The future librarian: A diverse and complex profession

Gunilla Widén (gunilla.widen@abo.fi) &
Maria Kronqvist-Berg (maria.kronqvist-berg@abo.fi)

Information Studies, Åbo Akademi University, Finland
Outline

- The networked society
- The changing library user
- The changing library profession
- The study: university libraries and LIS students
- Results
- Conclusions
The networked society

IFLA trend report
The changing library user
The changing library profession
The study

- 14 library directors from Finnish university libraries
- 10 LIS students
- web survey
- April 2014
Results: Main areas of challenge

- Economic challenges
- New services
- Communication and management
- Collection development
- Personnel
Results: Key competencies

- IT-skills
- Knowledge about research environment and work
- Pedagogical skills
- Social and communicative skills
- Collection management skills
Results: Challenges and competencies

- **Challenges**
  - Economical challenges
  - New services
  - Communication and management
  - Collections development
  - Personnel

- **Competencies**
  - IT-skills
  - Knowledge about research environment and work
  - Pedagogical skills
  - Social and communicative skills
  - Collection management skills

**Library professionals**

**Collection and service**

**University**
Results: Student perspective

- Practical and theoretical knowledge: knowledge organization, information retrieval, and customer services
- Skills: technical, economical, pedagogical, and management
- Learning outcomes: collections and services
Conclusions

*Keys to future LIS professionals:*

**Understanding trends and predicting consequences**
Thank You!

Gunilla Widén (gunilla.widen@abo.fi) &
Maria Kronqvist-Berg (maria.kronqvist-berg@abo.fi)

Information Studies, Åbo Akademi University, Finland