GLOBAL VISION DISCUSSION

Report of the Copyright and Other Legal Matters Advisory Committee
How a united library field can tackle the challenges of the future

Contributors

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Introduction

Due to the dispersed nature of the membership of the CLM Advisory Committee the discussion was held by email with all members invited to participate in a conversation about how a united library field can tackle the challenges of the future. Together we represent a significant number of years of library experience.

Participants from university and national libraries were the main contributors.

A vision for libraries

Libraries enable literate, informed and participative societies. When we look at the future, according to the email debates this means that in order to have a civil society it is important for libraries to be available in schools and universities as well as specialist libraries in professional offices, national and state libraries and public libraries.

The core values of libraries (Q4):

1. Access to information
2. Freedom of Expression
3. Privacy

Comments:

The discussion centred around the values which could be applied to all types of libraries.

Libraries are exceptionally good at (Q5):

1. Selecting and organising information
2. Sharing resources
3. Acting as a fail-safe for public access to information.
4.
5.

Comments:

Libraries should do more of (Q6):

1.	Listening to users
2.	Advocacy
3.	Negotiating harder on contacts and other impediments to users.
4.	Providing what users want, not what librarians think they should have.
5.	

Comments:

Considering this question from the position of copyright and other legal matters the issue of negotiating on contracts and the problem of contracts attempting to override copyright were considered to be important issues.

Libraries should do less of (Q7):

1.	Paying money to subscription agents for big deals
2.	Competing rather than collaborating.
3.	
4.	
5.	

Comments:

The option of unbundling 'big deals' to enable purchasing of required materials without having to purchase large quantities of unrequired items is considered to be a problem.

Challenges and solutions

The main challenges to society (Q8):

1.	Locking up information with contracts.
2.	Electronic information only available to those who can afford to pay for it.
3.	Fake news and freedom of expression
4.	
5.	

Comments:

The main challenges to libraries (Q9):

1.	Changing role eg. Open access, research data management, becoming more directly involved in education.
2.	Lack of international norms governing use of copyright material, trade agreements extending copyright terms etc.
3.	Contract overriding copyright; the application of technological protection measures.
4.	Pressure to purchase bundled content with restrictive access conditions.
5.	

Comments:

How a united library field can make a difference

How should a united library field help meet the challenges identified (Q11)?

1.	Advocacy for limitations and exceptions through WIPO.
2.	Consistency of negotiations on contract conditions within sectors.
3.	Sharing information and best practice on how challenges are being addressed and identify new skills to meet challenges.
4.	Articulate the value of libraries more clearly.
5.	

Comments:

The characteristics of a united library field (Q12):

1.	Speaks with an authoritative voice representing all types of libraries across nations.
2.	Shared vision.
3.	Open, transparent, bottom up.
4.	
5.	

Comments:

A global conversation

This report is created in an interactive process, via email and is part of a global conversation initiated by IFLA on how a united library field can tackle the challenges of the future.

Over the course of two years (2017-2018), IFLA will involve as many librarians and others as possible in this global conversation. Participants are encouraged to continue the conversation in their own networks and organization and share the results with IFLA. At the end of 2017, the first results of all the workshops and online discussions will be turned into a *Global Vision Report*, which in turn will be adapted into concrete strategies, processes and work programmes in 2018.

To learn more about the global conversation, and download supporting materials to support your own activities, visit globalvision.ifla.org.

Stay tuned for news about the IFLA Global Vision discussion following #iflaGlobalVision and make sure to cast your vote in August when the online voting platform is available on https://globalvision.ifla.org.