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BC. Information in society

THE LIBRARY REDEFINITION IN THE 21st CENTURY: FROM INFORMATION ENVIRONMENTS TO LIVING AREAS

A REDEFINIÇÃO DA BIBLIOTECA NO SÉCULO XXI: DE AMBIENTES INFORMACIONAIS A ESPAÇOS DE CONVIVÊNCIA

LA REDEFINICIÓN DE LA BIBLIOTECA EN EL SIGLO XXI: DE ENTORNOS INFORMATIVOS A ESPACIOS DE CONVIVENCIA

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ABSTRACT

The constant changes that have occurred over time represent interfering factors in the positioning and structuring of the libraries, so that these institutions constantly redefine their service and products to society. The historical trajectory of the library demonstrates that it is an adaptive unit, acquiring new features from the users' trends and requirements and technological innovations. Thus, this article aims to demonstrate the new scenario that envisions for tomorrow's library, in the perception of literature and librarians. To this end, the study shows the evolution of the library over the years; it exposes the services and products offered based on new technologies; it discourses about cultural activities and entertainment held in the information places; and, finally, reflects the opinion of librarians about the cultural/social activities in libraries. Through bibliographical research and study applied to librarians, the results confirmed that, at present, the library went beyond its purely informational role, also performing social roles. It is assumed that in the future, the library will expand its roles being no longer purely information environment to become living areas.

KEYWORDS: Hybrid Libraries. Technological evolution. Informational role - libraries. Social role - libraries.

RESUMO

As constantes transformações ocorridas ao longo dos tempos representam fatores interferentes no posicionamento e na estruturação das bibliotecas, de modo que essas instituições redefinem constantemente seus produtos e serviços oferecidos à sociedade. A trajetória histórica da biblioteca demonstra que ela é uma unidade adaptativa, adquirindo novas características a partir das tendências e exigências dos usuários e das inovações tecnológicas. Assim, este artigo objetiva demonstrar o novo cenário que se idealiza para a biblioteca do futuro, na percepção da literatura e de bibliotecários. Para tanto, o estudo apresenta a evolução da biblioteca ao longo dos anos; expõe os serviços e produtos oferecidos com base nas novas tecnologias; discorre acerca das atividades culturais e entretenimento realizadas nos espaços informacionais; e, por fim, reflete a opinião de bibliotecários quanto às atividades culturais/sociais realizadas nas bibliotecas. Através de pesquisa bibliográfica e estudo aplicado a bibliotecários, os resultados confirmaram que, no presente, a biblioteca extrapolou sua função meramente informacional, exercendo também funções sociais. Presume-se que no futuro, a biblioteca ampliará suas funções deixando de ser um ambiente meramente informacional para transformar-se em espaços de convivência.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Bibliotecas híbridas. Evolução tecnológica. Função informacional – Bibliotecas. Função social - Bibliotecas.

RESUMEN

Los constantes cambios que se producen con el tiempo representan los factores que interfieren en el posicionamiento y la estructuración de las bibliotecas, de modo que estas instituciones constantemente redefinen sus productos y servicios a la sociedad. La trayectoria histórica de la biblioteca demuestra que es una unidad adaptativa, adquiriendo nuevas características de las tendencias y necesidades de los usuarios y

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las innovaciones tecnológicas. Por lo tanto, este artículo tiene como objetivo demostrar el nuevo escenario que se vislumbra para la biblioteca de mañana, en la percepción de la literatura y los bibliotecarios. Con este fin, el estudio muestra la evolución de la biblioteca lo largo de los años; expone los servicios y productos que ofrece sobre la base de las nuevas tecnologías; habla de las actividades culturales y de entretenimiento, celebrada en los espacios de información; y, por último, refleja la opinión de los bibliotecarios acerca de las actividades culturales / sociales en las bibliotecas. A través de la investigación bibliográfica y del estudio aplicado a los bibliotecarios, los resultados confirmaron que, en la actualidad, la biblioteca fue más allá de su función meramente informativa, también realizar funciones sociales. Se supone que en el futuro, la biblioteca ampliará sus funciones para dejar de ser entorno puramente informativo y convertirse en espacios de vida.

PALABRAS CLAVE: Bibliotecas híbridas. Los desarrollos tecnológicos. Función informativa - bibliotecas. Función social - bibliotecas.

