

FUTURE OF NEWS LIBRARIES

Special Libraries Association – News Division

<adapted from Arthur Hawkins' StoryTech>

You are reading The New York Times on your iPhoneIV on the morning of June 18, 2012. A headline catches your eye:

“Librarians Leading Innovation in Newsrooms across the Country”

You were one of several news librarians interviewed for the article two weeks earlier. As you read it, you realize you are quoted several times.

To the question, *“What is the greatest professional opportunity awaiting news librarians today?”* the article quotes you as follows:

To the question, *“How could you and other news librarians create that opportunity within a newsroom?”* you said:

The article quotes you on the topic of continuous innovation. The quote begins, *“Yes, I think of myself as an innovator. Innovation in my organization is expected of everyone - researcher, reporter, editor, or intern. News librarians are leading that charge. Historically, we took a major step in 2008 to begin our leadership in continuous innovation.”* You go on to describe what you did in 2008:

Finally, the reporter asked you, *“What was the biggest impediment news librarians had to overcome in order to put themselves at the front of the pack on continuous innovation.”*

After you finish the article, you think for a few moments about a new technology that is going to be introduced in your own newsroom within the next six months.

What is that new technology?

What will your role be in implementing the new technology?

How have your years of going to SLA conferences helped you lead the Innovation team that will ensure smooth adoption of this technology?