



Astronomy Librarians : Quo Vadis?

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FPCA2

You don't look like a librarian!

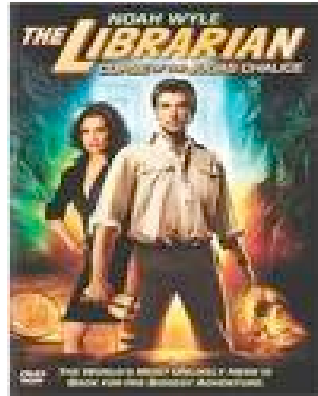
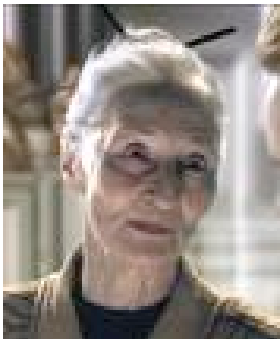


Image of the librarian in popular culture :

- Sony ebook reader advertisement
- Noah Wylie TV show
- Even a Jedi librarian



LISA VI conference



- Real astronomy librarians and information scientists meet to discuss “21st century librarianship : from new ideas to action”

A Diverse Crowd



- 90 participants
- 50 from outside of India
- 18 countries
- Argentina, Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Italy, Mexico, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, UK and USA

Times of India

Iucaa meet to discuss info service in astronomy

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Pune: The 6th Library and Information Services in Astronomy (LISA) conference will be held in the city between February 14 and 17 at the Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (Iucaa).

The conference is being organised by members of the Forum for Resource Sharing in Astronomy (Forsa) libraries and is being co-hosted by Iucaa and NCRA, Pune. This is the first time that the LISA conference is being held in India.

The conference will be inaugurated on February 15 at 9 am at the Chandrasekhar auditorium. The theme of the conference is '21st century astronomy librarianship: From new ideas to action'. The conference will discuss issues concerning the future of librarianship; Web 2.0/3.0 use, access and metrics; resource management and intellectual property; preservation and archiving and the virtual observatory.

Close to 90 participants will be attending the conference out of which over 50 participants are from abroad and represent Argentina, Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Italy, Mexico, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, UK and the USA.

LISA is held with the aim of providing a platform to discuss astronomy librarianship in respect of information management, storage, retrieval, delivery and preservation and



to discern new directions in which the library profession is evolving.

Over the last two decades, five conferences have been held covering a wide range of subjects including acquisition, organisation and maintenance of books, journals, pre-prints and other specialised materials both in print and electronic formats, use of information resources, astronomical information seeking on the internet/world wide web, bibliographic and full text astronomy databases, online astronomical catalogues, changes in libraries and librarians' tasks, astronomical data centres, conservation and archiving among others.

The Forum for Resource Sharing in Astronomy and Astrophysics was set up as in the early 1980s, due to proliferation of information, library professionals working in the institutes where astronomy was one of the main thrust areas of research, felt the need to come together and to form a forum which could act as a springboard for sharing and exchange of information.

Times of India, Pune, February 14, 2010, p. 6

21st century librarianship: from new ideas to action



- Future of Librarianship
- Metrics
- Open Access
- Data Curation and Preservation
- Virtual Communities
- Use and Access



Future of Librarianship

- The Departmental Astrophysics Library : the end of an era, Jane Holmquist, Princeton University
 - Departmental reorganization; refocus on library as place
- E-Science and Astronomy Faculty : Past, Present, and Future, Lee Pedersen, Brown University
 - Preservation and dissemination of astronomical data
- Astronomical Libraries Make the Future Happen, Francesca Brunetti, INAF Osservatorio astrofisico, Arcetri, Italy
 - Communicating astronomy to the public



Metrics

- Scientometric study of Doctoral theses of Physical Research Laboratory, Nishtha Anilkumar, PRL, Ahmedabad, India
 - Demonstrates the use and value of knowledge generated at the organization.
- Next Generation Bibliometrics, Christopher Erdmann, ESO Library
- Telescope Bibliography Cookbook, Sandra Kitt, ESO Library
 - Librarians developing software tools and creating bibliographies to assess productivity and impact; assist with analyzing telescope's output.



Open Access

- Is Open Access Right for Astronomy? Terry Mahoney, Instituto de Astrofisica de Canarias, Spain
→ "There's no such thing as a free lunch."
- Open Access online Journals of Astronomy : A Study, Shalini Ramdas Lihitkar, RTM Nagpur University, India
→ 17 open access astronomy journals in the DOAJ.
- Open access to physics and astronomy theses, a case study of the RRI digital repository, M.N. Nagaraj, Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, India
→ OA -- its not just for journal articles! Librarians as publishers.



Data Collection and Preservation

- Small Data Archives and Libraries, Andras Holl, Konkoly Observatory, Hungary
 - Call for librarians to create small data archives to preserve local observations.
- Managing institute publications using open source tools, N Nageswaran, IUCAA, Pune, India
 - Librarians as publishers and disseminators of local knowledge products.
- Managing the contents of Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) archives -- copyright issues, Christina Birdie, IIA, Bangalore, India
 - Copyright -- the biggest challenge in building digital collections.



