



# ***The Library of Faith and Technology***

***Paulette McLean Johnson***

***33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Seventh-day  
Adventist Librarians, Walla Walla University***

***June 25-30, 2013***





# PURPOSE

Examine the following questions posed in the Call for Proposals:

*1. What is the philosophy of SDA librarianship?*

*2. Has the philosophy of SDA librarianship changed with the changing technology?*

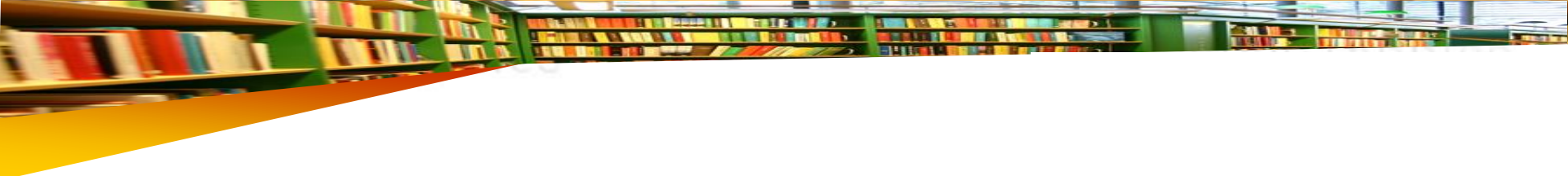
*3. Has the mission of individual SDA libraries been lost sight of in the haste to adapt to change?*



# METHODOLOGY

- ❖ 3 - item Questionnaire via SDA-Librarian Listserv  
(3 times in May)
- ❖ 19 responses from NAD, Africa, Europe
- ❖ Survey of the literature (The Christian Librarian, JAE, Sacred Stacks,  
Christian Librarianship and Education)

**Key terms:** Christian librarianship; Library 2.1, Library Technology, Integration of faith and learning, Seventh-day Adventist Librarians/Librarianship; Seventh-day Adventist Education, Philosophy.



# OUTCOMES

- ❖ To reflect on professional practice.
- ❖ To affirm the role of faith and the use of technology in SDA libraries.
- ❖ To stimulate dialogue on this and other current issues.
- ❖ To formulate a research agenda and to identify research partners.



# DEFINITIONS

## **Philosophy:**

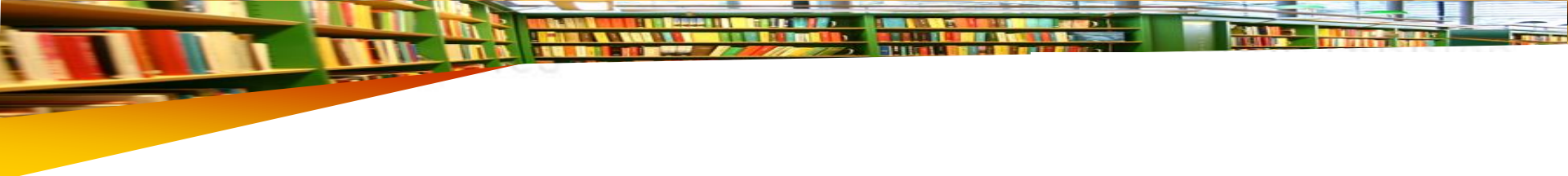
Branch of knowledge that deals with the principles of human behavior the study of morality; ethics. (OED, Online)

## **Faith:**

Confidence, reliance, trust in the ability, goodness, etc., of a person (**Jesus Christ**); in the efficacy or worth of a thing (**Library/Technology**); in the truth of a statement or doctrine (**28 Fundamental Beliefs**). (OED, Online, **supplied**)

## **Worldview:**

“A framework or set of fundamental beliefs through which we view the world and our calling and future in it.” -James Olthuis (in Rasi, 2013)



## **DEFINITIONS**

### **THEISM:**

God exists. He is the Creator and Sovereign of the universe. This Supreme Being is separate from His creation but is involved in its operation. He is a personal God.



# BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW META-NARRATIVE

1. Creation in Heaven
2. Rebellion in Heaven
3. Creation on Earth
4. Fall on Earth
5. Redemption
6. Second Coming
7. Consummation (Rasi, 2013)



# PHILOSOPHY OF SDA EDUCATION

Redemptive -- To restore the image of God.....

