Library IT Projects As Drivers Of Organizational Change

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DEVCONNECT 2017
OCLC
Every single last one of these [core library] values is explicitly or implicitly under attack from those who tout the 'virtual library,' 'the library without walls', and all the other vapidities of the digerati.

One encouraging development is the number of recent publications that have begun to question the digital fantasies of the elites.

In dusty library, a link to heroic past
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New library blows away dusty stereotypes

Library stereotypes of dusty card catalogues and fossilized librarians prowling the stacks just waiting to shush you have gone the way of the dinosaur.
Robotic librarian finds lost books, won't tell you to shush

A mobile robotic system is in development to take over the menial job of patrolling the stacks and inventorying the books.
Welcome to Today’s Totally Modern Library: No ‘Shushing’ Allowed!

By Peter Mandel
“With imposing card catalogs, austere furnishings and musty stacks, academic libraries could seem more intent on hoarding knowledge than sharing it.”

- Towson University News, 2015
LIBRARIAN ACTION FIGURE

With
"amazing shushing action!"
ALA Members by Gender
% of members self-identifying

- Female 81%
- Male 19%

—ALA, “2017 Demographics.” 2017
Stewardship:
Preserving and transmitting the records of humankind on behalf of future generations.

Simplicity
Efficiency
Readability
Modularity
Extensibility
Simplicity
Efficiency
Readability
Modularity
Extensibility

User Delight
Simplicity
Efficiency
Readability
Modularity
Extensibility

User Delight
Seamless
easy
Computational thinking is the thought processes involved in formulating a problem and expressing its solution(s) in such a way that a computer—human or machine—can effectively carry out…. computational thinking is not just about problem solving, but also about problem formulation.

• IT prioritizes core functions
• IT resources are not limitless
• Clarify terminology & intended meaning
• Follow designated procedures (e.g., ticketing)
• Involve IT from the outset on IT-related projects
• IT prefers formal project management, scoping
• Never lose your temper or become impatient

—Shaw, Adler, Dooley, “Demystifying IT.” 2017
Generative learning cannot be sustained in an organization where event thinking predominates. It requires a conceptual framework of "structural" or systemic thinking, the ability to discover structural causes of behavior. Enthusiasm for "creating our future" is not enough.

Engage
Understand and value
Examine problems that “aren’t yours”
Communicate with respect
Frame IT projects as library projects
Learn collaboratively
Cited

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