Librarianship is a Technical Profession

...That is All About People

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• What technological expertise should librarians have?
• What should we leave to other professions?
• General
• What does knowledge organization mean in 2017?
• Etc.

Are there right and wrong answers to these to begin with?
What is a librarian?
• New librarianship, participatory librarianship, community-based librarianship
The mission of librarians is to improve society through facilitating knowledge creation in their communities.

Learning, Access, Openness, Knowledge, Diversity, Environment, and Safety.

Mission, Facilitation, Values.

Intellectual Freedom and Safety.

Learning not Unbiased.
TRANSFORMATIVE SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT: Participatory culture includes establishing and maintaining the community connections with things like activism, advocacy, and relevant public programming.

MANAGEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION: Participatory culture requires that institutions must have clear goals and be aware of long-term sustainability. There must be teamwork to put those new ideas into motion and sustain them. This includes teaching others the necessary skills to launch, complete, and sustain projects.

ASSET MANAGEMENT: Participatory culture requires that institutions promote ongoing dialogue with their communities to assess what resources are important, when particular resources are important, and why resources are important. It goes beyond collecting things like books or artifacts and also considers what other resources a community needs.

TECHNOLOGY: Participatory culture encourages co-learning and co-building with emerging technologies in order to engage with communities.

CULTURAL SKILLS: Participatory culture requires an active role in designing communications and services for broad community demographics. Developing communication skills is imperative and can impact everything from the way a community perceives the institution (language barriers, etc.) to the types of literacies the institution considers in its programming (such as visual learning vs. hands-on learning).

KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, AND INNOVATION: Participatory culture creates dynamic museum and library spaces that the community uses to learn, build, and share. Innovation is needed in order to build and maintain strong community ties.

The following skills are proposed as essential for librarians and museum professionals in a participatory culture. The working group proposed that library and museum professional education would benefit from the inclusion of these topics in coursework:

On October 19, 2011, a group of library and museum innovators from more than 31 countries gathered in Salzburg, Austria to discuss “Libraries and Museums in an Era of Participatory Culture.” During the event, co-sponsored by the Salzburg Global Seminar and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, one of the working groups developed a framework for a comprehensive and joint library and museum curriculum.
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• Generalist vs specialist?
• What does knowledge organization mean in 2017?
• Etc.