**Reconfiguring libraries for a network environment: rightscaling, engaging, learning**

The classic library was built on an 'outside-in' model: information materials were brought to the institution, and made available for use. This was appropriate in an age of information scarcity and high transaction costs. The only way effectively to interact with a large body of knowledge was to have it assembled close to the reader. Our environment has now changed. We live in an age of information abundance and transaction costs are reduced on the web. This makes the locally assembled collection less central to the lives of readers. At the same time, institutions are generating new forms of data – research data, learning materials, preprints, videos, expertise profiles, etc – which they wish to share with others. These need to be managed and disclosed so as to be discoverable by others, as an 'inside-out' perspective becomes more interesting. This creates new questions for libraries. What is the best scale to do things at (locally or in the cloud)? How do you collaboratively source common infrastructure which creates little unique local impact? How do you better understand the changing research, learning and information workflows of readers and become more engaged with them? How do you become a learning organization which can respond effectively to change?

Lorcan Dempsey oversees the research division and participates in planning at OCLC. He is a librarian who has worked for library and educational organizations in Ireland, England and the US.