



# What Will a 22<sup>nd</sup> Century Library Be?

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MOBIUS 2018



Perceptions

Plans

Predictions



# Looking Back, Looking Forward

- Libraries before 1880
- Libraries 1880-1949
- Libraries 1949-1980
- Libraries 1980-2020
- Libraries 2020+

# MU's Ellis Library, 1938



# Technology

- Library of Congress catalog cards
- Typewriters
- OCLC
- Online library systems
- Databases
- Internet everything
- Artificial Intelligence
- Ever-increasing rate of change

# Ellis Information Commons, 2007



# Futurists

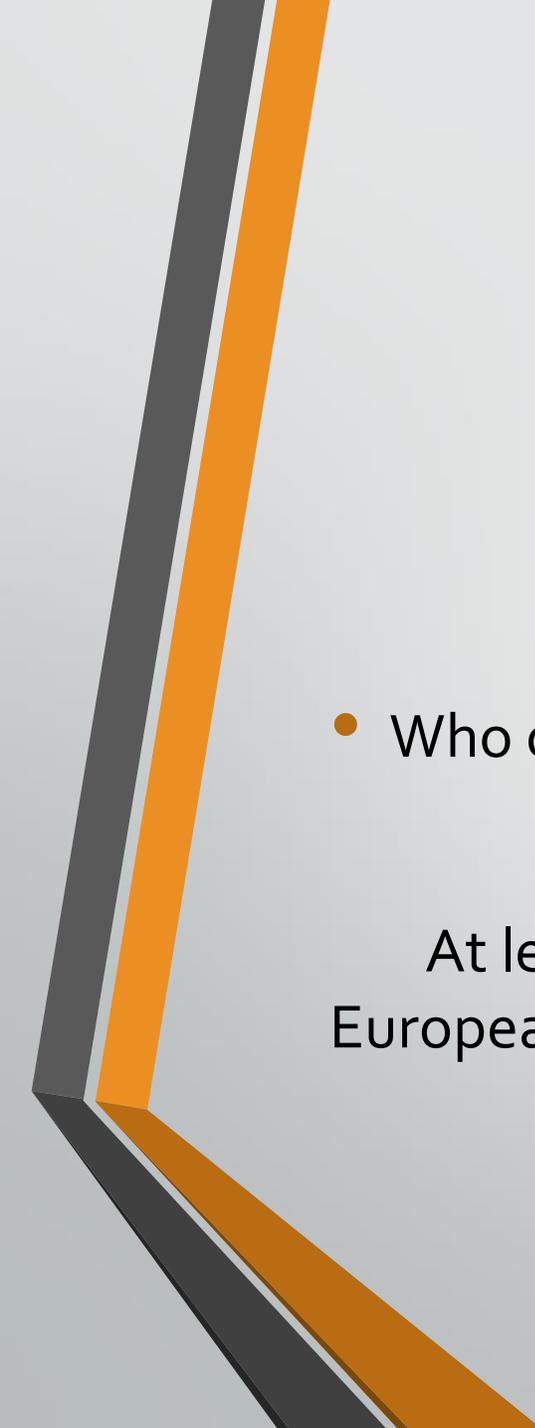
- The Paperless Office (1978)
- The Virtual Library (2001)
- What really happened....
- When does “the future” arrive?
- 1918– 2018—2118—2218 +

2101?



