The Knowledge School

or Why Teaching Library Science is Getting Harder
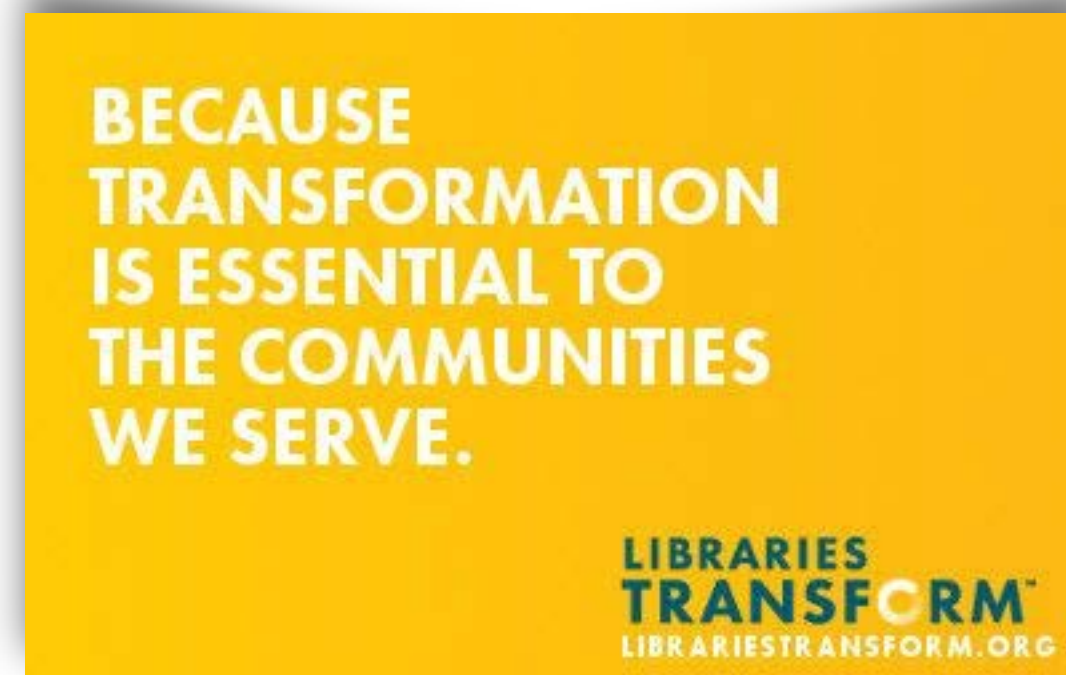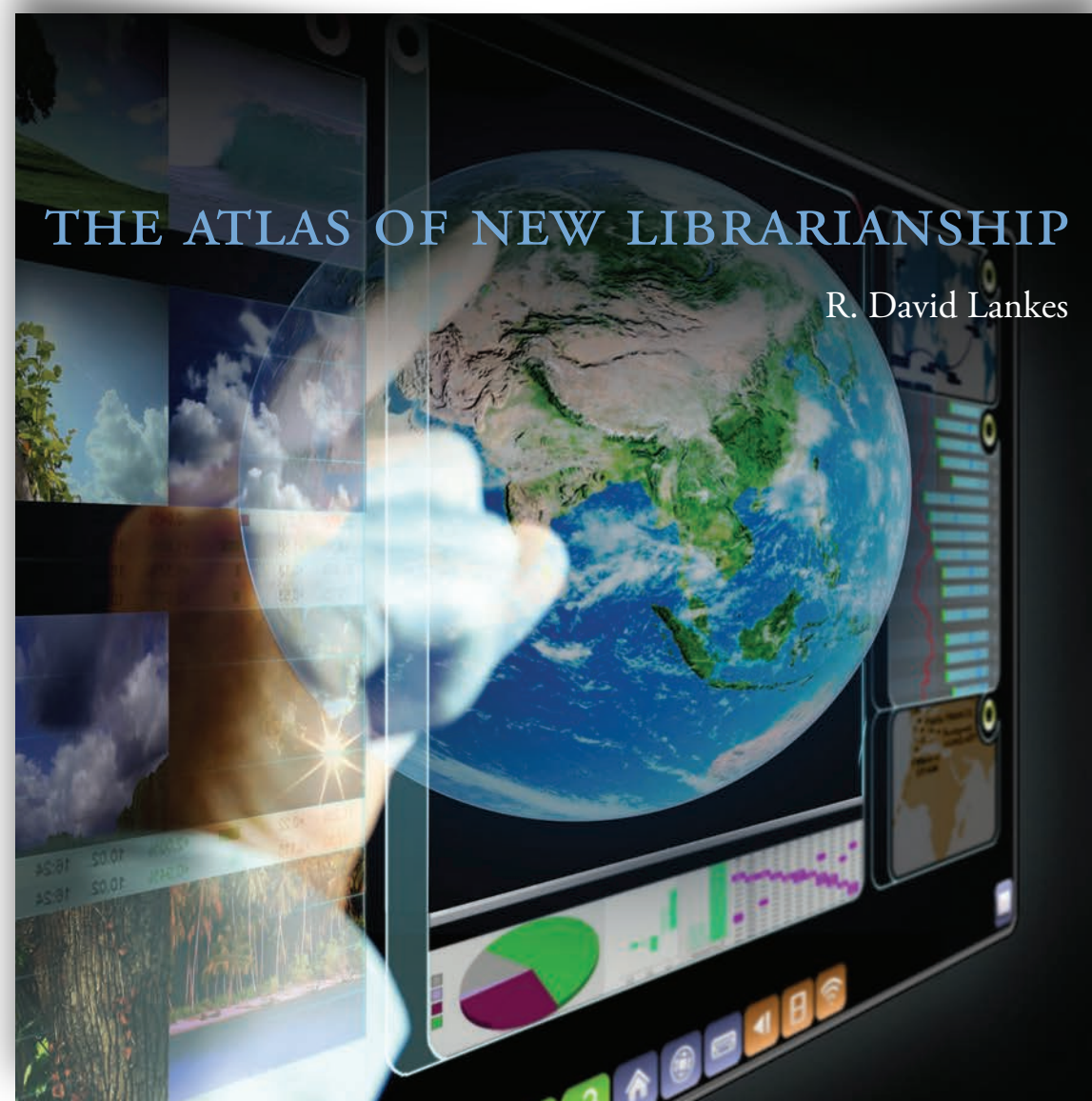
The Problem in LIS Education

