Special Libraries Association
Annual Conference
2009

Solo Librarians Division Program:
The New Face of the Special Librarian:
the Embedded Librarian

Presentation by
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Do Embedded Librarians Have More Fun?
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How Do I Know ???

Models of Embedded Librarianship

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Do Embedded Librarians Have More Fun?

Yes, Absolutely!
What Are We Talking About When We Talk About Embedded Librarians?

One organization’s embedded librarian is another’s informationist . . .
Do you provide specialized services to any single customer group within your organization?

☑ Yes, I provide specialized services to one or more customer groups.
Who’s Embedded?

Solo law librarian working for a single office firm, providing services to all

Solo law librarian working in a branch office of a multi-office law, providing services to all in the branch

Solo law librarian providing specialized services (working exclusively) for an intellectual property group
Embedded Librarians Have More Fun
Because...They Are...

- In the driver's seat
- In the fast lane
- In a Porsche
Embedded Librarians Have More Fun

“In the Driver’s Seat,” they...

Generate work

Hear the “unasked questions”

Drive interactions
Embedded Librarians Have More Fun

“In the Fast Lane,” they are...

- Riding with customer groups
- “Sharing the load” for outcomes
- Trucking with the organization’s goals
"In a Porsche," they have traded in a Toyota to...
Embedded Librarians Have More Fun

“Does it add up to ‘fun’?”

A piece of the action

New relationships

Value added services

Broader skill sets

New opportunities

Excitement

Job satisfaction
Solo Librarians Have What it Takes

To join the fun:

- Organization size – small may be better
- Industry Types – anyone can join
- Education and Experience – MLS welcome, experience necessary
Solo Librarians Have What it Takes

To join the fun:

- Entrepreneurial Spirit – you’re already there
- Management Support – ready-made relationships
- Library Management Support – you’re it
Embedded Librarians Have More Fun

Come along for the ride …

Join the fun …

You won’t be alone for long.
Questions?

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