1 INTRODUCTION

In the last few years, considerations about new Technologies have provided great changes in the information services and units. For the specific case of libraries, it is questioned what is the true role of those units when facing the new technological devices that came to be available in digital environment, generating new demands and the information use.

Information available in the cyberspace[2] receives a new dimension and it requires product offering and managed services from the new communication and information technologies, causing new librarian practices. The arising of digital library has been shown as an undoubtable reality (DIAS, 2007), in which transfigures the librarian's doings for a new context, led by the new technological devices.

Given this new reality, it is noticed that the librarian's work acquires new dimensions, in a way that those professionals amplify their job, adapting themselves after the needs of the information users. This fact, according to Santa Anna (2015), demonstrates how adaptive is the area, transfiguring the librarians' professional profile, who is no longer willing to bind only to the traditional physical libraries, in order to operate in new ambiences by a deinstitutionalized profile.

Library Science and Information Science literature is wide in terms of the transformation of the physical libraries and the new professional practices created by the technological revolution (LANCASTER, 1983; BAPTISTA, 2000; CUNHA, 2010; SANTA ANNA, 2015, among others). However, in an exaggerated way, many theorists presume that physical units will disappear, mainly because of the arising of the digital libraries and because of the decrease of information resources in paper form.

Those predictions about the disappearance of the profession and of the library as an institution were refuted in Santa Anna's work (2014). Regarding the future of physical libraries, it is believed that they will survive for a long time, since those institutions have become increasingly more hybrids, offering sophisticated technologies, however not eliminating traditional technologies, which will satisfy the range of needs required by its diversified audience.

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[2] Referred to a digital space. It is a term used by Pierre Lévy (2000) to designate the new place for relations and to make information available. The cyberspace is supported by technological resources and made viable by the use of the internet.

Furthermore, this prediction does not cover all the roles that are applicable to the library and its professionals. Santa Anna, Gregório and Gerlin (2014) state that the library does not only perform a strictly technical role focused on education/information, but also should perform a social and cultural role. Thus, even though the printed collections will, in the future, migrate to the cyberspace, strengthening the digital library, it is assumed that the physical library, instead of disappearing, will lead its commitment in favor of social and cultural roles.

Yet, Flusser (1982, p. 230), in his work, indicates that the library should show itself by its social role, in other words, according to him, the social role of the library, over time, "[…] would no longer be a museum or a book market, but a place for dialogue. A dialogue between its users and also between readers and books".

Those discussions arouse a new conception about the Library Science of the future, so that they provide products and services that attend to the needs of the served community, but these needs are not necessarily informational. The library should acquire, during contemporaneity, a new facet, investigating the users' profile and adapting to them, in order to become a place for socialization, offering a subsidy to help their users' life. Thus, the activities focus will not be on the collection, but on people and their social needs[3].

For this reason, this work aims to demonstrate the new scenario that has been idealized about the tomorrow's library, in literature and librarians' perception. Therefore, this work shows the library evolution through the years; it exposes provided products and services based on the new technologies; it discourses about the cultural activities and entertainment performed into the informational places and, at last, it considers the librarian's opinion related to the cultural and social activities performed in the libraries.

2 METHODOLOGY: BIBLIOGRAPHY RESEARCH AND OBSERVATIONAL STUDY

This work is characterized as a qualitative research and, using bibliographical survey and article analysis, it aims to investigate what has been published about the subject in question. Moreover, it was held an observational study through interviews with five librarians that are currently performing in different contexts (libraries).

The bibliographical research was conducted by the survey held in the bases Scielo, Scholar Google and Brapci, investigating what has been published about the evolution and future of the libraries. Those bases were consulted, making use of the descriptors "tomorrow's libraries"; "digital libraries – new technologies"; libraries – place of acquaintanceship"; and "libraries – historical evolution". Thus, several articles that have been published in the last ten years were recovered. After reading those articles' titles and abstract, nineteen articles were selected, which discoursed

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[3] Oral information. Lecture issued during the XXVI *Congresso Brasileiro de Biblioteconomia e Documentação* – CBBD (XXVI Brazilian Congress on Library Science and Documentation), in 2015, by Elisa Delfini Correa, named "Increase your expectations", about propositions that David Lankes (2012) advocated.

about the evolution of the libraries and of the services and products provided by those institutions, as well as about the new projections for the physical libraries in the future.