- Theory/Practice Divide is NOT the Problem

- Nature of Libraries (and Information Organizations) is Changing:

  - As Libraries Mold Themselves to Communities They Become More Diverse in Services and Structures (and should in personnel)

  - Public Libraries->Urban, Rural, Canadian, Literate, Maker…

  - Dokk1 in Aarhus, or LocHal in Tilberg, or San Giorgio in Pistoia, Vatican with its petabyte data center

- No one school can prepare all starting librarians for all libraries.
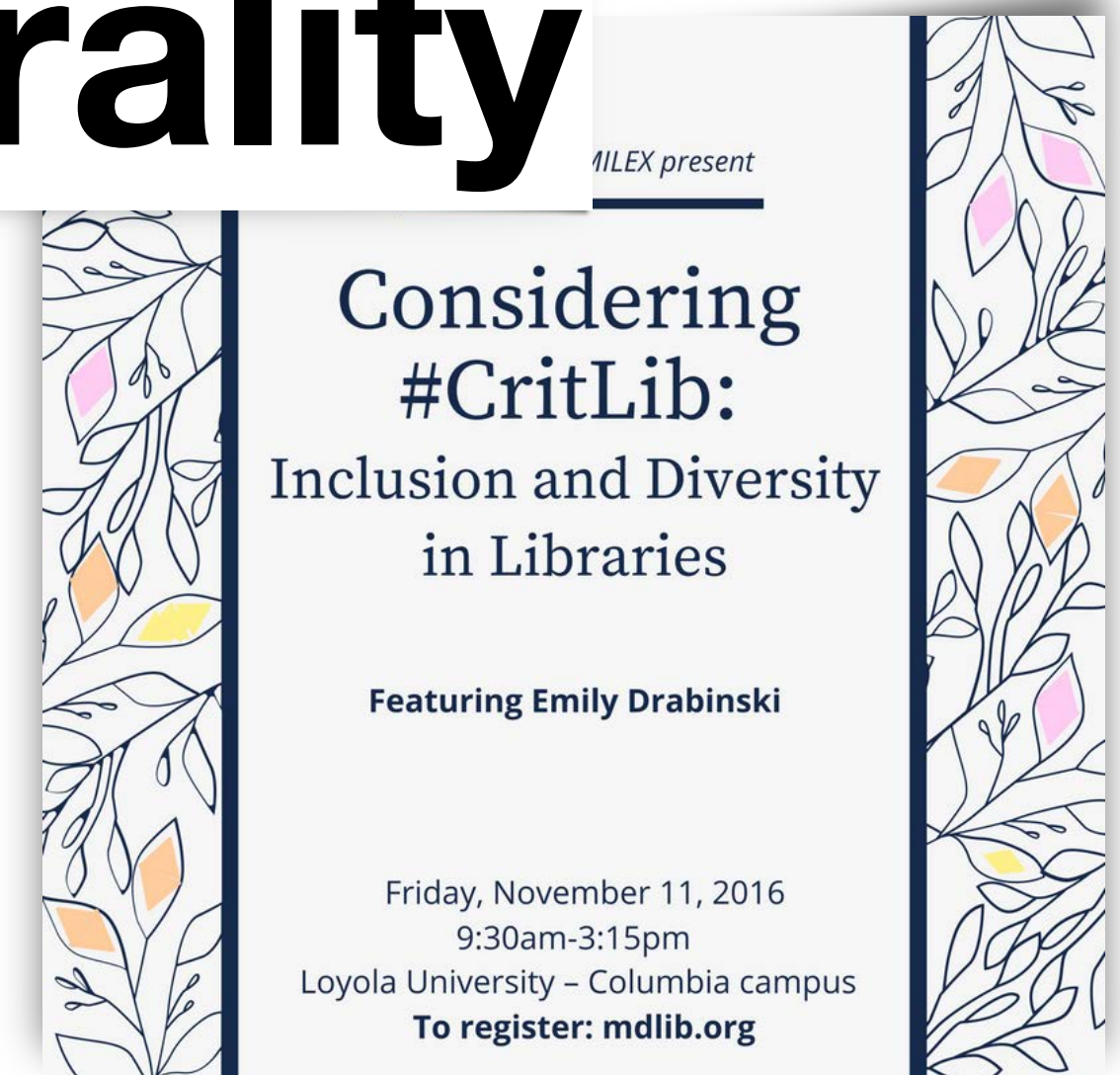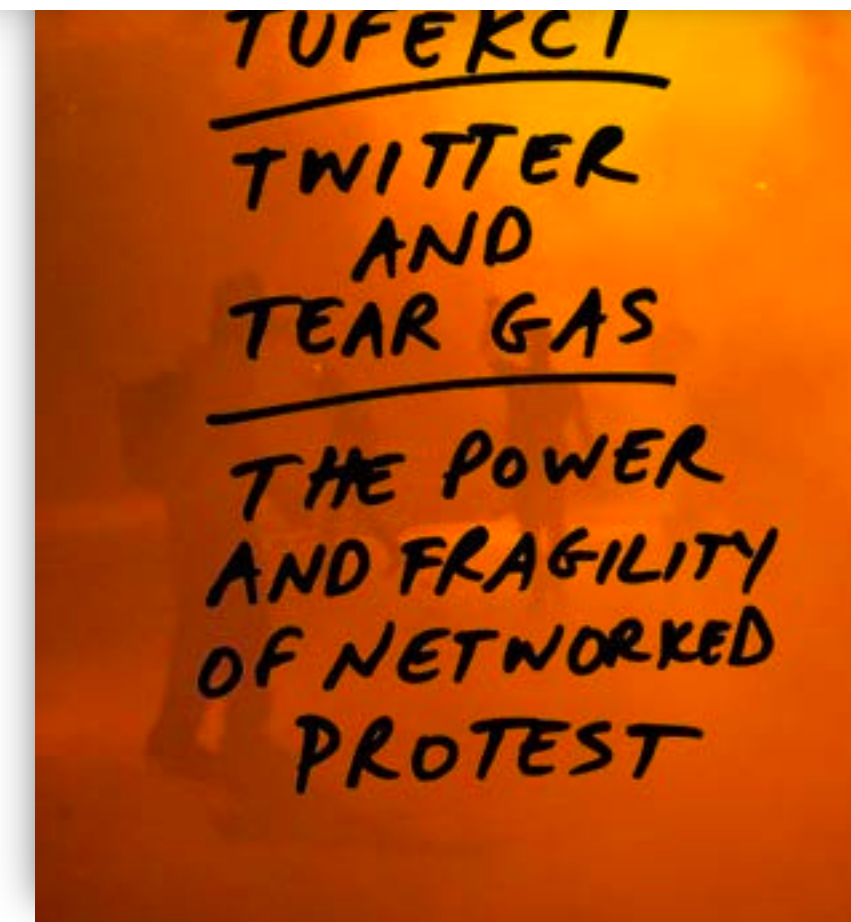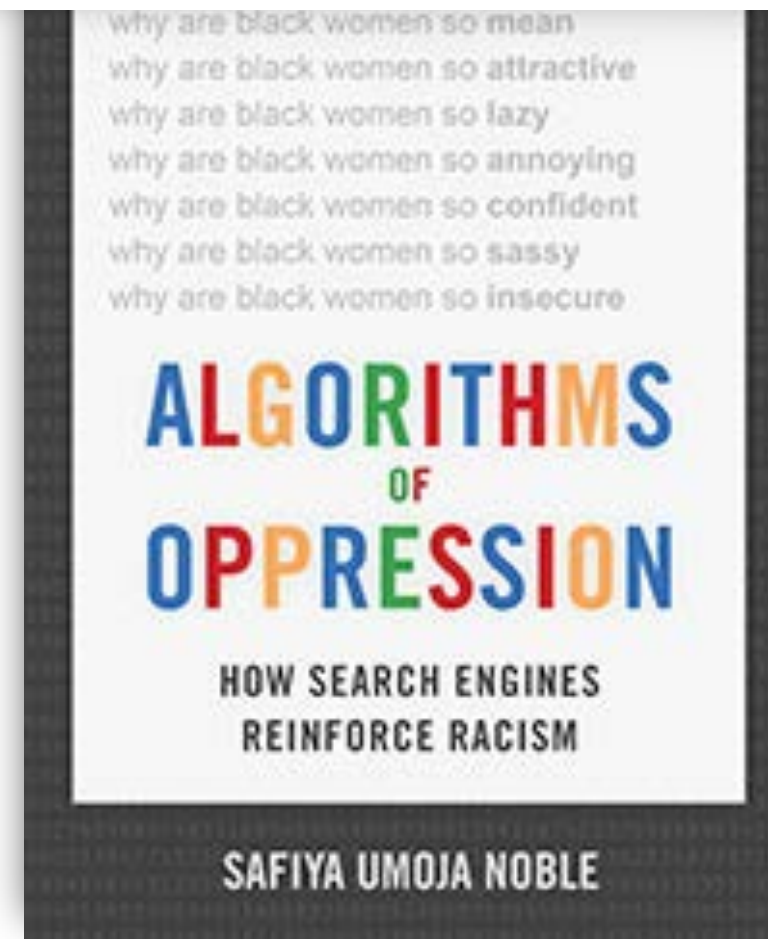
Cataloging & Metadata

