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Los trabajos de la sección "Artículos" son aprobados según el sistema tradicional "peer review": al menos dos expertos en el tema, del Consejo Asesor de la revista y/o externos, deben dar el visto bueno antes de su publicación.

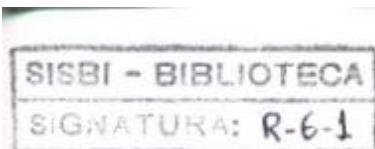
Para conseguir que los trabajos no pierdan su actualidad, la dirección y los evaluadores de esta revista ponen especial esfuerzo en revisar los artículos con gran rapidez, consiguiendo un tiempo medio de aceptación o rechazo de los trabajos de sólo unas pocas semanas.



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The Image and Role of the Librarian

The Reference Librarian
Number 78

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PROFESSIONAL ROLES

In the Eye of the Beholder: How Librarians Have Been Viewed Over Time	5
<i>Gary Mason Church</i>	

As with beauty and other concepts, librarians have been viewed in many subjective ways. On the other hand, some attempts have also been made to obtain more objective views of librarians. This paper provides a summary of these views, or images, that extend back to the early 18th century. It presents the many traits that comprise these images, the sources or origins of the images, the various groups that hold the images, and ends with a reason why current images are indefinite and "blurry."

KEYWORDS. Academic librarians, faculty, faculty perceptions of librarians, faculty rank, faculty status, faculty surveys, librarian characteristics, librarian-faculty relationships, librarian image, librarian roles, librarian self-image, librarianship, library buildings, library profession, media portrayals of librarians, personality tests, public librarians, public perceptions of librarians, questionnaires

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<i>Daniel Liestman</i>	

This article reviews the American and British library literature of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to see what librarians of this period expected libraries and librarianship to be like in the mid to late twentieth century. They expected librarians would be involved in a variety of services and outreach activities such as teaching children in the schools. These writers also anticipated a publishing glut with more books being printed than any library could acquire. Budgets, consequently, were expected to be tight. Though no one foresaw the computer, most expected technology to have an increasingly important role. Improvements in mechanical devices also meant a unified national catalog might be realized. This



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would be but the harbinger of other cooperative activities such as inter-library reference and lending. Writers also expected libraries would be imposing edifices. Finally, many forecast that librarians would become professionals.

KEYWORDS. Forecasting, twentieth century—forecasts, libraries—aims and objectives, libraries—nineteenth century, library science—technological innovations, library science—professionalism

CULTURAL IMAGES

- Jungian/Myers-Briggs Personality Types of Librarians in Films 47
Jeanine Williamson

The Myers-Briggs personality typology provides a useful tool for characterizing the probable personality types of librarians portrayed in films. In this study, the probable personality types of librarians in 28 films are determined. Then comparisons with the personality types reported in Scherdin (1994) are made. Sex roles and stereotyping are revealed by these comparisons and are discussed.

KEYWORDS. Personality, image, librarians in films

- The Long, Strange Trip of Barbara Gordon: Images of Librarians in Comic Books 61
Doug Highsmith

Historically, the medium of comic books and the profession of librarianship have both suffered image problems. The former is deemed unrespectable; the latter lacks the same level of prestige afforded many other professions. Does having this in common result in comic books offering images of librarians and librarianship more informed (and, therefore, more positive) than are generally to be found in other media? Or do they employ the same clichés about librarians that are the bane of so many in the profession? To examine these questions, some of the more prominent depictions of librarians in mainstream American comic books and graphic novels were reviewed . . . with mixed results. Recent depictions of librarians do seem to be more informed and more sympathetic than in the past, but even today, comic book writers still employ some of the more negative stereotypes about librarians as a way to provide their relationship with some quick and easy laughs.

KEYWORDS. Comic books, librarians, stereotypes, social prestige, occupational status, media depiction

- Librarians in Children's Literature, 1909-2000 85
Elaine Yontz

The presentations of librarians in thirty-five children's books published between 1909 and 2000 in the United States were described, compared, and analyzed to discover indications of attitudes and beliefs about librarians and to discern evidence of changing roles within the profession of librarianship. In regard to gender and ethnicity, most of the librarians depicted are female and Caucasian, including those in books from recent decades.



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Consistency in work tasks of librarians is seen throughout the century, but the tools used to perform the work show consistent evolution. Librarians emerge as caring, friendly, and energetic professionals who have positive interactions and relationships with patrons.

KEYWORDS. Librarians, librarianship, history, children's literature, roles

POPULAR PERCEPTIONS

- Looking at the Male Librarian Stereotype 97
Thad E. Dickinson

The library profession is haunted by stereotypes. Perpetually raising its infamous head is the portrayal of librarians as drab spinsters peering over the rim of their glasses and ready to "shush" a library patron for the offense of talking too loudly. It is an image that was born at the beginning of the twentieth century, and persists, albeit considerably diluted, to this day. On the other hand, positive and negative images of male librarians are to a large extent either ignored or treated very lightly in popular culture, especially in motion pictures and television. Once the exclusive domain of men, American librarianship evolved over the centuries to not just incorporate women, but to embrace and become almost completely associated with them. Stereotypes of male librarians have existed since colonial times; yet, the stereotypes have undergone considerable transformation as a result of professional and societal changes. This article attempts to understand some of the older stereotypes surrounding male librarianship in the United States by examining the position of the early librarian and the environment in which he worked. Current portrayals of male librarians in motion pictures and television are then discussed. The focus of this article is on academic male librarians; however, general male librarian stereotypes and issues are also discussed.

