

**Abstract.** The objective of this study is to analyze the way in which libraries and its information services are involved as mediators in the learning communities and how that knowledge is constructed. The precedent of this research is a PhD project where the library is conceived as a learning community within the framework of social relations and the construction of knowledge. The type of study is analytical and descriptive. Result, after to describe the features, functions and products of libraries, we found how information skills are developed in students and how they built the tacit and explicit knowledge. From this contribution we propose a model to design the library as a Learning Community.

### **From quantitative and qualitative methods towards teaching methodology: Vilnius University students learning to evaluate library performance**

Dr. Jurgita Rudžionienė<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Marija Prokopčik<sup>2</sup>

1 Assoc. Prof., Institute of LIS, Faculty of Communication, Vilnius University, Lithuania, [jurgita.rudzioniene@kf.vu.lt](mailto:jurgita.rudzioniene@kf.vu.lt)

2 Vilnius University Library, Director for information and cultural heritage activities, Assoc. Prof., Institute of LIS, Faculty of Communication, Vilnius University, Lithuania, [marija.prokopcik@mb.vu.lt](mailto:marija.prokopcik@mb.vu.lt)

Public sector in Lithuania experiences the need for implementing necessary ways for validating their existence in the strongly competing environment. Library and information institutions performance measurement and evaluation is elaborating more often, linked with pressure from outside, as well as from inside. There are different ideas about what evaluation is and how it can be performed. Nobody can argue that monitoring performance and performance evaluation is an integral part of good management. Different methods are used worldwide, much investigations are done. Which ones are most suitable for Lithuanian libraries?

Vilnius University Institute of LIS recognized this need and continues to *teach students* in the frame of Library and information centres management master study program (teaching subject „Library and information institutes performance measurement and evaluation“), as specialists with the sort of knowledge and skills which are requested more strongly than earlier. Students overall involvement in exploration of the subject is important.

The *purpose* of the paper is to share some experience about how methods of library performance evaluation from the view of teaching methodology at university level works.

*Methodological* tool and basis for research is international standard *Library performance indicators*. It is used as evaluation method for this research. Research was carried out by master students at the Vilnius University library, as practical task with purpose to test the method (library performance indicators) and explore the model of applying the method as well as to gain certain knowledge and experience on evaluation of library performance for future specialists. Additional methods, as literature analysis, benchmarking, observation, statistical calculations, simulation were used in the process too.

In the course of this work certain findings were received, indicating the appropriate level of suitability and possibilities for applying the method of library performance evaluation in Lithuanian libraries, as well as affirmation the validity of the method for students teaching way.

### **From traditional to futuristic libraries: Will we go a full circle and want to be traditional again?**

Naresh Kumar Agarwal<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, 300 The Fenway,  
Boston 02115, USA, agarwal@simmons.edu

**Abstract:** In a September 2009 piece at [cnn.com](http://cnn.com), John Sutter (Sutter, 2009) announced that “the stereotypical library is dying – and it’s taking its shushing ladies, dank smell and endless shelves of books with it”, and that libraries were trying to define their future – with or without books. Alluding to increased digitization of books, lack of funding and a generation that would rather spend time on Facebook, Digg or Twitter, Sutter paints a bleak future for the traditional library. In an earlier 2005 report by the Loyola University of Chicago Libraries (Loyola University, 2005), the authors had made important recommendations about changes for the future which apply not just to the library at Loyola University but to libraries across the United States in general. However, similar voices of doom were raised when more and more people started using the Internet. Already, there is an increasing pool of companies that are crying hoarse over losing productivity due to employees spending time on Facebook and people trying to keep away from the Internet. Robert Pattinson, British actor, says "(The internet) feeds the worst part of your soul. When you have nothing to do and you go on, when you're too tired to read a book, I'll read the news, you go on to the New York Times, you get bored and go on IMDb. Then you realize how pathetic you are. I have to delete my history (of visited websites)" (Celebrity Mania, 2009). While the increasing calls and the need for libraries to change and evolve is not unfounded, uninhibited change may put into question some of the very reasons and purposes of the existence of libraries. Using the case of the internet, its adoption and its avoidance, this article will argue that while many will join in hordes to welcome the libraries of the future, we may just come a full circle with patrons wishing to go the traditional route again. With an analysis of the dichotomy and the inherent contradictions between the traditional and the futuristic, this article hopes to make a case for calibrated change by libraries, while preserving some of the salient reasons for the founding and usage of libraries.

**Keywords:** future of libraries, internet, change, traditional libraries

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**A General Overview to the International Landslide Literature for the Period of 1945-2008**

Candan Gokceoglu<sup>1</sup> and Ebru Sezer<sup>2</sup>

Hacettepe University, Department of Geological Engineering, 06800 Beytepe, Ankara, Turkey, <sup>1</sup>[cgokce@hacettepe.edu.tr](mailto:cgokce@hacettepe.edu.tr), <sup>2</sup>[ebru@hacettepe.edu.tr](mailto:ebru@hacettepe.edu.tr)

**Abstract.** The purpose of the present study is to analyse the international landslide literature for the period of 1945-2008. In fact, the landslide is perhaps one of the most complex natural phenomena. Moreover, owing to landslides, a vast amount of loss of lives and serious economic losses are encountered throughout the world. For this reason, a vast amount of landslide papers is published in the international journals in every year. For the assessment of the international landslide literature, the Science Citation Index Expanded (WOS; Web of Science) published by Institute of Scientific Information (now Thomson Scientific), USA for the period 1945–2008, is considered. A total of 3468 publications are found and this data is