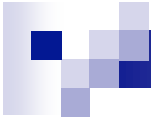
Virtual Communities

- Astronomy Education and Outreach in a Large Urban University, Leila Fernandez, U. of Toronto.
 - Partnering with science faculty to educate the public virtually.
- Astronomy 3.0 Style Alberto Accomazzi, ADS.
 - Let's use an open collaborative data model to forge an integrated library product so we can take advantage of powerful web architectures.
- LibraryThing, Shelfari, Anobii and the others : are book social networks suitable for astronomy? Francesca Martines, INAF - Osservatorio Astronomico di Palermo, Italy.
 - Cool tools.



Use and Access

- E-books in astronomy -- if you buy it will they come?
Molly White, U. of TX at Austin.
 - Astronomy faculty have mixed feelings about electronic book products.
- Impact of ICT on Information Seeking behaviour of users in astronomy and astrophysics centers of India : a survey, Hemant Kumar Sahu, IUCAA, Pune, India.
 - Librarians becoming less library-centric and more user-centric.
- Lessons Learned : implementing an open source library system, Uta Grothkopf, ESO Library.
 - Open source makes sense -- can libraries take advantage of it?

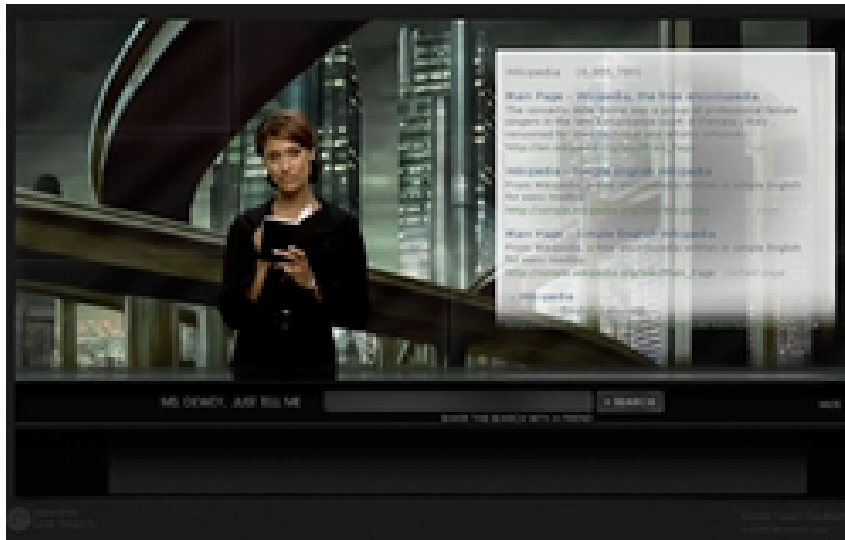


Subcurrents

- Librarians measuring and demonstrating the value of their organizations (bibliometric studies)
- Electronic books -- quo vadis?
- Library as place
- Public education and outreach
- Librarians as publishers of local knowledge
- “Consumer advocates”
- Librarians as central contact persons for scientific information needs

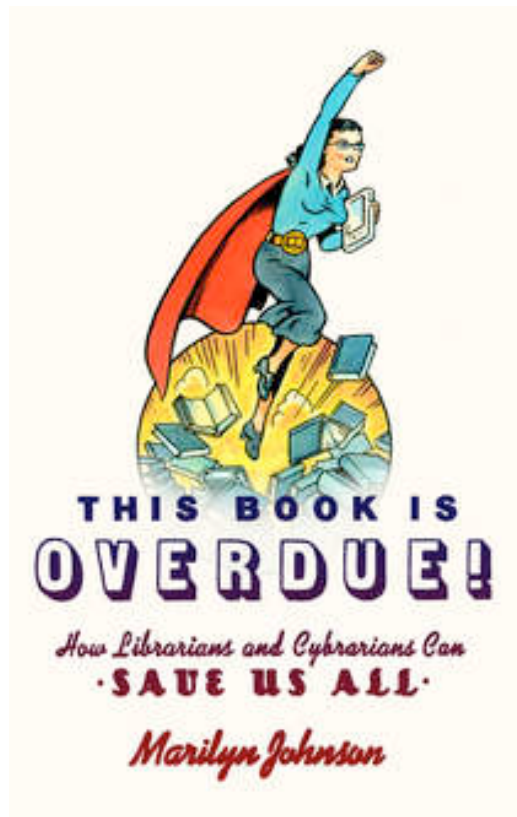
“Librarian” of the future?

What’s in a name?



- Informationist
- Embedded Librarian
- Strategic Knowledge Professional?

“This Book is Overdue”



- As long as there are information needs, there will be a need for human help.
- “I don’t know what I’m going to need, but I need for you to have it when I need it.” -- STScI staff

Future of Libraries?



Ranganathan's Five Laws of Library Science

- Books (**information/data**) are for use
- Every reader (**patron**) his or her book (**information**)
- Every book (**information**) its reader (**user**)
- Save the time of the reader (**scientist**)
- The library(**information/data center**) is a growing organism



Where are we going?

- We go where the information goes.
- We go where our patrons go.

What's next?