# Uploads As Needed?



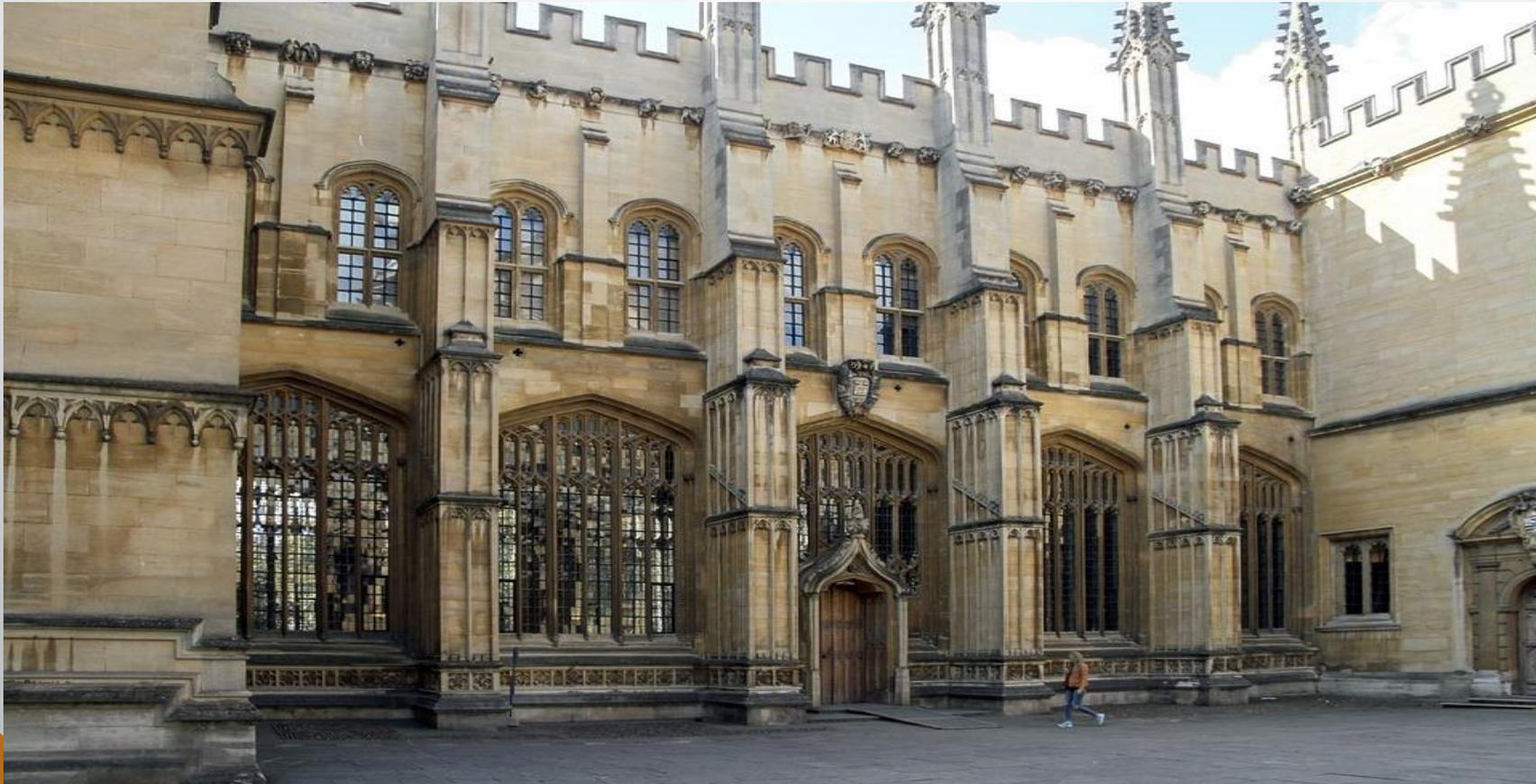


# Cultural Institutions

- Who owns scholarship? Who creates knowledge?

At least 70 libraries around the world more than 500 years old, some at European universities

# Oxford's Bodleian, 1602



# Universities Survive



# We Will Survive



# New Concepts, New Services



# Ithaka Surveys

- 164 “senior leaders and experts” at colleges, universities research groups, etc.  
Urgent issues: degree completion rates, quality of student learning, affordability to students, government actions related to financial aid, diversity in admissions
- Higher Ed Insights: Results of the Spring 2017 Survey. [Rayane Alamuddin](#), [Martin Kurzweil](#), [Daniel Rossman](#) . DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18665/sr.305362>

# Faculty and Administration

- Over 70% still see the libraries' role as acquiring content
- Growth from 15 % to 25% in acknowledging the importance of instruction
- Ithaka S+R US Faculty Survey 2015. [Christine Wolff-Eisenberg](#), [Alisa B. Rod](#), [Roger C. Schonfeld](#) . DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18665/sr.277685>

“For the MIT Libraries, the better world we seek is one in which there is abundant, equitable, meaningful access to knowledge and to the products of the full life cycle of research.”

Preliminary report: MIT Task Force on  
Future of Libraries  
[pubpub.org/pub/future-of-libraries](http://pubpub.org/pub/future-of-libraries)



# ACRL and OCLC

- **Welcome to Visualizing Academic Library Impact: The ACRL/OCLC Literature Analysis Dashboard**
- [Literature Search](#)
- [530 Available Documents](#)
- [Go to Literature Search](#)
- [Charts and Graphs](#)
- [Visualize and Explore the Literature](#)
- [Go to Charts and Graphs](#)
- [Instructions](#)
- [How to Use the Analysis Dashboard](#)



How does all this advocacy relate to the future?

Will new technology help us serve users better?

