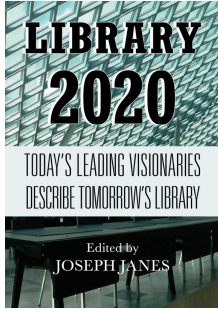
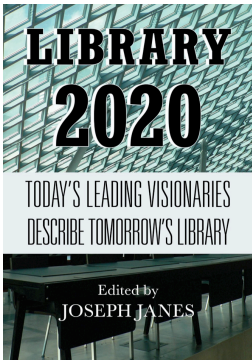


The Library in 2020

Joseph Janes
University of Washington
Information School
@joejanes



Plan 9 from Outer Space (1956)



The library in 2020 will be _____

Brodhead, Wisconsin PL 1912


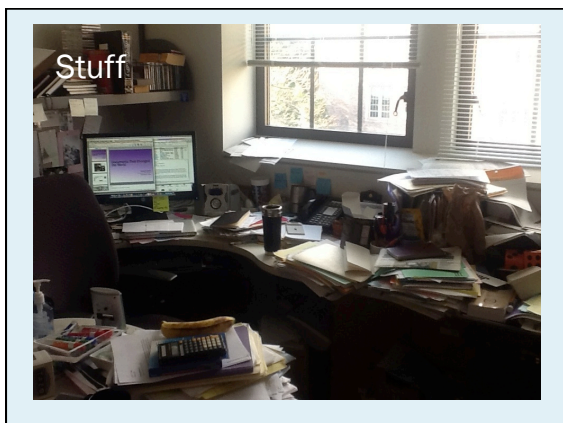


Photo credit: Wisconsin Historical Society, image 66739

what endures?

- stuff
- place
- people
- community
- leadership and vision



The Annoyed Librarian

LJ columnist

...just like the library today, except without all the books, music, and movies.

lots of formats, shifting: physical, digital, streaming, cloud

lots of services, functions, roles, also shifting
what stays, goes, and why and how?

Elisabeth Jones

PhD student, UW Information School

...will have been transformed by large-scale book digitization—for better or for worse.

which raises questions of preservation, rights management (esp pesky 1923-ca 1990)

and opportunities around exposure and use, size and space, disintermediation and service [q. v. DPLA]

Clifford Lynch

Executive Director, Coalition for Networked Information

...a mirror of the broader society's questions and discontents about the evolution of the marketplace for cultural materials...

means of creation, production, distribution (including local production)

things that will be only available in digital/download formats yet not available to libraries b/c of publisher, cost, rights, embargo

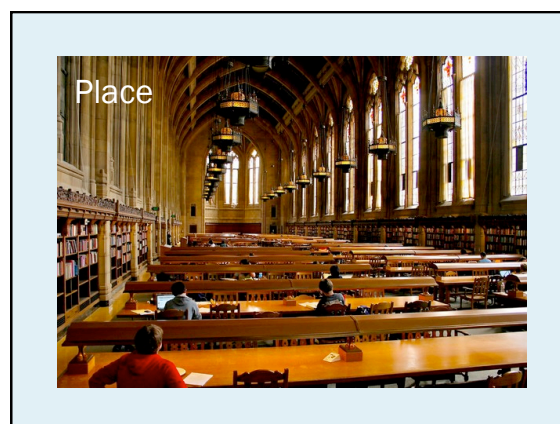
sale → license

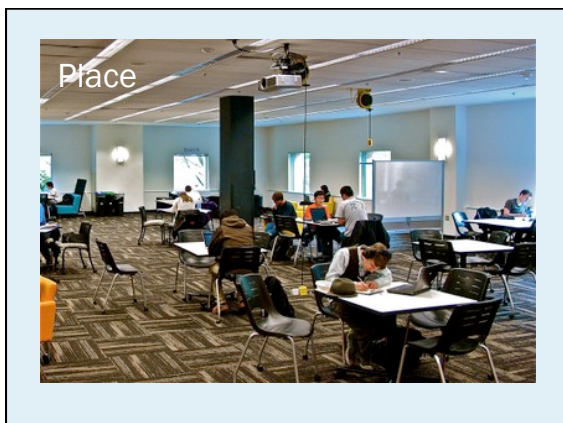
up in the air (an apt metaphor)

- formats; physical, digital, streaming, cloud
- rights management (esp murky 1923-ca 1990)
- means of creation, production, distribution
- pricing models

can libraries still, viably, be about *access to stuff*?
and if so, what, how, and when?

and what happens to the mission/rationale for libraries as these continue to evolve?





