

## Leadership Skills for the Future Librarianship

Keshava\*

Lokeshappa H.\*\*

### ABSTRACT

Leaders inspire others to participate in creating those futures.

**Pat Wagner**

The paper explains the concept of leadership; leadership skills for the future librarianship such as IT skills; teaching skills; modeling behavior; strategic skills; professional skills. Presents personal traits and suggests the IT facets to be included in LIS curriculum.

**Key words:** Leadership skills, IT skills, Professional skills, Personal traits.

---

---

### INTRODUCTION

Unlike previous era, ours is an age of lifelong learning. Society will expect that the people continually gain new skills and knowledge. Sociologically, education has become increasingly important as the core of professionals and personal success. The library, historically a cornerstone of scholarly endeavor is reinventing itself in today's networked society to meet the new demands. The library evolving into an electronic portal to a growing global collection of digital content.

In the digital era, librarians, archivists, and records managers must be able to work with digital media as easily as they have worked with paper. They must be able to curate electronic collections, including the ability to select, acquire, describe, organize, reference, and preserve these digital works.

There are considerable human, cultural and organizational challenges in developing and sustaining libraries in digital era. It is also interesting to reflect on the skills and attributes required of the electronic or digital librarian, who is sometimes referred as the cybrarians.

### THE CONCEPT OF LEADERSHIP

In common usage, leadership generally refers to the position or office of an authority figure, such as a President, a position of office associated with technical skill or experience, as in a team leader or a chief engineer, a group of influential people. The ability to lead, including inspiring others in a shared vision. Leaders have clear visions and they communicate these visions to their employees. They foster an environment within their companies that encourages risk taking, recognition and rewards, and empowerment allowing other leaders to emerge. A leader is one who conducts, precedes as a guide to others in action or opinion, one who takes the lead in any enterprise or movement, one who is 'followed' by disciples or adherents, the most eminent member of a profession, a person of eminent position and influence, the

---

---

**Author's affiliations:** \*Senior Lecturer, \*\*Research Scholar, Dept. of Library & Information Science, Karnatak University, Dharwad-580003.

**Reprints request:** Dr. Keshava, Lecturer, Dept. of Library & Information Science, Karnatak University, Dharwad -580 003. E-mail: keshkud@gmail.com, uasdlblokesh@gmail.com

(Received on 17.02.10, accepted on 17.03.10)