KEYWORDS. Male librarians, librarianship—history, stereotypes, popular culture

- Know-It-All Librarians 111
Beth Posner

Librarians are depicted as know-it-alls by some and as know-nothings by others. Similarly, they are seen as both utterly powerless and preternaturally powerful. This essay offers examples of these contradictory images, examines their implications, and proposes a more realistic view of librarians and their relation to knowledge and power.

KEYWORDS. Librarians' image, knowledge, power

- Students' Perceptions of Academic Librarians 131
Jody Fagan

Academic librarians, eager to participate in the education of college students, have been researching library anxiety, students' aversion to asking questions, and other problems with interactions between students and library staff for decades. Misconceptions about librarians' professional status, teaching roles, knowledge



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and expertise, and attitudes toward students are often proposed as causes of dysfunctional interactions and as reasons why some students don't ask questions. It is important for students to know that librarians are willing and able to help, so that they feel free to ask questions that will help them advance their education. This study reports the findings of a survey of 48 undergraduate students regarding their perceptions of academic librarians, and discusses ideas for addressing existing misconceptions.

KEYWORDS. Academic librarians, professional status, undergraduate students, librarianship, library jobs

FUTURE TRENDS

- The Enhanced and Changing Role of the Specialist Librarian:
Survey of Education Librarians 149
Johnnieque B. (Johnnie) Love

Much like the role of other academic librarians, the education librarian's responsibilities are in a constant state of transition. Major factors contributing to these changes are demands being placed on teacher training programs in colleges of education, demands placed on teachers and administrators in the nation's schools, demographic shifts, globalization, declining accessibility of resources along with the digital divide, and, most of all, greater demands for accountability of student achievement at all levels of education.

The work of the education librarian has become more integrated in the creation and access of knowledge both in the library profession, and education itself. Education librarians not only have close ties to school curriculum being taught but also with the preparation of preservice teachers, students enrolled in advanced graduate studies, and the education researcher. This article will review the literature on the role of the education subject specialist in librarianship, and how that role has been changed due to a variety of reasons. Findings will be discussed from an informal survey on how education librarians perceive their roles in their institutions.

KEYWORDS. Library roles, education, education research, academic library specialization, education librarians and collaborative learning, curriculum development, librarian-teacher cooperation

- Shedding the Stereotypes: Librarians in the 21st Century 167
Pixey Anne Mosley

While it is very difficult to predict exactly what a librarian's job will entail in 50 years, there is no doubt in the author's mind that the profession will be a successful one. Exploring today's societal and technological trends allows one to propose an idea of patterns and expectations typical of the next generation of librarians and the challenges that come in managing this talented, yet demanding, group.

KEYWORDS. Librarian stereotypes, transitions, role of technology, Generation X



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EDITORIAL

El 5 de Noviembre de este año se cumplirán 50 años de vida de ABGRA, y este hecho histórico se ve plenificado en vísperas de concretar en nuestro país el evento mas importante de la bibliotecología universal, nada menos que un congreso mundial de IFLA.

Los esfuerzos de tantos años de trabajo y dedicación comienzan a cristalizarse en este último tramo de preparativos, y a pesar de la crisis sin precedentes en que se vio sumergida la Argentina, la confianza depositada en nuestra asociación se ha visto reafirmada y consolidada en la reunión que tuvo lugar en marzo de este año en la cual la presidenta de la IFLA, **Christine Deschamps**, solicitó a todos los estamentos de la organización una especial atención a la consecución de los esfuerzos para la concreción del encuentro mundial del 2004 en Buenos Aires. Además se logró como hecho sin precedentes una tarifa preferencial para los bibliotecarios argentinos e incluso la posibilidad de abonar la matrícula en cuotas, de lo que informamos en mayor detalle en la pagina 3, en donde también se anuncia la conformación del Comité Académico.

El cuerpo central de nuestra revista, cuenta en esta oportunidad con el aporte de cuatro importantes trabajos que con temáticas tan dispares como el Depósito Legal, la Biblioteca Virtual Cervantes, la Normalización Bibliotecaria o la Historia de las Bibliotecas Argentinas proponen una variada y enriquecedora gama de contenidos para nuestros lectores, que esperamos sean cada día mas, al igual que la presentación de trabajos a la que siempre llamamos y que hoy nos llena de orgullo presentar como un fruto maduro del aporte de los investigadores, docentes y profesionales de nuestro medio y del exterior, que han elegido a **REFERENCIAS** como su medio de comunicación.

En otras páginas también se continua con el toque de color que brinda la reseña de algunas de las hermosas bibliotecas con las que cuenta nuestro país, y en este mismo sentido dedicamos un espacio preferencial a la difusión del quehacer del llamado "Escudo Azul", dedicado a la protección de los bienes culturales ante los conflictos armados, en medio de la devastadora guerra que sacude a IRAK.

Este numero llegara a sus manos en medio de la 37 Reunión Nacional dedicada a los Bibliotecarios y sus Competencias Profesionales. Desde este ámbito hacemos fervientes votos para que este encuentro sea como hasta ahora, un lugar de reflexión, trabajo e intercambio provechoso para todos aquellos que a pesar de las dificultades y los sinsabores siguen adelante construyendo y creyendo en un futuro mejor.

Gracias y hasta el próximo numero.

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