Bill Ptacek

Director, King County Library System

...will be a concept more than a place.

more about what it does for people than what it has for people

traditionally, people came to a place to get service
gathering space, learning space, civic engagement
outreach (and what that really means)

Loriene Roy

Professor, University of Texas Information School

...the setting I hope to find and the place that I cannot yet imagine.

glamour, intrigue, comfort

a place of potential; to question yourself and others
help me to lead a fulfilled life

where we are known, remembered, forgiven and
welcomed

(sauna and wild rice salad, too)

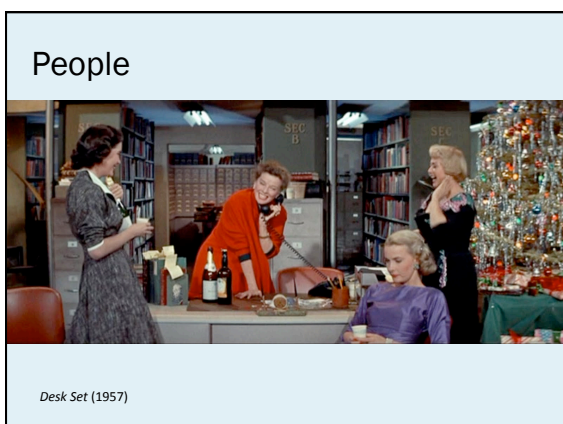
the place of place

how important is place, physical and virtual?

use of space, what it's for, can do

what it is, who owns, manages, maintains, controls,
uses, purposes?

Research Commons: Yes. Why?



Sarah Houghton

Director, San Rafael PL; Librarian in Black

...will be ruled by geeks.

increased technological sophistication for an
increasingly technological world

skills that make good techies make good leaders
(flexibility, change, problem solving)

hybrids: MLIS/tech

Stephen Abram

VP, Strategic Relationships & Marketing, Gale Cengage

...everywhere.

professional assistance, ubiquitously available;
consultation, training, evaluation, advice, etc
expertise in copyright, licensing, privacy, ethics, use
embedded in organizational teams of all kinds, all
sectors

James Rosenzweig

Education Librarian, Northeastern Illinois University

*...an information base camp—a forward outpost serving as a
temporary home to people journeying out into the information
environment.*

a wilder, less predictable landscape and environment,
cf. the more controlled one we've created and
gotten used to

experience, preparation, knowledge of the terrain

“our job isn't to convince people not to use the world
of information we didn't control or maintain”

who shall we be?

mix of skills, background
role of technology, soft skills; builders, designers,
users, guides
professional role models, aspirational
“how much of librarianship is what we do and how
much is how we do it?” (Courtney Greene,
Indiana)



community

providing critical services, unduplicated elsewhere
(Mike Crandall)
authentic engagement, partnership, advocacy (Molly
Raphael)
boutique, tailored services and relationships,
embedding in places expected and otherwise
(courses, groups, airports, parks) (Lynn Silipigni
Connaway)
the role of civic institution; trust, neutrality, love
(Susan Hildreth)



Josie Barnes Parker

Director, Ann Arbor District Library

...will offer a culture of generosity supported by fiscal oversight that reflects rigorous controls and realistic projections.

never forget how power is manifested

Mary Ann Mavrinnac

Vice Provost, River Campus Libraries, University of Rochester

...will be a tale of two academic libraries: one flourishing in the best of times and one languishing in the worst of times.

transformational change

risk taking, trust, sharing

thinking honestly about freeing and reallocating resources toward a sustainable future

Peter Morville

President, Semantic Studios

...the last bastion of truth.

“inspiration architecture” lifting us up, enabling our search for the truth, serving as symbol of past accomplishment and future potential, inviting us in the interplay between physical and digital, to explore

Daniel Chudnov

Hacker/Librarian; Director, Scholarly Technology, GWU

...crumbling.

we’re librarians, and it’s our job to fight for rights of communities to make choices about how they seek, manage, maintain, share information

what I saw

images of hope, peril, success, failure (productive and otherwise), innovation, possibility, warning, progress

what I think

those 5 elements will endure

but it can’t be about access, primarily

emergent from our heritage, what people want and are willing to pay for, in the context of important values

+ things we uniquely bring: service orientation, organization/metadata, literacy, quality/depth/authority/detail

niche(s)

we make everything better

My library in 2020 will be _____

#mylibraryin2020

The Library in 2020

Joseph Janes
University of Washington
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