In Search of Geeks with Social Skills
Building the Knowledge School

R. David Lankes
University of South Carolina
Charleston Trilogy

- 2006 “Massive Scale Librarianship”
  - Hybrid Collections -> Community is the Collection
- 2009 “New Librarianship”
  - The Mission of Librarians is to Improve Society Through Facilitating Knowledge Creation in Their Communities
- 2016 “Building the Knowledge School”
Gang of Three
1988
(Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Drexel)

Gang of Four
1990s
(Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Drexel, Rutgers)

Gang of Five
2001
(Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Drexel, Washington, Michigan)

Gang of Ten
2001
(Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Drexel, Washington, Michigan, Illinois, UNC, FSU, Indiana, Texas)

iSchool Caucus
2008’ish

Professional Preparation

Experimentation

Social Change (Technological Determinism)

Institutionalization
The L vs I Breach

Library & Information Science

Skills
Values
Service
Members

Technology
Social Science
Products
Users
Knowledge School

• From School to School of Thought
• Focused on Participation & Impact
• Unified in Mission but Diverse in Communities and Delivery

What good is knowledge without action?
Grand Challenges

• A Societal-Level Problem That is Solvable and Has High Potential Rewards

Andrew Dillon, University of Texas
Mary Stansbury, University of Denver
Sam Hastings, South Carolina University
David Lankes, Syracuse University
Tula Giannini, Pratt Institute
William Schickling, Polaris

Corrine Hill, Dallas Public Library
Annie Norman, Delaware State Library
Martha Reid, Vermont State Library
Anne Craig, Illinois State Library
Mary Chute, IMLS
Communities

Problems

Solutions

LIS Community

Society
Knowledge Society
How to accept multiple ways of coming to a solution - truth by consensus
Knowledge Society
How to accept multiple ways of coming to a solution - truth by consensus

Knowledge Economy

Community
Distribution of Resources
Learning
Innovation
Workforce
Technology
• Currently uncoordinated & conflicted
• Challenge to conceptualize and form this infrastructure

Sources
• Marketplace will always be a mix of public & private
• From consumption /production to participation

People
Permissions
The Grand Challenge:
Coordinating the Knowledge Infrastructure to Speed Learning and Improve Decision Making in Communities
Lifelong Learning

K-20: First generation to not do better than their parents
K-20: Preparing Students to Engage in an Academic Culture
K-20: Higher Education: Fixing an Increasingly Broken Model
How to Credential Knowledge

The Science of Facilitation

From Disintermediation to Facilitation (librarian, educator, curator, journalist, publisher)
Representing and Organizing Complex Knowledge
Processing Massive Scale Data

Community

Balancing Local v. Global Perspectives
Identity (personal, community, etc) in a connected society
Local Concerns (Environment, Economy)
Engaged Citizenry (Democracy)
Transferring Local Information to the larger society

From Consumers to Participants

Move away from information as something to be consumed to something to nourish society (civic contribution)
From Jobs to Monetizing Knowledge Work
Equality of Access for the 21st Century (who owns the information/walled gardens of access to cultural knowledge)
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What good is knowledge without action?
Literacy, STEM, Health, Social Services
Diversity of Delivery

- Graduate and Undergraduate
- Prepare Librarians AND The Mayors, Provosts, CIOs, Board Members
- Breaking the Cycle of 3 Credit/Semester Courses
- Each Class Symposium and Practica
- Recognizing Expertise and Innovation Beyond the Classroom
The Knowledge School And
a New Promise
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