# Envisioning Future Academic Library Services: Initiatives, Ideas and Challenges

## Sue McKnight

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### Description

There are huge challenges facing the library and information science profession owing to the rapidly changing environment in which it exists. Librarians need to be 'blended professionals' who can take all their professional skills and experience, and adapt them to different business models, strategic challenges and communities of practice.

This topical edited collection will stimulate strategic and innovative thinking and question the status quo. It will be a 'must read' for leaders and future leaders of the profession, who will be challenged to align library services with the changing demands of the academic community and the work environment.

Edited by a thought leader with an international reputation, it will bring together renowned authors from across the globe who are breaking traditional moulds and boundaries in a way that will have a profound impact on the way libraries and library services are conceptualized in the years to come. They represent the key links in the knowledge chain: authors, publishers, academics, community knowledge creators, librarians and institutions.

The five most compelling messages the book will contain are:

- Engage in and support elearning and social networking
- Be involved in institutional knowledge and information management strategies
- Support students and academic staff in the virtual learning space as well as in the library and on the web
- Be prepared to acquire, manage and make accessible information that is not traditionally the province of the library
- New paradigms for leadership will be necessary.

**Readership**: This book is essential reading for all library managers and educators who wish to add real value to their organization by thinking strategically and informing decision making at organizational level. It will also be of great value to academic administrators and government policy analysts involved with learning and teaching.

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## Author

**Sue McKnight** is the principal of Sue McKnight Consulting. She holds professional librarianship qualifications, a Bachelor of Business, a Master of Public Administration and her PhD focused on organizational development. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (UK), the Higher Education Academy (UK) and the Australian Institute of Management. She was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship by the HEA for her services to support student learning. Prior to running her own consultancy, Professor McKnight was Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning Resources) and University Librarian at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. Previously, she was Director of Libraries and Knowledge Resources at Nottingham Trent University in the United Kingdom. Prior to that, she was Executive Director of Learning Services at Deakin University, Australia. She was chair of the Academic and Research Libraries section of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions from 2005-2009. She has also been an active member and the Australian Library and Information Association. She chaired the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) eBooks working party.