Regarding observational studies, it was investigated the opinion of five librarians who perform in different library modalities (public, scholastic, university, academic and specialized) related to social and cultural activities executed in the aforementioned libraries and those professionals' perception as to the future of the physical library.

Following, the evolution of the libraries and of the librarianship products and services over the years are presented, as well as the projections for the future, based on what the literature mentions and what the interviewed professionals reckon.

3 THE EVOLUTION OF THE LIBRARIES AND OF THE LIBRARIANS SERVICES AND PRODUCTS

The existence of units of information refers to the peoples from ancient times. Since the moment when information started been registered, the creation of places to shelter informational components constituted an indispensable need. However, in that time, the concern was about saving and preserving documents. In the course of time, "[…] technical changes, such as the use of paper and the press invention, have made the library more accessible and its character altered from closed and private institution to lay and public" (SANTOS, 2012, p. 187).

Silveira (2008) states that the library did not lose the conceptions that once supported it as a social institution in service of the information, education and culture created by the societies. Although, technological evolution enabled new needs, which arouse the change in the professional's profile, so that those units rebuilt their products and services, being concerned, essentially, about the management of the systems, components and informational technologies.

The different historical periods were responsible by the configuration in which libraries were submitted. In the current society, featured as Information Society, are imposed new requirements for the libraries and for the professionals that drive them. This mutant, globalized and computerized society provokes several changes to the libraries, making them "[…] information and research centers, and their librarians, set as organizers, collectors and specific information socializers" (MADUREIRA; VILARINHO, 2010, p. 90).

According to a work issued by Benício and Silva (2005), the evolution of information components provided several stages to the libraries over time. This evolution demonstrates the ability to adapt in new contexts, being the library an adaptive organization. Thereafter, it is presumed that, in the future, libraries, together with the services and the products that they generate by storing and providing information in different components, will be increasingly hybrids.

One can observe paradigm changes, responsible for the adequacy of the library to the context in which it was placed, affected by various needs, whereas the civilizations tendencies and behavior. In a general way, Santa Anna (2015) mentions two main paradigms, considering them as

the greatest influencers and differentiators between traditional library and modern library: ownership and access to information paradigm.

In general, access to information paradigm is conceived after the use of communication and information technologies. Thus, before the use of new technologies, libraries provided services and products for the purpose of guaranteeing the possession of the information to the user, being it materialized in several components and the later incorporated, by the organization techniques and tools, to the physical collections that created great bibliographic collections (SANTA ANNA, 2015). On the other hand, in the access paradigm,

> [...] professionals' attentions are transferred from the collection to the user themselves, that is, concerns are more about the user and their needs than about the informational possession. This new trend has made to arise a new library modality, the Virtual Library, supported by high-capacity technological tools, which facilitate the treatment and enable the exchange of information at amazing speeds. (SANTA ANNA, 2015, p. 140)

By allowing the access to the information, the library, mainly the public one, contributes to the learning that guarantee the production of knowledge. Therefore, by offering information and ensuring the knowledge expansion in society, those units put themselves in service of the citizenry and, consequently, its social role is consolidated (BERNARDINO; SUAIDEN, 2011).

It is clear that the modern libraries aim the assurance to the access to information, which is one of the main activities of the collections that are available and managed by the new technologies. However, it is known in the literature that, over time, the library expanded its roles, offering products and services that go beyond, solely, services and information products.

Regarding the expansion of libraries roles in society, Silveira and Reis (2011, p. 37) advocate that the libraries should be considered as "places for cultural practices". The aforementioned authors justify this statement describing that those institutions help to "[…] elaborate representations to the several social, political and cultural scenarios where our lives grow, making to fruit the knowledge and contributing to the preservation and propagation of the human intellectual and physical heritage".

It is meant that the library has been transformed over the years in the sense of offering to people what they need. Thus, services and products offered by those institutions should not narrow to only the collection, being the professional focused on merely the techniques and tools for treatment and provision of documents (OLIVEIRA; ALVES; MAIA, 2013).

This way, tomorrow's library expands its scope of operation, satisfying the needs of the communities, social groups and citizens. It is understood that the library nowadays should be diversified in relation to what it offers, which means to have people as investigation products, being concerned about and enabling services and products to the other (SILVEIRA, 2014). This fact guarantees the librarian's participation to be more humanistic within the social changes.