- MARC & DDC

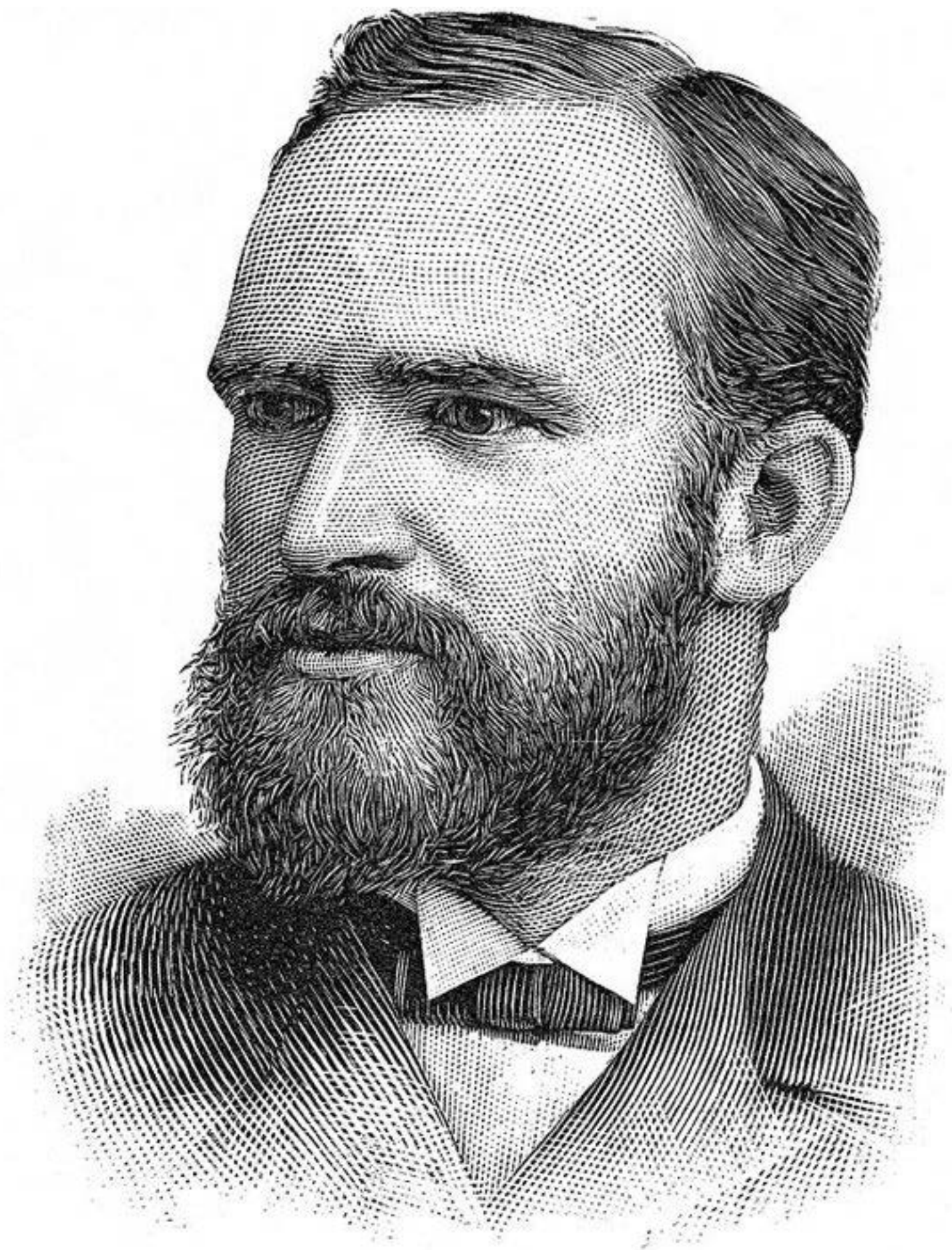 - RDA, FRBR, Dublin Core

  - RDF and Semantic Web, Folksonomies

Increased Focus on Community

- Members, Users, Customers, Patrons…

- Design Thinking, User Experience, Data Driven Personalization

- Community-Centered Librarianship

  - Members Co-Own the Library, The Community is the Collection

THE ATLAS OF NEW LIBRARIANSHIP
R. David Lankes

BECAUSE TRANSFORMATION IS ESSENTIAL TO THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE.
LIBRARIES TRANSFORM™
LIBRARIESTRANSFORM.ORG