Develops the whole person – intellect, physical, spiritual, social

Trains students to think independently and critically

Combined effort of home, school, and church

Results in joyous service to humanity and the ultimate joy and service to God in heaven

Integrates faith and learning seamlessly

“ a deliberate and systematic process of approaching the entire educational enterprise from a Biblical perspective.” (Rasi, 1994)





## PHILOSOPHY OF SDA LIBRARIANSHIP?

- ❖ Support the mission of our institutions; mission of SDA education  
mission of the world church
- ❖ There isn't one/ I don't know...Never heard/seen or read ....
- ❖ To provide information and facilitate learning that will enable individuals to fulfill the mission of the Church (Rev. 14: 6-2)  
leading them to accept Jesus as their Personal Savior...
- ❖ To minister to the information needs of the institution,  
denomination, and community....To support and encourage  
the spiritual growth of patrons and employees.



# PHILOSOPHY OF SDA LIBRARIANSHIP ELEMENTS PROPOSED

- ❖ Facilitate the pursuit of truth
- ❖ Strong appreciation of a commitment to Adventist beliefs, including missiological and evangelical purposes.
- ❖ Committed and compassionate support and respect for the individual – including patron and staff.
- ❖ Wholistic, person-focused, Theocentric



# PHILOSOPHY OF SDA LIBRARIANSHIP ELEMENTS PROPOSED

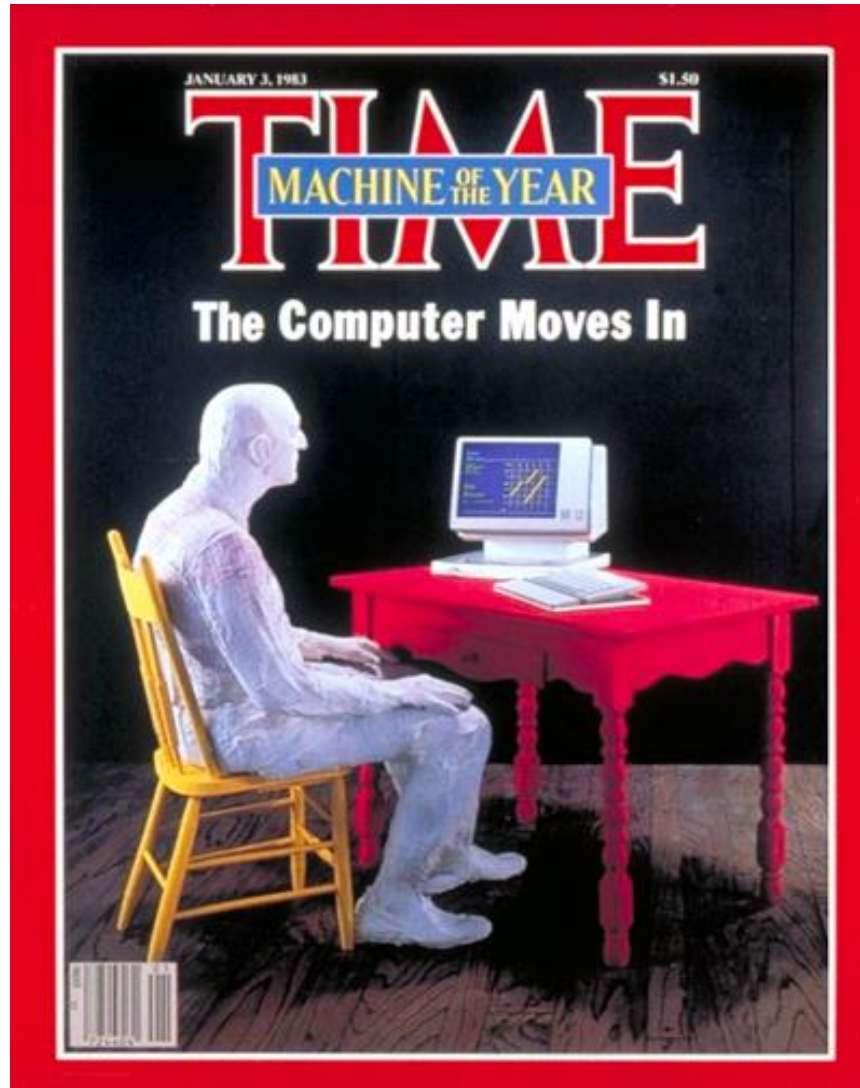
- ❖ Selection of materials with **eternity** in mind.
- ❖ Willingness to help strengthen Adventist institutional and organizational goals, including our churches; missions, educational (K-20) and healthcare institutions.



## PHILOSOPHY OF SDA LIBRARIANSHIP ELEMENTS PROPOSED

Appreciate that “knowledge” has a source and purpose that transcends our immediate survival as a species; and that knowledge ‘creation’ empowers a never-ending joyous service in the **world to come** (Robertson, 2013).

1982



2006

DECEMBER 25, 2006 / JANUARY 1, 2007

www.time.com

TIME

PERSON OF THE YEAR

You.



