

The Naked Librarian

"The only constant is change, continuing change, inevitable change that is the dominant factor in society today." Isaac Asimov

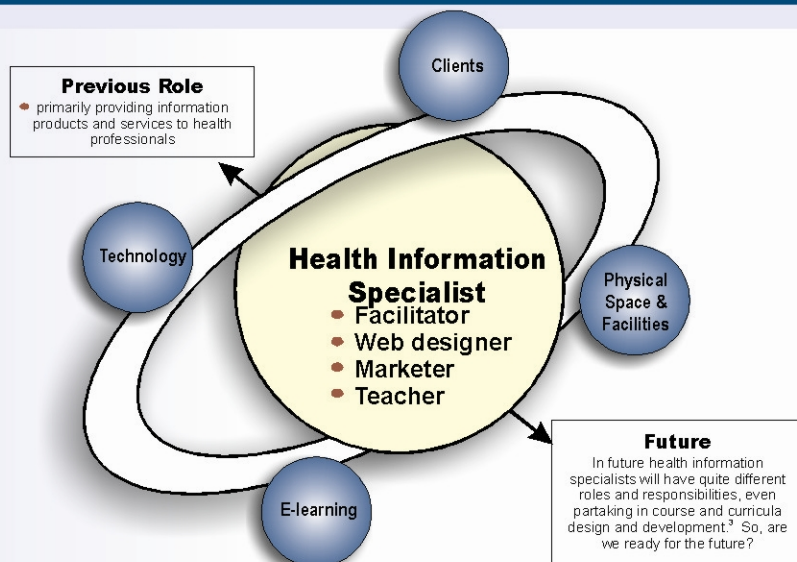
The Changing Role & Environment of the Health Information Specialist

South African Perspective

In the changing information environment, it is crucial for us as Health Information Specialists, to be able to adapt daily. This presents our profession with many challenges and opportunities and requires us to constantly re-evaluate our roles and environment, in order to best satisfy the information needs of our clients.

The physician, Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote: **"Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions"**². This illustrates that the role of the Health Information Specialist should be flexible and adaptable.

Health information professionals have to envision the future and plan from there. We need to get rid of outdated ideas and revolutionize our way of thinking. Shrugging off the old coat of the stereotypical librarian, we must start off in our envisioned future. From "naked librarians" to brand new and evolving.



From Naked Librarian to formidable information force!

Conclusion

Big question: "What will happen to medical libraries in the post-Google world?"
The answer, in our minds: Step up to the plate, accept these challenges and go with the flow.

**"Librarians rock,
let's shrug off our "clothes" and get into the new gear of the future!"**

References

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