A Bookless Library?
David Lewis’ Remagining the Academic Library as a Roadmap for the Future

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Our Session

1. Disruptive Innovation
2. A Few “Things to Do Now”
3. Discussion – Don’t say we didn’t warn you!
Disruptive Innovation
Improvement upon existing technologies/processes
Improvement upon existing technologies/processes

Replacement of existing technologies/processes
Fifth Avenue in New York City on Easter Sunday in 1900

Source: U.S. National Archives - Records of the Bureau of Public Roads

5th Avenue - Easter ‘13 [1913]

Source: Library of Congress - George Grantham Bain Collection
Disrupted?

1. The Web as the primary place information is stored/retrieved
2. Artificial Intelligence as search assistant
3. Machine learning/AI as metadata creator
Google employing AI

https://youtu.be/yDI5oVn0RgM?t=48s
Lewis’ Six Steps

1. Define our new role
2. Improve our use of space
3. Rethink print
4. Digital preservation
5. Collective infrastructure
6. Work with the smart machine
These Are a Few of My Favorite “10 Things to do Now”
“Retire the Legacy Print Collection Now”
“Develop a Space Plan”
“Support the Creation of, Access to, and Preservation of the Scholarly Content Created on Your Campus”
1. What disrupting forces have challenged your library and how have you responded and adapted?

2. What steps has your library taken to embrace digitization and/or what steps could you take in the future?

3. In what ways does your library partner with other libraries or community entities and how could these collaborative efforts address some of the disruptions that Lewis mentions?

4. What new skills are required of librarians to tackle these future challenges? In what ways is your library providing support for learning new skills or what ways would you like your library to provide this type of support? Are there any traditional skills that you see becoming less relevant to incoming MLIS students?

5. Of the six steps (library’s new role, use of space, rethink print, digital preservation, collective infrastructure, and smart machines), which do you think libraries as a whole are most prepared to tackle? Which poses the greatest challenge?

6. In what ways are libraries uniquely capable of adjusting to changing roles and new challenges?
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THANKS!

Any questions?

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