With regard to the observational study performed in five libraries, conducted by interviews to those units' managers librarians, it became clear how these units are diversifying their services and products over time. In three units, the process automation is already present, whereas in the two

other libraries, automation capabilities are not used, with the use of traditional methods for organization and provision of information instead. In relation to cultural and recreational activities, it was observed that all units are concerned about providing social assistance to the communities.

4 LIBRARIES AND ITS SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ROLES

The social role of the library and of the librarian does not constitute a recent reflection. On the contrary, it is a discussion that began after the expansion of public libraries, which were affected by liberal and democratic ideals that great social and emancipatory movements from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries proposed (MILANESI, 2002).

Essentially, the social context lead by the Democratic Government enables the need and the appreciation of projects and programs that aim to disseminate culture and citizenry in society. Libraries that are inserted into those contexts acquire innovative concerns and must be set as "[…] places of **identity and rooting.** Places of **culture and socialization** [emphasis added]. Places of informational mediation and of knowledge production […]" (SILVEIRA, 2014, p. 147).

Being the libraries places of knowledge and socialization, practices performed there cannot narrow only to technicality; on the contrary, they must give priority to conditions in which people realize the importance of a library in encouraging individual and social changes. Thus, in order to enhance development and management of products and services, there is no doubt that contemporary librarians must design new competences, mainly pedagogical ones (SANTA ANNA; PEREIRA; CAMPOS, 2014). Thereby, it is relevant to consider that

> the services are […] what will grant to the library its dynamics, its ability to transpose the metrics and the stability of its collections, enabling the achievement of its social role. This social role requires a constant relation between what can be called corpus of the library, documental components, staff, information, knowledge, culture and users (RACHE; VARVAKIS, 2006, p. 137 apud BERNARDINO; SUAIDEN, 2011, p. 38).

For the librarian services to be directed in favor of the social role, it is necessary that those units of information have a more differentiated look as to the allocation of their collections and, mainly, as to the hiring of librarians, so as to allow a strong insertion in the society and, at the same time, to enhance the execution of its roles while favorable environment to the interaction among information and knowledge (BERNARDINO; SUAIDEN, 2011).

The aforementioned authors believe that the library into the current society, focused on public library, will only enlarge their activities, being recognized as a social institution that contributes to the citizens' personal development and to social, economic and political growth of the nation in which the library is placed, in case of existing a harder and more intense performance of the librarians as regards to the elaboration and conduction of projects that go beyond the "walls" of physical libraries, reaching the daily life of society.

By way of example of elaboration in social projects, especially those related to the social culture, projects to support and/or to stimulate reading are mentioned, whose goal is to interact with

the user community, which will provide to the library, at first, appropriated conditions to establish its role as fomenter of culture in the society (BERNARDINO; SUAIDEN, 2011).

Bezerra and Silva (2011, p. 6) reckon that libraries, public or private, should have, as one of its main goals, means to contribute to the execution of the citizenry. The previously mentioned authors assign to the reading and activity that arouse in people "[…] a conscious, reflective and critical attitude towards the social reality in which they live and perform […]".

By executing innovative activities at physical places for the storage of registered information, it is intended to transfigure those sites, long considered as "places for saving and preserving memory" to characterize them as places of socialization, of meetings and of exchange of information, what promotes the production of new knowledge.

Therefore, according to Santa Anna, Zanetti and Nascimento (2015, p. 80), the actions that the librarian develops cannot be tied solely to traditional and technical doings, such as informational treatment activities, but should also go beyond those practices. As examples, the authors mention the potential of the libraries that are located inside penitentiaries, showing that the educational, cultural and resocializer role of those specific information places.

Ergo, the aforementioned authors reckon that, in order to have these social/cultural roles implemented, the aspired librarian's profile must be one of a social agent, what will contribute to the citizenry consolidation, in order to guarantee an individual's personal and social development and, consequently, arousing valuable contributions to the social and economic development of the whole society.

For Silveira and Reis (2011), the social role of the library should be endued by four primary roles: cultural, informational, recreational and educational. Informational and cultural roles are related to, in general, the offer of informational services and products, which adds instructional value to the users, conducting to the person the production of knowledge and critical and converter positioning.

