

# Is there a library in the future?

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## THE QUESTION

Context: UTS Library is planning for its *Library of the Future*, at the forefront of our mind is the question of what kind of library space and services will be needed in the next 5-10 years.

Background: The advent of widespread access to the internet has presented libraries with significant challenges over the past 15 years. Libraries are increasingly being used in different ways by clients and in some cases bypassed completely. Libraries have had to reassess their role and their place within their communities with each wave of technological change that has swept over cyberspace. We have had to adapt or face obsolescence - and it isn't getting easier. The debate about the relevance is an enduring and ongoing debate within the profession.

This session will present the case for and against a future that includes libraries.

## THE SPEAKERS

Barbara Goldsmith has worked as a librarian for 20 years. She has been employed at The University of Technology, Sydney library for the past 10 years. She is studying towards a Bachelor of Laws and works as part of the Business and Law team in the department of Information Services.

Sean Riley has worked in a wide variety of academic library contexts since graduating from the University of South Australia in 2004. He currently works at the Kuring-gai campus of the University of Technology, Sydney library as part of the Business and Law team in the department of Information Services.

## CONVENER

Jemima McDonald, Information Services Team Leader, University of Technology, Sydney library.

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