

## **Opening Pandora's Box: Is There a Future for Libraries?**

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Libraries have been one of the primary information-providing institutions throughout the history. Sophisticated information organization and retrieval systems have been developed and implemented in the 20th century to serve library users well. Yet, libraries have been experiencing unprecedented changes within the last two decades. Networking and the social media have not only created a much more demanding clientele (so called "digital natives") but also radically transformed the technologies and processes by which libraries provide information services. The overall information eco-system has changed completely. For instance, would it be enough for libraries to move their collections and services to the network or to the cloud? Would publishers continue to see libraries as primary stakeholders in the near future? What kinds of strategies should libraries develop so as to become indispensable in the new information eco-system? We will discuss the implications of some of these developments and speculate on libraries of the future and the future of libraries.

### **Bio**

Professor of information management at the Department of Information Management of Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey. Served as the founding president of the National Academic Network and Information Center (ULAKBIM) of the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK). Served as the Chairman-elect of the Information Management Committee (IMC) of NATO's Research & Technology Organization (RTO) and acted as the Director of Lecture Series on Electronic Information Management. Currently serves as the Chair of the Organizing Committee of the Symposium on Information Management in a Changing World (2007- ). His research focus is on networked information systems, digital libraries, electronic publishing and bibliometrics. Recipient of Hacettepe University's Science Award (2010). Member of several Professional organizations (e.g., American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) and the Turkish Library Association). Holds graduate degrees in library and information studies from the University of California at Berkeley (Ph.D.), the University of Wales (M.Lib.), and the University of Hacettepe (M.A.). For more information: <http://yunus.hacettepe.edu.tr/~tonta/tonta.html>