Cultural and recreational roles, however, are practically complementary and they provide a differential to the librarianship doings. The aim of this innovation is to enable the expression of social identity to the society, in line to the profile of the community where it is placed. Thus, the library must be a place for the preservation of memory and of cultural, artistically and literary heritage established amid the rationality of a particular place. In this pith, those units become to be seen as "[…] places for **collective representation** where what we call identity finds fruitful soil in order to nourish and enrich" (SILVEIRA; REIS, 2011, p. 52).

The aforementioned author's work evidenced, for the current context, the need of the libraries to offer differentiated services and products, allowing a balance and, at the same time, the union of distinct practices. Therefore,

> During modern times, besides the collection, organization, preservation and dissemination
> of the written activities, libraries must actively participate of the socio-historical

construction process of several cultural scenarios, which provide visibility to the places where they are inserted. (SILVEIRA; REIS, 2011, p.52)

It is important to mention, by considering the library as a place for socialization, information exchange, learning and meeting, the several cultural and recreational activities that can happen inside these places. Concerning to cultural actions, Rosa's research (2009) demonstrated that libraries, regardless of the modality that they belong to, must plan, lead and enable cultural practices, becoming culture disseminator centers.

According to the author, cultural action is not only limited to the provision of cultural goods; it must also allow the participation and the creation of new cultural goods and knowledge. In this context, it is made clear that the librarian must provide an environment so that the user participate, meaning to opine, formulate and create.

Recreational role is inserted to the library when it begin to be seen as a social and democratic institution in service of the community, constituting living areas. For Gonçalves (2011, p. 62), from this point of view, "[…] the library is a place of discovery in which it is possible to search and find answers, to do a research or simply spend the free time in a cozy and relaxed place".

Taking into consideration the social changes and the individuals' new needs in view of the library social role, Crippa (2015) discusses the library as "citizenry labs" that must offer diversified activities in accordance to the communities wishes. This author's conception regarding the recreational and cultural role makes this institution a sequence, an extension, a place that represents the society; ergo, libraries are characterized as open systemic and permanent area of appropriation of the collective area and of shared actions.

According to the five realities investigated in this work, it was noted that, as the librarians' report, libraries are still tied to the informational/educational role. Even though there are practices focused on fomenting recreational and cultural actions, users still appeal to the units, in general way, in order to study and to consult bibliographical material.

It was observed that the units perform activities (cultural/recreational) that go beyond the purely informational role, although it is not a core activity of the units. In three of the libraries, the social role practice is a reality, being offered several services and activities, such as dramatization, movies, storytelling, community meetings, toy library and rooms to exhibitions and workshops. In two of the libraries, it was noted the professional's knowledge and interest about those questions, however they do not offer these kind of services/activities yet, restricting to, solely, the offer of informational material.

5 PHYSICAL LIBRARY IN THE FUTURE: FROM INFORMATION ENVIRONMENT TO LIVING AREAS

The arising of digital collections and the provision of informational objects within the cyberspace, facilitates storage, treatment, management and offering of librarianship services and products, which are factors that interfere with the redefinition of physical libraries.

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In its context it is relevant to reinforce social activities focused on leisure and culture, considering to guarantee the library permanence due to those new capabilities assigned to them. Some literature works already evidence a future in which social role and library redefinition as places for meetings are strongly established.

Ribas and Ziviani (2007, p. 5) pronounce the library participation in the foment of a more inclusive society, in which human rights are more respected, and professionals who work in those institutions are led by the trinity: distance education, social media and cultural actions. Thus, library will work as a place for meeting to information exchange, leisure, culture, discussion and social problems resolution proposals.

There is no doubt that if the new technologies bring new configurations related to the technical doings performed with documents, library will keep producing knowledge, not through the storage and provision of documentary collections anymore, but through the contact and physical interaction among people. Moreover, "Library, archive, cultural center, museum and all information centers in a general way converge into an open area for dialogue and information exchange, being no longer only a consultation place to become a **living area** [emphasis added]". The authors presume that by creating conditions so that the person can critically consider about society's critical production, the professional that manages the library will contribute to the formation of a more inclusive society (RIBAS; ZIVIANI, 2007, p. 55).

It is noticed the expansion of the mission as well as of library and librarians' social commitment. Consequently, the relation and the importance of libraries within the society are better outlined when "[…] we apprehend them as **living and rooting areas** [emphasis added], in which practical actions together with its symbolic strength, reflect the several impulses of **social life** [emphasis added]" (SILVEIRA, 2014, p. 147).

