# InfoSphere :
# NAVIGATING THE WORLD OF INFORMATION

**Preserving the Past, Valuing Present, Enriching the Future**

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

Fakulti
Sains Maklumat

# InfoSphere:
## Navigating the World of Information

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# Preface

It gives me great pleasure to present *InfoSphere: Navigating the World of Information*, a collective effort that brings together insightful discussions, empirical findings, and critical reflections from academics in information management, library management, records management, and information and communication technology (ICT).

In today's digital era, the vast and complex landscape of information continues to expand at an unprecedented pace. The convergence of technology and information systems has transformed how data is created, organized, stored, and utilized. This book aims to navigate that dynamic "infosphere" , a term that reflects the interconnected environment in which information flows seamlessly across platforms, disciplines, and contexts.

The chapters compiled here explore diverse perspectives and contemporary issues shaping the management of information resources and services. From emerging trends in digital librarianship and knowledge governance to innovations in ICT applications and recordkeeping practices, each contribution highlights the growing importance of integrating technology, policy, and human expertise in managing information effectively.

This publication also serves as a reflection of our faculty's commitment to advancing scholarship and practice in the information domain. It showcases the intellectual depth and interdisciplinary collaboration among academics who continue to shape the future of information work.

As the Chief Editor, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all the contributing authors for their dedication and scholarly rigor, and to the editorial team for their meticulous effort in ensuring the quality and coherence of this volume. Special thanks are also extended to the Faculty of Information Science and Universiti Teknologi MARA Cawangan Johor for their continuous support and encouragement in realizing this publication.

I hope that *InfoSphere: Navigating the World of Information* will inspire readers among students, educators, researchers, and practitioners alike to engage critically with the evolving information landscape and to contribute meaningfully to its advancement.


**Azura Abdul Jamil @ Kamarudzzaman**
Chief Editor
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# INFORMATION PROFESSIONAL IN LIBRARY CONTEXT

By Siti Nur Shahira Dahari, Siti Hajar Baharin ,Nurfaizah Kamarudin
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## 1.0 Introduction

Information has become one of society's most valuable resources in this age of rapid technological and digital change. To keep track of all this information, you need skilled professionals who can gather, sort, evaluate, and share it quickly. These individual are referred as information professionals. They work in a number of fields, such as libraries, archives, research institutes, organizations, and digital platforms. Their job is to make sure that information is accurate, easy to find, and used responsibly. The information professional's job goes beyond just managing data; it also includes understanding what users need, putting information technology into action, and helping people make decisions and learn new things. As the world of information changes, organizations and society as a whole need information professionals more and more.

An Information Professional is someone who knows a lot about organizing, managing, and finding information, and they often work in environments where technology changes quickly (Miller, 2017). Winterburn (2023) describes the information professional as an important link between huge data stores and the information needs of the end user. This job requires not only technical knowledge of data management and retrieval systems but also a deep understanding of information literacy and user centered service design (Jorgensen & Weis-Fogh, 2024).

An information professional is someone who are train to manage information resources and services. In library context they might be called a:

- Librarian
  Is a keeper of knowledge, a curator of collections, and a teacher who helps people find their way through information landscapes. This profession has changed a lot over time encompass task of preserve digital files, create metadata, and use new technologies to make things easier to find and access (Tait et al., 2016).

- Information specialist
  A professional who analyzes, organizes, and disseminates information within specialized domains, often using advanced technological tools to make it easier to access and understand (Hjorland et al., 2013).

- Knowledge manager
  Is a professional in charge of organizing the creation, sharing, and use of organizational knowledge to encourage new ideas and better efficiency and productivity (Schope, 2020).

- Digital librarian

A digital librarian is a specialist that manage and protect digital resources so that they can be accessed and used for a long time viability within an increasingly digital information environment (Zeiller, 2022).

- Data curator

Is a specialist in charge of organizing, preserving, and maintaining research data in a systematic way to make sure it is accurate, usable, and accessible for a long time (Varalakshmi, 2006).

## 2.0 Emerging of the Information Professional

In today's swiftly advancing digital landscape, knowledge is crucial to all facets of modern existence. The creation, storage, and utilization of information have evolved due to the abundance of data, developments in information and communication technology, and an increasing reliance on knowledge-based decision-making. These specialists are essential for the management, preservation, and accessibility of information across diverse contexts, including libraries, archives, corporations, and digital platforms. The emergence of the information professional reflects both technological innovation and society's evolving demands for accurate, reliable, and ethical information management. Comprehending the evolution, competencies, and obstacles of this emerging profession is crucial for recognizing its importance in the information era.

The responsibilities of information professionals must be continuously reassessed inside contemporary libraries, transitioning from conventional custodianship to the embrace of new roles in advancing knowledge infrastructures (Zhang & Liu, 2025) (Miller, 2017). This transition is primarily attributable to swift technical progress. It has transformed the methods by which individuals acquire, disseminate, and employ information (Adigun et al., 2024). Due to these changes, information professionals must master the navigation of intricate digital ecosystems and facilitate user engagement with diverse information sources (Zhang & Liu, 2025). As a result, information professionals are transitioning from static repositories of information to dynamic agents of knowledge creation and exchange. They are assuming additional responsibilities, such as employing advanced technologies and supporting open access initiatives (Onunka et al., 2023) (Ramesh, 2025). This redefinition aims to enhance academic discourse and pedagogical methods by cultivating new competencies, especially in data management and artificial intelligence (Kaur, 2024).

A prime example of this technical advancement is the rise of artificial intelligence. It is instigating substantial alterations in the operations of Library and Information Science and is revolutionizing several sectors worldwide (Alam et al., 2024). As a result, the essential competencies of librarians are transforming. They need to be able to understand the limits of technology, combine knowledge from different fields, and keep ethical standards in a society that is driven by algorithms. To address the requirements of its clients and remain current with creative pedagogical approaches, libraries are adopting new technology, such as artificial intelligence (Enakrire & Oladokun, 2023). This integration

seeks to revolutionize information management methods, improve user experiences, and streamline processes (Kumar & Jyoti, 2024).

To maintain relevance and efficacy in an era where technology and automation is transforming knowledge production and accessibility, information professionals must actively develop advanced skills, especially in artificial intelligence (Sousa, 2025) (Cox, 2022). Comprehending AI's capabilities, limits, and ethical implications is crucial for leveraging technology to improve library operations and services (Oladokun et al., 2025). From this progressive viewpoint, information professionals must employ AI-driven solutions like chatbots and recommendation systems to improve and tailor individuals' information-seeking experiences (Chandrashekara & Mulimani, 2024). Furthermore, academic libraries need to quickly change from being just places to get information to being important places to learn about artificial intelligence. This will help people become better citizens who don't let algorithms take over and support cognitive justice.(Sousa, 2025).

The rise of the information professional signifies a substantial transformation in societal perceptions and management of knowledge. The demand for skilled individuals capable of organizing, analyzing, and protecting information is rising as it emerges as the principal driver of social, educational, and economic progress. Currently, information professionals function as essential intermediaries linking data, technology, and human understanding. They guarantee that information is trustworthy, accessible, and utilized ethically. The swift transformations in the digital era demand ongoing education, flexibility, and adherence to professional standards, as seen by their changing role. In the end, the rise of the information professional represents not only a new career path, but also an essential reaction to the difficulties and opportunities that our information-driven world presents.

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