

ORGANIZING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY LIBRARY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2007

4:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M. • THOMAS ROOM

Discussion Leader:

Artemis Kirk, University Librarian, Georgetown University

In 2005, ARL developed three strategic directions—Scholarly Communication, Public Policies, and Research, Teaching & Learning—that accompanied its mission to “[influence] the changing environment of scholarly communication and the public policies that affect research libraries and the diverse communities they serve.” The deliberations about the strategic directions included serious discussion about the roles both the ARL organization and the individual members would undertake.

At the last ARL meeting our colleagues demonstrated the effects of enhanced space on users’ appreciation of the library. Very recently, a number of reports and studies have emerged in the literature that reinforce those strategic directions but also challenge our libraries against what some perceive to be “traditional” roles for the 21st Century:

- “Researchers’ Use of Academic Libraries and their Services.” A report commissioned by the Research Information Network and the Consortium of Research Libraries, April 2007. <http://www.rin.ac.uk/researchers-use-libraries>
- Yola de Lusenet and Vincent Wintermans, eds., “Preserving the Digital Heritage: Principles and Policies.” Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO and European Commission on Preservation and Access, Amsterdam, June 2007. <http://www.knaw.nl/ecpa/publications.html>
- Laura Brown, Rebecca Griffiths, Matthew Rascoff, “University Publishing In A Digital Age,” Ithaka Report, July 26, 2007. <http://www.ithaka.org/strategic-services/university-publishing>
- Roger C. Schonfeld and Kevin M. Guthrie, “The Changing Information Services Needs of Faculty,” Educause Review July/August 2007, 8-9. <http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/erm0746.pdf>
- “Faculty Attitudes and Behaviors Regarding Scholarly Communication: Survey Findings from the University Of California,” August 2007. <http://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/responses/activities.html>
- Judith Borreson Caruso and Gail Salaway, “The ECAR Study of Undergraduate Students and Information Technology, 2007.” <http://connect.educause.edu/library/abstract/TheECARStudyofUnderg/45076>
- Susan Gibbons, *The Academic Library and the Net Gen Student: Making the Connections*. Chicago, American Library Association, 2007.

How, if at all, are ARL member libraries adopting the strategic directions of ARL, or the recommendations of the above publications, in their libraries? How, if at all, are our organizations changing in order to meet the requirements of our users? Who *are* or *will be* our users? What is the impact of space? What organizational models exist among our colleagues that may be adaptable in order to develop the library of the 21st century?

This session is intended to be an open discussion of the opportunities and challenges libraries face, as well as the innovations that some of our members have undertaken in order to advance our services.