



Transformational Change in Health Sciences Libraries

Inventing our Future

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The accompanying script for this presentation is available at http://www.mclibrary.duke.edu/about/presentations/transformscript.pdf



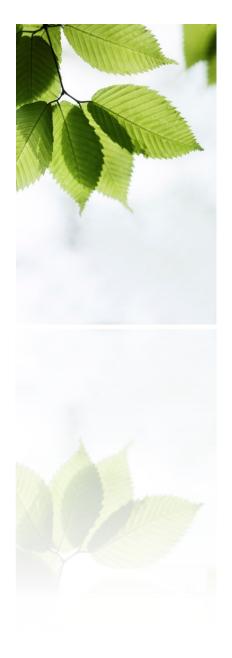
Thinking about transformation...

- Current and future challenges
- Thoughts on our future
- Core skills and knowledge
- Roles to explore for future
- Future library in 5 to 10 years
- Challenge our traditional views



Current Pulse

- Budget increase? Decrease?
- Collection funding?
- Funding next fiscal year?
- Staffing increase? Decrease?
- Space Increase? Decrease?









My Environment

- Major budget decreases
- 30% reduction in FTE
- 60% decrease in revenues
- Space reduced by 16,000 sq. ft.
 - Another 3,000 feet this year



Opportunities for Transformation

- Unfreeze behaviors, mind set
- Reset user expectations
- No longer the Status Quo
- Realign with institutional priorities / user needs



Why we will survive

Information is essential for patient care education research consumer health health care management health care reform



It is not necessary to change. Survival is not mandatory.

» W. Edward Deming

The rule of the game is evolving.

» Grace Cheng



DaVinci Institute

- Ever changing technologies
- More complex searching
- Time compression more needs faster
- Experience based economy
- Advice:
 - Evaluate the library experience
 - Embrace new information technologies
 - Experiment with creative spaces



Old Mantra

Information access anywhere, anytime.

New Mantra

Ubiquitous information access anywhere, anytime, any device.

OR

Right content, to the right people, at the right time.



Environmental changes

- Health care
- Clinical information systems
- Health reform
- Health professional education
- Physician knowledge
- E-science and research



Status of Hospital Libraries

- More 500+ bed hospitals
- Services by academic libraries
- More full time librarians
 - But still inadequate staffing
- More diverse roles and services
- But not all changes negative



Time to Say Goodbye?

Academic libraries are looking at a death spiral. We are caught in a financial squeeze where we can only do "less with less"...if we keep playing it out, our library will end up as nothing more than a small office where a tiny team of functionaries try to "broker" digital information for the campus...

» Adam Corson-Finnerty



Adam's Passing Lane Strategies

- Get out of real estate
- Pay libraries to store or loan materials
- Buy books only when requested
- Retrain as informationists, break the mold
- Become part of teams
- Strengthen information broker role
- Train others



Taiga – Provocative Statements

- Librarians will evolve or die
- Patron initiated collections
- Intersection of librarianship, information technology, instructional technology
- Unmediated service via technology
- Campus community centers



More from Taiga

- Align with administrative not academic side
- Future directors not librarians
 FOR 2011
- Public and technical services merged
- Reduce collection footprint 50%
- Information discovery begins at Google







Core Skills

- Systems analysis
- Organization
- Information dissemination
- Resource allocation
- Strategy



Roles?

E-science

Technology Advisors

Partners

EBM experts Filters

Project-oriented

Educators

User-focused selectors CME

Imbedded informationists in disciplines

Scholarly communications

E-resources Web 2.0 Influencing Google Designers - systems, on-demand education

Saving our clients time



My Library Mantra

My Old Mantra

We are more than our collections

Revised Mantra

We are a collection of services, not a collection of collections.

» Megan von Isenburg



Predictions...

I think there is a world market for maybe five computers.

Thomas Watson, chairman IBM

640 K ought to be enough for anybody.

Bill Gates
CEO Microsoft







The best way to predict the future is to invent it.

» Alan Kay



Thank you!