# Virtual Reality



# Artificial Intelligence



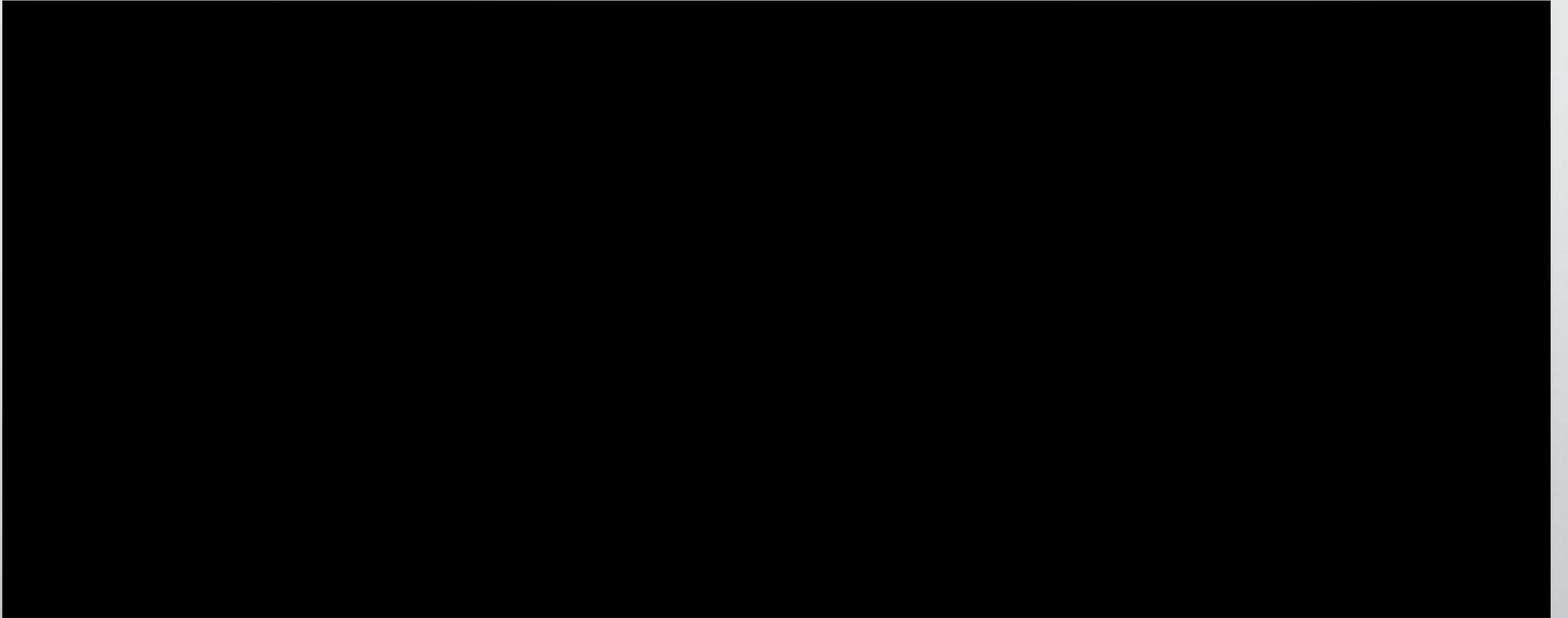
# Brain Implants ??

- “Increased globalisation has resulted in the number of human languages declining from around 7,000 during the late 20th century, to less than half of that figure now.\* Many old sayings, customs and traditions have been abandoned or forgotten as the world becomes an ever smaller and more interconnected place. Changing social and economic conditions have forced many parents to teach their children the *lingua franca*, rather than obscure local dialects, in order to give them a better future. This is especially true in Africa and Asia.
- This broad homogenisation of culture has been further propagated by the stunning advances in technology which have swept the world. Many people in developed countries, for instance, are eschewing their native tongues altogether, relying on brain implants for everyday communications. The young especially are utilising this form of digital telepathy, now sufficiently advanced that verbally speaking has almost become an inconvenience, due to the longer time intervals required in conversations.”
- Ray Kurzweil, 2012

# Spaces and Places?



# Math Homework



# Student Design





# Places

- Collaborative
- Technology rich
- Inspirational

# Google's New Service: Talk to Books

Browse passages from books using experimental AI

[Learn more](#)

## Not a traditional search

Use this demo as a creativity tool to explore ideas and discover books by getting quotes that respond to your queries.

## Use natural language

Speaking to it in sentences will often get better results than keywords. That's because the AI is trained on human conversations.

## Play with it

Try our sample queries then try your own. Experiment with different wording to see how it changes the results.

# What Does 2100 Look Like at Your Library?

- Vastly changed collections
- Many new services
- New configurations, different types of furniture?
- What building (if any) do your students need?