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Summaries

VIRÁGOS, M.: State of the art and future of Hungarian academic libraries 323

Owing to well-known external – economic, social, and technological – causes, the institutional environment of libraries has recently undergone considerable changes. This shift in external conditions has obviously entailed changes in the expectations of users. While they tend to be confronted with an array of new tasks within their respective institutions, the libraries serving higher education have since 2000 supported an increasingly growing student population against the background of decreasing resources. Are libraries in a position to meet these new challenges? What sort of paradigm changes should higher education libraries implement to measure up to their already achieved significance and position, and to fulfil their tasks in their respective institutions and within the library system in Hungary?

SÁRPÁTKI, Á.: Librarian stereotypes and their PR implications 331

Just like most professions, librarians and information specialists have got their own stereotypes as well. Whether these stereotypes are positive or negative, it is undeniable that libraries, librarians and stereotypes do coexist. The article examines how the stereotypes of male and female librarians have been changing during the 20th century in movies and literature. The respective research led to the conclusion that librarian stereotypes are present in the mind of today's Hungarian society, and that most are based on preconceptions, as is the nature of all stereotypes. Most of these false thoughts depict librarians as dusty, bun-headed spinsters, whose most commonly used expression is: 'Shh!' The article also discusses what public relations and librarians themselves could do to destroy the aforementioned generalisations, and mentions some foreign and Hungarian attempts in this matter. The author genuinely believes that it is the librarians' task to act and try to change their image to reflect who they really are. Good image is im-

portant because users should know what librarians are capable of, as this would ensure the future and development of the library and information profession.

BÉNYEI, M.: Three stages in the development of the 'Library and Information Science' major 346

The *Library and Information Science* (LIS) major was established at the Kossuth Lajos University in Debrecen, Hungary in 1989. This initiative was unprecedented in the history of education for librarianship in Hungary. The foundation of this major was primarily urged by university leaders who were scientists themselves. At the start, the LIS major belonged to the Faculty of Science, to be more precise, to its Institute of Mathematics and Informatics. Later, in 2004, it became the part of the Faculty of Informatics organized at that time. The major's information technological orientation following international trends has caused a surprise in certain professional circles. The LIS teachers' and students' efforts have, however, soon justified the existence of this branch of studies. It was a considerable recognition that the decree on qualification has specified in 2001 that the relevant major should be named 'Library and Information Science' in all higher educational institutions, and the content criteria of education have been adjusted accordingly. Applying the development concept 'Joining the European Higher Educational Region' in Hungary the educational policy intended to subordinate the LIS major to the subject 'Hungarian language and literature', thus eliminating its independent status. In the end, because of the resistance of professional bodies and LIS institutions, the LIS major has remained independent, with a direct input both at the BA and MA levels (from 2006 and from 2009 resp.), as is the case with doctoral (PhD) education. As a local achievement, the Faculty of Informatics at the University of Debrecen has founded in 2008 – with a delay of 20 years – an independent Department of Library Informatics.