough of Disillusionment**, followed by the **Slope of Enlightenment** and finally the **Plateau of Productivity**.
Define: Information
Why Information Sucks

- Anthropomorphic
- Not Measurable
  - Except in Particle Physics
- Widely Adopted
- “Information Perspective”
- John Budd, Michael Buckland
The L vs I Breach

Library & Information Science

Traditional Skills [Cataloging]
Abandoning Institutions
Chase the Money/Shiny
The L vs I Breach

Library & Information Science

Skills
Values
Service
Members

Technology
Social Science
Products
Users
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The death of a field can be defined as the lack of meaningful productive conversation.

Productive = Changes in understanding or direction of conversants.
Information Science started primarily as a discussion of library science looking beyond the institutions of libraries
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Just as the data science conversation is currently growing and adding members.
A fear is that values that librarians hold dear is currently being lost in the conversation.
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Do conversants see values as “productive?”
A Quick Refresher
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The mission of librarians is to improve society through facilitating knowledge creation in their communities.
A Quick Refresher

Mission

Facilitation

Access
Knowledge
Environment
Motivation
A Quick Refresher

Mission

Facilitation
A Quick Refresher

- Learning
- Openness
- Intellectual
- Freedom and Safety
- Intellectually
- Honest not Unbiased

Mission

Facilitation

Values
Unbiased v. Intellectually Honest

• Seamus Ross Question:

• Would an Information Professional Working at Volkswagen Changed Anything?
The Goal

- The goal should be engage in the information conversation in order to achieve the central tenets of librarianship:
  - improving society through a more knowledgable society
  - This must happen in our libraries, and in our classrooms, and boardrooms, and halls of government
  - This cannot be done by librarians alone...and never could have.
Librarianship ≠ Obsolescence

• Librarianship Is Not Dying, It Has Lost It’s Monopoly

• Not It’s Value, Importance, Or Future

• Opportunity Inject The Values Of Librarianship Into The Larger Domain
The L & I Reconnect
The L & I Reconnect

Shared Values
The L & I Reconnect

Shared Values
Focused on Learning
The L & I Reconnect

Shared Values
Focused on Learning
Technical
The L & I Reconnect

Shared Values
Focused on Learning
Technical
Trans-Disciplinary
The L & I Reconnect

Shared Values
Focused on Learning
Technical
Trans-Disciplinary
Transformative Social Engagement
A Mission

- Librarianship is About Improving Society
- We Do That In and Outside of Buildings
- As Part of Libraries and With No Affiliation
- Engage Partners, Industries, Communities