#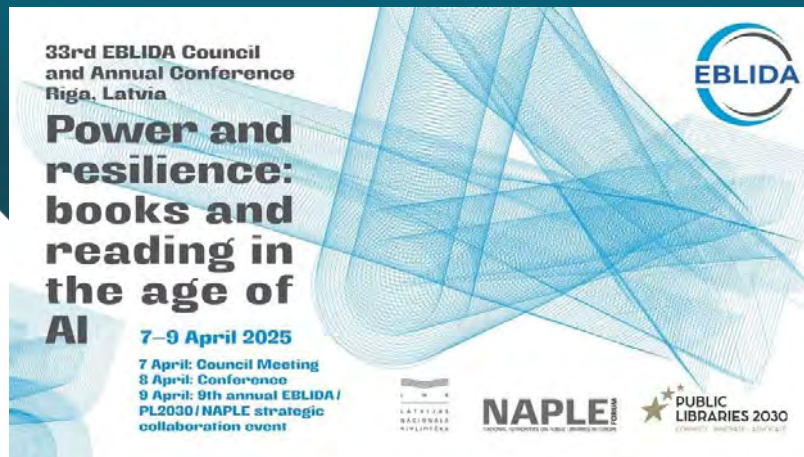 THE NEW ROLE OF LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS: THE LIBRARY AS AN INSTITUTION SUPPORTING EDUCATION, LIFE-LONG LEARNING AND INNOVATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

EBLIDA

MAGYAR KÖNYVTÁROSOK EGYESÜLETE
anno 1935

33rd EBLIDA Council and Annual Conference Riga, Latvia
Power and resilience: books and reading in the age of AI
7–9 April 2025
7 April: Council Meeting
8 April: Conference
9 April: 9th annual EBLIDA / PL2030 / NAPLE strategic collaboration event

EBLIDA · NAPLE · PUBLIC LIBRARIES 2030

Gerencsér Judit
President,
Association of Hungarian Librarians, Hungary
Riga, April 8th, 2025 .

TRENDS

25 FUTURE TECHNOLOGY MEGATRENDS AND PREDICTIONS – TECH THAT SHAPES OUR WORLD

1. Advanced chips and quantum computing
2. Robotics, drones and autonomous systems
3. Space Technology
4. 3D printing and additive manufacturing
5. Smart Cities & Urban Tech
6. AgTech for the agriculture of the future
7. BioTech & Genomics
8. Regenerative Medicine & Land Longevity
9. Neural Interfaces & Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCI)
10. Nanotechnology
11. Materials Science
12. Green technologies and renewable energies
13. The digital revolution at all levels
14. The age of automation – machines take over
15. The wave of digital transformation and digital business models
16. Datafication – the fuel for the information age
17. Internet and connectivity – building a networked world.
18. Platforms and the emergence of the platform economy
19. Digital ecosystems as the new business paradigm
20. Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Analytics
21. Internet of Things (IoT)
22. Distributed Ledger Technologies & Blockchain
23. Virtual and Augmented Reality (VR & AR)
24. Metaverse & Immersive Media
25. Social media and social networks

Industrial revolutions and new technologies are significantly transforming the labor market and the **competencies expected from the employees**

The **role and function of libraries** are becoming even more valuable in **acquiring and mastering new skills** and new **competencies** for both employees and citizens.

The **learning-supporting** and **quality-of-life-improving** role of libraries is undeniable and unquestionable in the 21st century.

CHALLENGES

CHALLENGES AND TRENDS IN THE 21ST CENTURY LIBRARY

- Libraries must **redefine** themselves: their **identities**, their **roles**, their **functions** in the dynamic environment of the 21st century

- Provide new and modern services adapted according to the **changing needs of the users**

- **The users are the drivers of change and innovation**

- The library of the 21st century has to **become an attractive community** space *inside* and **contribute** to the support **and development of all aspects of society and citizens' lives** *outside.*

library guided by community and users' needs = 21st century library

In a 21ˢᵗ century library, it is crucial to **renew infrastructure and operational conditions** with respect to the trends and demands, ensuring access to knowledge and science.

Optimizing internal library workflows is essential, and it is recommended to transform and **modernize the services** offered to users.

The library has to be in a **constant dialogue** with its users.

The user is not looking for there and no in that way what the librarian thinks...
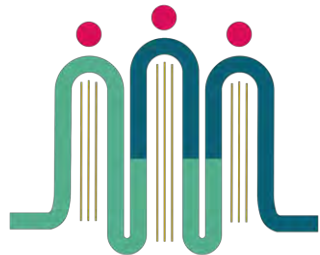
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change in users' needs

The needs affect the entire operation and service organization of the library.

SOLUTIONS

Not only am I SUPER.

I'm a LIBRARIAN.

https://www.redbubble.com

SUPERUser

http://norebbo.com

We/they must respond to the new expectations with a paradigm shift

- We/they have to supplement our/their traditional professional knowledge with **additional new knowledge, skills, and competencies in order to be able to meet the challenges.**

Supporting life-long learning

- The **definion**, the **operation** and the **services** of the modern, **21st century library** must be completely **reinterpreted**.

- In all respects, **the person/the user has central position**; instead of the collections and documents.

- **7/24**, **everything is about the user** and in order to satisfy their needs as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Cloud computing

Robotics

The **role of librarians** is constantly evolving with the spread of **digitalization and information technology**, as well as the changing demand for library services.

Mobil technology

Applications

Artificial intelligence

FURTHER DISCUSSION TOPICS

- **Megatrends, trends**
- **Digital transformation – libraries and education**
- **New role, new functions of librarians, new services of libraries**
- **New competences of users and librarians**
- **Change management**
- **Exceptations of the (future) labour market**

The acceptance and application of changes and technological advances ensure that libraries remain at the forefront.

The library is not only a repository of knowledge, but also a centre, that supports interactive learning and education, a community space and an institution that develops and support the quality of life.

It provides a more engaging, inclusive, and technologically advanced future for its users and visitors.

community engagement

embracing innovative new technologies: AI, robotics etc.

supporting lifelong learning, equal opportunities and inclusion

improving the quality of life

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https://www.pmworld360.com/learning-to-identify-risks-as-an-opportunity/

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION, YOUR INTEREST AND COOPERATION!

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https://mke.info.hu/