Regarding the position of the physical libraries in relation to the migration of printed collections to the digital environment, Serra (2013) believes that the physical library environment, in order to remain in use, as well as the librarian, should be rethought. Furthermore, the author proposes that the offer of librarianship services and products must happen in different ways, in multiple technologies and that those information places characterize as attractive and cozy areas, allowing an interaction in line to freedom, not being only a place for exchange and learning but also an option for leisure, full of opportunities, discoveries and knowledge.

Physical library redefinition in the future will only occur as library managers and those units maintainers consider the users' needs. It is necessary to rethink the exaggerated use of rules, to demystify tied works, to foment cozy and receptive treatment, aiming to attract audiences to use a socialization and living area (SANTA ANNA; MAIA, 2015). The aforementioned authors discourse about that from friendly practices of reception and from an offer of useful and varied services that is possible to seek for the user's satisfaction, which may arouse the increase of frequency rates and the appreciation/recognition of the library as a necessary institution to the society.

Beyond question, the transfiguration of the physical library into living areas is the most strategic move to make present and operative those institutions in tomorrow's. By considering those

changes and redefining librarian practices, it is allowed to the librarian the realization of a dynamic service to all types of audience, both personally and virtually. In relation to the practices in the physical environment, the library must be redefined as a place of exchange, of knowledge acquisition, that promote interaction and permanence, reaffirming the library as a place of research and study adding the condition of a place for leisure, fun and upgrade.

This occurrence extend the social, recreational and cultural roles that were inserted into librarian's doings a long time ago, although they have not been practiced effectively neither appreciated, nor recognized by the professional class, by maintainers institutions, by the government, in short, by the whole society. Libraries redefinition as a living area and a place for knowledge exchange between people enter those units of information in the social context, conditioning them to be tools for social and personal development, ensuring improvements in citizens, families and social group's lives.

Analyzing this discussion about the physical library future, it was confirmed what literature has been discoursing regarding the library transfiguration into places for meeting in the society. Through the interview, the librarians were investigated about their beliefs on the social role of the library. Unanimously, they said to believe in this role assigned to the libraries. In the same way, when asked if they believe that libraries one day will become living places, the five of them replied that they do. In relation to the social activities, recreational or cultural, only three libraries perform them. However, it is important to emphasize that, even in those that do not offer these activities, the professional's knowledge and operation about this library potential were evidenced.

Thus, it is noted that professional who works in the investigated libraries hold a knowledge about the new potential of the units, especially as to the social role that they can perform. Based on the answers of two librarians, that the library does not offer social activities, it is revealed that it is about reasons not related to the professional's position, but general reasons involving other instances and contexts.

In general, librarians recognize the library functions that goes beyond the traditional informational role (collection). When asked: "If, perhaps, the printed collection is transferred to a virtual environment, do you reckon that the traditional library will be extinguished?". All of them reckon that the traditional library will remain having places intended for users visitation, as well as to study, ask for the librarians' help and take part in social activities, amongst them: meetings, lectures, drama, debates, in short, a place to socialize.

6 BY WAYS OF CONCLUSION

According to the analysis conducted in the literature and with the librarians, taking into account the units and the contexts they perform, it was possible to realize that, generally, in contemporaneity, the library went beyond its merely informational role, also operating social roles. Thereby, it is presumed that in the future the library will expand its roles, being no longer purely an information environment, but to become living areas.

Although we can find in the literature works that consider upon social, cultural and recreational roles as new potentials assigned to tomorrow's libraries, it is noticed that the amount of publishing is still scarce on the significance and necessity to discuss this issue, mainly on the challenges arising from the technological revolution and the information users' diversified requirements.

The realities that were analyzed in this work demonstrate that librarians have knowledge about the new library roles and its commitment in the social context. Though in most cases librarians activities still include informational/educational roles, it was noted the librarian's perception upon the changes in libraries in the future, which will then operate as a place for relations. It is assumed that delays in the implementation of projects focused on social practices as well as the scarcity in the implementation of social activities are due to issues with appreciation/cognition by the maintainer bodies, the governmental authorities and the community itself.

At last, this work is not over yet. On the contrary, it opens space to other researches. It is necessary to expand the said discussion, showing the library potential as a democratic and social institution in service of the community and that enables the personal, social, political and economic development.

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