

Summaries

Knut Oterholm og Åse Kristine Tveit: Verdier i bevegelse. Litteraturformidlingen, bibliotekarprofesjonen og utdanningen. (Movement in Values. Librarianship and the Promotion of literature)

Pages: 5-14

The article examines the understanding of the ideas behind promoting literature in public libraries and the values that legitimate this practice today. The results of our examinations are based on two series of interviews and a survey among students. The informants are employees and managers of three public libraries and students and faculty staff at the department of Library- and Information Science, Oslo University College. The interviews are analyzed on the basis of earlier research in the field. Methodically, the analysis is based on principles of qualitative method. The results indicate a movement in the values that legitimate the promotion of literature. From being based on the collective ideals of public enlightenment, the reasons for literature promotion, especially amongst the youngest librarians, are now much more individual and personal. At the same time, we observe that librarians experience a conflict between promotion of what the market requests and the more library-initiated promotion of (quality) literature. This suggests that different informants in the field of public libraries have different understandings of the concept of literature promotion: resulting in a challenge to both the staff and the library- and information educators.

Volkmar Engerer og Jesper Boserup Thestrup: Om tjekkede teoretikere, vilde youngsters og seje praktikere. Hvordan danske biblioteksagenter præger et aktuelt billede af informationskompetence. (About Cool Theoriticians, Wild Youngsters and Tough Practicians. How Danish Library Agents Influence the Contemporary Image of Information Literacy)

Pages: 17-29

Our article takes as a starting point a two-dimensional model of information literacy (IL), consisting of a process and a condition component where each subsumes a set of relevant subcategories. Those are the chronological steps in information search and the external conditions of information search like context, applied media and overall demands to knowledge. This approach is validated by a study of three types of library agents (theorists, youngsters, and practicians) and their specific contribution to the theoretical dimensions and sub-dimensions of the notion. In the concluding section, we present some prominent features of IL which, more or less explicitly, lie in the contributions of the agents, and, in our view, can contribute to a more modern and durable concept of IL.

Bo Skøtt: "Modkulturens" nødvendighed. (The Necessity of Counter Cultures)

Pages: 31-42

The article is based on a Ph.D. Project, which I have conducted at The Royal School of Library and Information Science. I begin this article with a presentati-

on of two different perspectives on the phenomenon “counter cultures”, which includes both a narrow and broad concept of culture. In the discussion between these two concepts I take up my starting point in Library and Information Science and my study of forms of consciousness. This leads to a discussion of the term “counter culture” and its implicit assumptions and explicit consequences. I call for the need to apply cultural analytical perspectives as social communities are considered to be too complex for

immediate study of them being adequate. Among other things, I question whether the use of a narrow concept of culture may be used in efforts to interpret and understand the activism of “counter cultures”. The article ends with the establishing of a relationship between social communities and their activism on the one hand and public libraries on the other and argues for the application of the term “socio-cultural communities” instead of “counter cultures” as a more adequate description of social communities.