

# Accessing Scientific Information : from a Scientific Library to a Knowledge Center



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- ⌘ Library resources as primary knowledge resources for research and teaching
  
- ⌘ Librarians' competence for organizing, archiving and retrieving the memory of the institution : reports, studies, articles...
  
- ⌘ The library as the institutional access point for:
  - Scientific literature and information
  - Searching
  - Discovering
  - Learning

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- ⌘ Scientific libraries adopt new information systems and services and are at the forefront of knowledge for the benefit of searchers
  
- ⌘ They collect :
  - Printed books, journals, articles, dissertations
  - Non commercial documents : grey literature, conference papers, preprints...
  - Digital knowledge resources : online journals, special media collections
  - Internal documents
  
- ⌘ They provide :
  - A large variety of services to end-users : loans, interlibrary loans, copies, searches in databases, alerts, training...

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⌘ They add value to the institution:

- « Giving the right information to the right person at the right moment in order to make the right decision »  
*(Michael E. Porter, Harvard Business School)*
  - Looking after the institutional environment
  - Helping decision making
  - Increasing knowledge productivity

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- ⌘ They play a key-role in helping end-users (decision makers, researchers, physicians)
  - *Seeking* reliable and quality information
  - *Proposing* a large range of sources of information (printed, digital, on Internet, grey literature)
  - *Training* them to seek information in databases, on the Internet, with on-line and in person instruction modules or guides ; building searching strategies
  - *Helping* them to evaluate information

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## ⌘ The Researcher and the Information Scientist

- Both are « knowledge workers »
- With different knowledge
- But partners
  
- Exchange and dialog are essential
- In order to understand each other
- In order that the IS can bring his experience of seeking information
- In order to find the most appropriate answer to a question or a problem

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## ⌘ New trends in the library world

- Most libraries in academic or private sectors tend to become *Distance Research Services, E-Learning Centers or Knowledge Centers*
- It means the conjunction of *traditional information media* and *the most advanced technological tools*
- The *end-user* is viewed as *a unique person*, with specific needs, who wants instant access to information
- *Document management* includes *information management* and *knowldege management*

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## ⌘ One example : the end-user's «profile »

- He can determine his own information environment
  - His needs
  - His favorite sources of information (selected databases or Internet websites ; online journals...)
  - His alerts (through email, SMS or RSS)
  - What kind of results he wants and for how long
  - How he wishes to get them (at his desk, in the library, in print or electronic format)
  - He can manage references himself with a bibliographic software package

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⌘ From a Scientific Library to a Knowledge Center means :

-> *Information Management* :

- On-site and off-site
- Accessible anytime
- Providing selected and reliable sources of information
- Assisting end-users seeking information
- Training end-users

-> and *Knowledge Management* :

- Gathering, managing and promoting internal information and reports
- Building a central repository (Learning Object Repository-LOR)