Yes, you.  
You control the Information Age.  
Welcome to your world.



relationships  
adapt  
facebook  
tolerance  
speed  
insecurity  
mobile  
instant-gratification  
connection  
environmental  
reinventing-ways-to-connect  
global  
passion  
collaboration  
technology  
multi-task  
blackberry  
consensus  
media  
nuance  
family  
agility  
future



## **TECH TRENDS AND LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE DIGITAL AGE (MAY 2013)**

82% - 18+ go online first for information

87% - <30 use social networking sites

95% - < 30 have cell phones

66% - < 30 have smart phones

17% - go online “mostly” with cell phone



A photograph of a library with rows of bookshelves filled with books, viewed from a low angle looking down the aisle. The shelves are green and the books have various colored spines.

# TECH TRENDS AND LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE DIGITAL AGE (MAY 2013)

|     |                  |
|-----|------------------|
| 87% | 18+ cell phones  |
| 61% | laptop computer  |
| 58% | desktop computer |
| 46% | smart phones     |
| 31% | tablets          |
| 26% | e-readers        |

A photograph of a library with rows of bookshelves filled with books, viewed from a low angle looking down the aisle. The shelves are green and the books have various colored spines.

## TECH TRENDS AND LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE DIGITAL AGE (MAY 2013)

Middle School students “**very likely**” to use

|            |                           |
|------------|---------------------------|
| 94%        | Google/Search Engine      |
| 75%        | Wikipedia                 |
| 52%        | YouTube/Social Media      |
| <b>17%</b> | <b>Online databases</b>   |
| <b>16%</b> | <b>Research Librarian</b> |
| <b>12%</b> | <b>Print</b>              |

A photograph of a library with rows of bookshelves filled with books, viewed from a low angle looking down the aisles. The shelves are green and the books have various colored spines.

## TECH TRENDS ...(May 2013)

*60%*

Teachers who believe today's technology makes it harder for students to find credible sources of information



# THE LIBRARY PLACE

Information Commons

Collaborative Spaces / Quiet spaces

Varied seating preferences

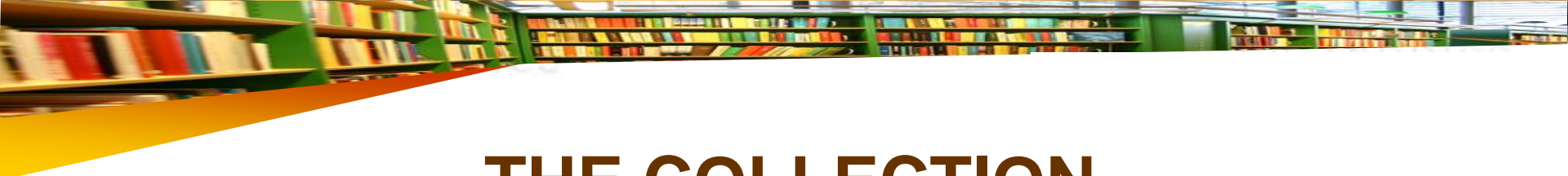
Campus Partners for one stop service

Hybrid Collection

Public scanners, video conferencing, smart boards

24/7 area with keyed access (?mission?)

Fewer visits and to study /not to use resources



# THE COLLECTION

Access and ownership

Open Access

Digital Preservation

Invisible Web (databases absorbed)

E-books

E-journals

Personalized





# THE LIBRARIAN

Multi-skilled

More online instruction

Continuous learning and improvement

Reads professional literature outside field

Good Communicator (in Person and Online)

Be service oriented-Go the extra mile

Teach ethical use of information

Content creators and Researchers

Recruiter and Fundraiser

Approachable and show genuine interest in patron

Collaborate among global community

Job description changes /MLS an option

Have a sense of humor-this too shall pass

**1975**







# SDA LIBRARIES' TECH INNOVATIONS

|      |                                  |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 1975 | AU automates cataloguing         |
| 1980 | SDAPI & Obituary Index           |
| 1981 | ASDAL                            |
| 1995 | SAIL                             |
| 1996 | ALICE                            |
| 1996 | Adventist Pioneer Library CD-ROM |
| 2013 | Adventist Digital Library        |

