

The Future of Academic Libraries and CARLI: Embracing the Data-Driven Age

> Dennis Krieb Lewis & Clark Community College







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The Future of Academic Libraries

What have others said about where academic libraries are going?











The user of a precognitive system at a loss can press buttons which ask "Where am I" or "What should I do next?" Through either of these programs, the user can reach a human librarian.

J.C.L Licklider "Libraries of the Future" (1965)









My observation convinced me that the computer is not for library use; that all promises offered in its name are fraudulent; that not only is it extremely expensive compared to other methods at this time, but that it will become increasingly expensive in the future.

Mason Ellsworth, "Along the Academic Way", Library Journal May 15, 1971









It has been speculated that it will soon be possible to develop a brain-computer hook-up that would put the human brain in direct contact with a computer through electrodes implanted under the skull.



Hicks, W. B., & Tillin, A. M. "Libraries and Technology--Some Future Concerns." School Library Journal 1977







...[in 50 years] the basic pervasive concerns about academic libraries will not change: finances, standards, bibliographic instruction, systems, interlibrary loan services, and collection development. Students will still find quiet corners to study.



David Weber, "Stanford head gives forecast of future for libraries." Library Journal 1979

Library budgets will decrease only



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Library budgets will decrease only slightly. But the cost of publications will move closer to the consumer price increase.











Libraries [academic] will need to develop new sources of funding if they are to remain viable in an age of growing dependence on information processing technologies.

R.M.D. "Funding the Future of Academic Libraries." Journal of Academic Librarianship, January. 1983









Academic libraries are closely tied to their parent institutions and share the same risks. In addition to the risk of mortality the libraries face changes due to the enrollment shifts which will affect clientele, services and support.



Budd, J. M., & Robinson, D. G. "Enrollment and the Future of Academic Libraries." Library Journal, 1986.





With the exception of a small number of research libraries that will continue to maintain large collections of record, most capital expenditures will go toward the construction of storage and preservation facilities that are separate from "use" facilities.

Woodsworth, A., Allen, N., Hoadley, I., Lester, J., Molhort, P., Nitecki, D., & ... R.M.D. "The Model Research Library: Planning for the Future." Journal of Academic Librarianship, 1989.





The administration of the university will assume a corporate decision-making approach or attitude, expecting more



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The administration of the university will assume a corporate decision-making approach or attitude, expecting more accountability from divisions and units of instruction.









The library will play an important role in the overall university information infrastructure. In the world of ever-growing but dispersed information, libraries will deal both with information processing (adding value) and management (including resource and metadata management).



The Future of the Academic Library and the Academic Librarian--A Delphi Study. Feret, Blazej; Marcinek, Marzena 1999



The most effective retrieval tools will become more and more complicated, as the underlying algorithms will be buried deeply in the software. That is why only experts will be able to guide users in techniques



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The most effective retrieval tools will become more and more complicated, as the underlying algorithms will be buried deeply in the software. That is why only experts will be able to guide users in techniques leading to the most satisfactory search result.







The library in 2020 will be crumbling...our largest and proudest institutions encouraged and promulgated licensing schemes that willingly gutted our most basic principles of resource sharing

Daniel Chudnov - "Library 2020" (2013)











Value and the Academic Library

For academic libraries, sustainability may well require a radical recalibration of their historic value proposition. The "Great Recession" has accelerated profound changes in higher education funding and in the perception of higher education as a public good.

> Wilson, L. A. "Creating Sustainable Futures for Academic Libraries. Journal Of Library Administration", 2012.





Equipping Academic Libraries to Demonstrate Value

- Academic libraries must move beyond statistics centered upon collection counts and physical resources.
- Perhaps our greatest asset is the role of the librarian upon the student - which is not reflected in our statistics.
- We need to connect academic library resources and services back to student success to demonstrate value.
- This is a new concept that trips many wires of concern for academic librarians.
 - Unfamiliarity with assessment design.
 - Building a technology infrastructure to support student-level assessment.
 - Partnering with institutional research offices.
 - Patron privacy issues.





Assumptions about the Future:

- State funding for higher education will not improve in Illinois.
- College and university administrators will expect evidence of value in budgeting.
- Library vendors will continue to gain leverage with ''lease'' subscription models for digital resources.

My Thoughts about the Future of Academic Libraries:



• Academic libraries will align themselves more closely with student success initiatives related to

• Library vendors will continue to gain leverage with "lease" subscription models for digital resources.

My Thoughts about the Future of Academic Libraries:



 Academic libraries will align themselves more closely with student success initiatives related to grades, retention, and graduation. This includes working more closely with services such as tutoring.



Academic libraries will be capable of providing



 Academic libraries will be capable of providing quantitative evidence of their impact upon student success by linking resources and services with individual students. These data will also be used for making informed decisions about resource allocation.

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• Academic libraries will successfully incorporate student tracking without compromising their legacy as guarantors of student privacy.





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 Academic libraries will be considered indispensable partners for student success by higher education leadership.



The Importance of CARLI for the Future of Illinois Higher Education.

- The scope and pace of change related to libraries is becoming too much for individual libraries to synthesize effectively. CARLI offers collective intellectual capital to process change.
- The continued proliferation of digital products will only embolden publishers and vendors to create more complex and expensive licensing. CARLI represents leverage in representation and pricing.







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 As with individual academic libraries, CARLI will be considered an indispensable partner for student success by Illinois higher education leadership. An incredible value making a significant impact upon students.



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Thank You



