Book Alert

The Role of the Electronic Resources Librarian

George Stachokas. 1st October 2019
Chandos Publishing

The Role of the Electronic Resources Librarian focuses on long-standing hurdles to the transition of libraries from print collections to online information services, all from an Electronic Resources Librarian (ERL) perspective. Problems covered include cost containment for electronic serials, web design, discovery, customer service, efficiency, and adapting organizations to the needs of contemporary users. The title considers the historical development of the ERL role, how the position emerged in North America in the 1990s, how it is represented within the organizational structure of academic libraries, and how the ERL role maps to technology, information services, and professional identity trends.

Key Features

- Explores the changing role of the Electronic Resources Librarian (ERL)
- Identifies long-term trends in Electronic Resource Management
- Recommends best practices for the ERL role in modern libraries
- Contextualizes the current ERL role in historical and current developments
- Maps the ERL role to trends in technology, information services and the shifting professional identity of academic librarians

Metadata for Transmedia Resources

Ana Vukadin. 1st July 2019
Chandos Publishing

Transmedia is a technique of delivering a single piece of content in individual parts via different media and communication platforms (books, films, TV shows, games, live performances, etc.). In the book, transmedia is considered as a case-in-point for the need to rethink library cataloguing and metadata practices in a new, heterogeneous information environment where the ability to bring together information from various sources into a meaningful whole becomes a critical information skill. Transmedia sheds new light on some of the long-existing questions of bibliographic information organisation (the definition of work, modelling of bibliographic relationships, subject analysis of fiction, etc.) and introduces libraries to new, transient, and interactive media forms, such as interactive fiction, gaming events, or performances.

The book investigates how various theories and practices of bibliographic information organisation can be applied to transmedia, focusing on the solutions provided by the new bibliographic conceptual model IFLA LRM, as

well as linked open data models and standards. It strongly advocates collaborative practices and reuse of knowledge that underpin an emerging vision of the library catalogue as a 'mediation tool' that assembles, links and integrates information across a variety of communication contexts.

Key Features

- Explores transmedia from the point of view of information organisation
- Presents one of the first extensive analyses of the IFLA LRM bibliographic conceptual model
- Uses examples of recent publishing practices to assess current bibliographic data models, standards, formats, and technologies

Do Archives Have Value?

Edited by Michael Moss and David Thomas.
Jun 2019
Facet Publishing

This book will explore ways of establishing value and measuring the archives and specials collections. There is a vast literature about ways of measuring value for cultural heritage assets as a whole, particularly museums and visitor attractions, but archives and special collections in libraries have largely been overlooked. They have been very poor at garnering statistical data and devising ways of measuring the impact of what they do, unlike museums and visitor attractions with their much heavier footfall.

Do Archives Have Value? discusses the various valuation methods available, including contingent valuation, willingness to pay and value chain, and assesses their suitability for use by archives and special collections. The book also assesses the impact of the transition to the digital in archival holdings, which will transform their character and almost certainly cost more. The discussion will be set in the context of changing societal expectations of the archive in the wake of child abuse and other scandals where records

to address grievances must be kept irrespective of cost.

Value is explored in a range of different cultural and organizational contexts with case studies from a range of countries, including Australia, China, Japan, Malawi, Kenya, Russia, and Thailand. There are contributions from Nancy Bell, Head of Conservation at The National Archives, Louise Craven, one of the leading UK archival scholars, Paul Lihoma, National Archivist of Malawi, Helen Morgan from the University of Melbourne, Pak Te Lee of the University of Hong Kong, and Richard Wato from the National Archives of Kenya.

Key chapters include the following:

- The value of the Clinton emails for research
- The value of Russian archives before and after revolution
- The value of archives in public inquiries – the case of the Hillsborough tragedy
- The value of Find & Connect – Australia's response to child abuse
- The Chinese long tradition of record-keeping
- Why and how to value
- Valuing digital content
- The commercialization of archives

Putting Library Assessment Data to Work

Selena Killick and Frankie Wilson. May 2019
Facet Publishing

Effective library assessment is crucial for a successful academic library. But what do we mean by library assessment and how can it be used to improve the library service? This new book provides a practical guide for library administrators, managers, and practitioners on how to make effective use of existing sources of information for assessment activities with the aim of improving academic library services.

Putting Library Assessment Data to Work brings together key library assessment

methodologies, detailing how they can be used to improve an academic Library. The book takes common sources of data that academic libraries will already be collecting and presents simple qualitative and quantitative techniques that can be used to evaluate and assess their services, both in detail and overall. The different assessment methods are presented from a practical perspective with a theoretical grounding and include practical case studies to illustrate how the methodologies have successfully been applied.

Key Features

- The theoretical framework for assessment, its purpose, and the tools and techniques used
- Institutional, national, and international student surveys and how they can be used to improve library service
- The history and development of standardised library surveys (e.g., LibQUAL+®), how they have been used, and their impact
- The benefits of in-house library surveys and case studies of where they have been used
- Library statistics, including standardised statistics sets and key performance indicators
- Qualitative feedback in the library
- Emerging techniques including UX
- Taking a holistic approach to library assessment through advocacy and strategic planning

Academic Libraries and Public Engagement with Science and Technology
Eileen Harrington. 28th March 2019
Chandos Publishing

Libraries have historically played a role as a community builder, providing resources and spaces where knowledge can be archived, shared, and created. They can also play a pivotal role in fostering the public's understanding of science and scientific processes. From makerspaces to data visualization labs to exhibits, many libraries already delve into scientific explorations and many more could join them. Scientists often need to include 'broader impacts' goals in grant proposals, but they might not know where to begin or feel that they do not have the time to devote to public engagement. This is where libraries and librarians can help.

Research in science communication also supports tapping into libraries for public engagement with science. Studies show that it is important for scientists to present findings in an apolitical way—not aligning with one solution or one way of thinking and not being seen as an activist. One of the core tenets of librarians and libraries is to present information in a neutral way. Research also shows that informal conversations about science can have a greater effect on people than reading about it online or hearing about it on the news. Again, libraries can play a role in fostering these types of conversations.

Key Features

- Demonstrates concrete ways that libraries and librarians can play a role in fostering public engagement with science
- Features best practices and case studies of different types of programming and services that libraries can offer
- Provides a conduit to bring informal science educators, communication officers, and librarians together to explore ways to align their work to promote scientific literacy