SIGCHI

What is LIS Post-Neutrality

iSchools

why are black women so mean
why are black women so attractive
why are black women so lazy
why are black women so annoying
why are black women so confident
why are black women so sassy
why are black women so insecure
ALGORITHMS OF OPPRESSION
HOW SEARCH ENGINES REINFORCE RACISM
SAFIYA UMOJA NOBLE

TUFEKCI
TWITTER AND TEAR GAS
THE POWER AND FRAGILITY OF NETWORKED PROTEST

MILEX present
Considering #CritLib: Inclusion and Diversity in Libraries
Featuring Emily Drabinski
Friday, November 11, 2016
9:30am-3:15pm
Loyola University – Columbia campus
To register: mdlib.org
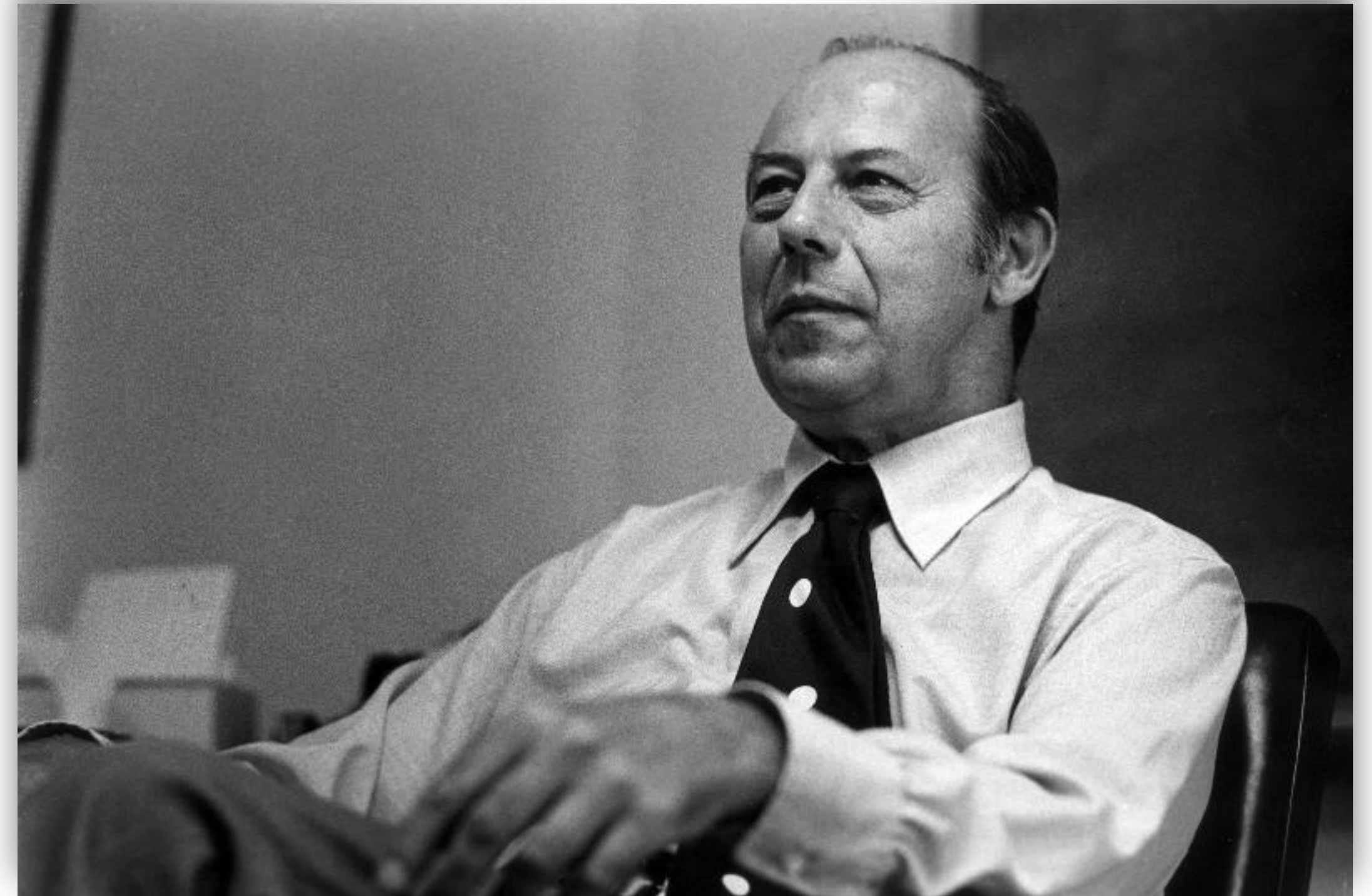
MELVIL DEWEY.

School of Thought

- Chicago School

  - Economics

  - Social Science

  - Architecture

- Organizational Unit ⇨ Shared Intellectual Foundation

Foundations: Knowledge

- Knowledge and Meaning over Data and Information

  - Learning Theory

    - Dialectic Theories such as Conversation Theory

    - Cognitive and Social Dimensions

      - Scalable Concepts: Complex Adaptive Systems

Foundations: Knowledge

"Information and other vague and/or polysemic words can be very valuable in slogans and in rhetoric.

Information science has been used to denote different fields that we can distinguish by using different names: library and information science, computer science, the physics of information, entropy, etc., and information technology, meaning electronic technology applied to communication and computation. Of these, only the first is directly concerned with knowing and learning.

Enabling people to become better informed (learning, becoming more knowledgeable) is, or should be, the central concern of information studies and information services are, in practice, more directly concerned with knowing about than with knowing how or knowing that. Knowledge in everyday life is belief, is cultural, and is not necessarily well justified or true in any strong sense. One consequence is that the niceties of analytical philosophy provide an unsuitable basis for theorizing information science."

What kind of science can information science be?
Michael Buckland
12 October 2011

Foundations: Knowledge

- Knowledge and Meaning over Data and Information

  - Learning Theory

    - Dialectic Theories such as Conversation Theory

    - Cognitive and Social Dimensions

      - Scalable Concepts: Complex Adaptive Systems

Foundations: Learning

- People are Not Informed or Taught - They are Complex Agents Seeking to Learn, Find Meaning, and Improve their Status

  - Learning is Participatory - Creates a Force for Inclusion and Customization

Foundations: Community & Aspirational

- Our Ultimate Success is in the Achievements of Others

- Members Not Users

  - Users put People in Context of a System

  - Creates False Producer/Consumer Dichotomy

    - Learning is Participatory

Foundations: People over Institutions

- Organizing Principle

  - Sees Institutions as Aggregations of People, Their Beliefs, and Behaviors

  - Sees Librarians as Key Asset of Libraries Not Collections or Buildings

  - Requires Preparation of the Reflective Practitioner

Foundations: Proaction

- Actively Seeking to Engage and Improve Society

  - Transformative Social Engagement

    - Critical Theory

  - Intellectual Honesty, Not Neutrality

    - Based on Falsifiability in Science

    - Community and Context

New Standards for LIS

- Agility – what ongoing methods are in place to identify, evaluate, and prepare students for developments in a rapidly changing profession?

- Connectedness – who are the partners networked with the program and its faculty to ensure direct connection of the classroom to the field?

- Embeddedness – what are the program's ability to deliver authentic field experiences to students that allow them to contextualize theory and research methods?

- Resiliency – how prepared are librarians to face, understand- that is analyze- and solve the problems in a community in line with the professional mission and values of librarianship?

WE MAKE
LIBRARIANS
INFORMATION SPECIALISTS
NUMBER CRUNCHERS
BUSINESS LEADERS
COMMUNITY EDUCATORS

WE SEND THEM TO
LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS

& FORTUNE 500s
THINK TANKS
STARTUPS

WE PUT INFORMATION INTO ACTION
WE CHANGE THE WORLD

WE ARE A MOVEMENT
WE ARE THE

KNOWLEDGE
SCHOOL