**2013**





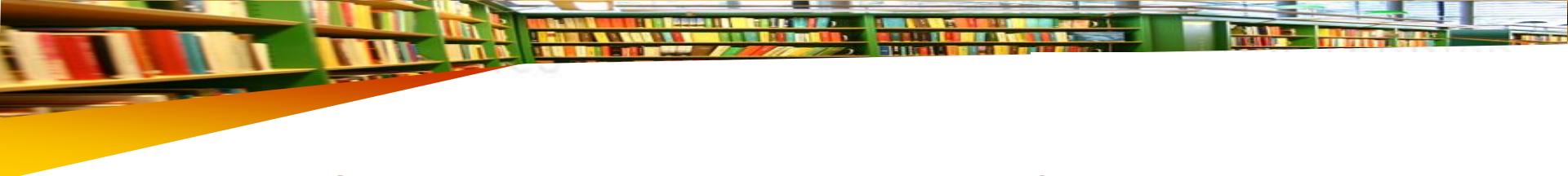
# CORE VALUES

## ALA Core Values (2004)

- ❖ Access
- ❖ Confidentiality
- ❖ Democracy
- ❖ Diversity
- ❖ Education & Lifelong Learn'
- ❖ Intellectual Freedom
- ❖ Preservation
- ❖ The Public Good
- ❖ Professionalism
- ❖ Service
- ❖ Social Responsibility

## CLA Core Values (2002)

- ❖ Intellectual Freedom
- ❖ Order
- ❖ Stewardship
- ❖ Service
- ❖ Integrity
- ❖ Learning (Smith, 16-17)
- ❖ Love (Education, 16)



## STATEMENT ON THEOLOGICAL AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- ❖ Primacy of scripture
- ❖ Within the context of the mission of the institution
- ❖ “Listening to alternatives will always advance truth. Either the alternative will strengthen or enlarge upon the truth, or it will stand exposed as false...”



# OUR MISSION

To provide our clientele with current, relevant information, thereby supporting the larger mission ....which is to stimulate academic excellence and spiritual development. (Jamaica)

Library staff are committed to providing excellent facilities and services to support student learning and research. (Great Britain)

The library serves the academic and intellectual development of students, faculty, and staff.... effectively for research, study, and preparation of class assignments (Middle East)

A centre of dissemination of knowledge (India)

*Meet the information and research needs of faculty, students (Africa)*



# OUR MISSION

Develop the whole being of students and faculty..support and upgrade libraries of Adventist institutions around the world (Andrews)

Provide instruction and resource materials that promote spiritual, professional and personal development ( AUHS)

Library staff is committed to meeting the needs of clients through integrity, competence, efficiency in a context of caring, patience and understanding (LaSierra)

Serves students, faculty, staff, and community members in their intellectual and spiritual growth (Union)

Within a Christian context, the library manages the knowledge commons and instructs users in its proper use ... for critical thinking... (Southern)

... succeed in their academic pursuits; develop a vibrant Christian life..develop lifelong habits of curiosity and learning (Southwestern)

A photograph of a library with rows of bookshelves filled with books, viewed from a low angle looking down a long aisle. The shelves are green and the books have colorful spines. The image is partially obscured by a yellow and orange diagonal graphic element at the bottom left.

# MISSION APPLIED

Library instruction

Library exhibits

Collection development policy

Educational programs

Allocation of budget to provide resources

Drop everything to serve students



# MISSION APPLIED

Collect and preserve our history

Digitize and make available materials to researchers worldwide

Reference walk-up & consultation services for students and Community

Employees share prayer requests and support each other





# MISSION APPLIED

Provide breakfast for students during exam week

Being Christ-like

Provide resources that enhance spiritual growth

24/7 access to resources

Worldwide ILL

World-class service

Close early on Fridays

Portray Christianity in words, actions, attire, etc.



# **LIBRARY OF FAITH IN PRACTICE**

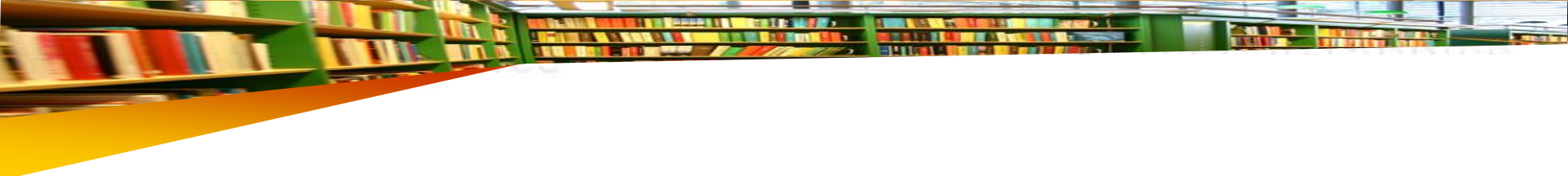
- ❖ Provide access to collections that allow students to integrate faith and learning.
- ❖ Demonstrate love and concern for patrons and staff.
- ❖ Teach students the ethical use of information sources.
- ❖ Enable students to become lifelong Christian Thinkers.



# ***MISSION CONTINUES***

***Mission has not been lost.***

***Continues to guide planning, innovation, and sustainability.***



***THANK YOU***

***REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST***