



The Network Reshapes the Library: Lorcan Dempsey on Libraries, Services, and Networks

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List price £59.95

Product Details

Format: Paperback

ISBN: 9781783300419

Published: 25th Sep 2014

Publisher: Facet Publishing

Dimensions: 321mm x 155mm x 18mmmm

Description

This collection of insights from library technology guru Lorcan Dempsey offers readers valuable reflections on emerging trends and key areas of concern as well as a visionary approach to libraries' future. Over the last decade, Dempsey's writing has covered diverse and wide ranging topics including the evolution of libraries, from how library organization, services and technologies are co-evolving with the behaviours of their users to support their changing research and learning needs, to how the curatorial traditions of archives, libraries and museums have come together in the digital environment. This selection of posts, originally from Dempsey's blog, has been expertly curated by Kenneth J Varnum to showcase Dempsey's dual ability to firstly explore an issue and then to reveal the higher-order trends. Using this method, Dempsey provides his incisive perspective on where libraries have been in the last decade as well as his prescient insights into future trends and directions. The book is organised into 9 topical chapters: • Networked resources • Network organization • The research process and libraries' evolving role • Resource discovery • Library systems and tools such as search indices and OpenURL link resolvers • Data and metadata • Publishing and communication, including blogs, social media, and scholarly communication • Libraries, archives, museums, and galleries as 'memory institutions'. Readership: The book concludes with a selection of favourites hand-picked by Dempsey himself and will be essential reading for students, library strategists, administrators, technology staff and anyone with an interest in the future of libraries.

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Author

Lorcan Dempsey oversees the research division and participates in planning at OCLC. He has worked for library and educational organizations in Ireland, England (as Director of UKOLN), and the US. He has written and spoken extensively on policy, research, and service development, and in the areas of networked information and digital libraries.

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