Abstract
Papers narrates the journey of academic libraries from paper era to electronic environment and documents their changing role. Paper argues that today's academic libraries must include the latest in information technology, wireless access, production and multimedia software and workstations for users and combine them with the expertise of librarians and IT staff, and often focused in a learning commons area. Paper concludes that role of academic libraries in fostering research continue to exist. What will probably change will be the mode, scale and ways in which we engage in learning, teaching and research.

Introduction
Information technologies are impacting the university library's collections, services and spaces. Learning and research are dependent on the availability of a mechanism or system that stores, transfers and transmits knowledge. No effective learning or research can take place without this mechanism. This is because learning and research are cumulative activities. Progress in learning and research depends on prior progress made and the knowledge transfer mechanism is necessary for cumulative knowledge to be used effectively. Our future libraries must include the latest in information technology, wireless access, production and multimedia software and workstations for users, these are now combined with the expertise of librarians and IT staff, and often focused in a learning commons area. As well, print collections of books, journals, government reports, special collections and archives are essential resources to access the past and present.

The New Learning Environment and Its Impact on Libraries
The future of academic libraries is dependent on the future of universities. The information and communication revolution in the last decade have created many new scenarios for universities to ponder. E-learning, open learning, digital libraries, collaborations and strategic alliances are some of the buzzwords we hear today. However, whatever the future scenario, it is likely that the role of universities in learning and research will remain fundamental to their mission. What will probably change will be the mode, scale and ways in which we engage in learning, teaching and research.
A Little Library History

Academic Library in Tomorrow

Five Parts of a Strategy
There are five parts of a strategy for maintaining the library as a vibrant enterprise worthy of support from our campuses:

1. Complete the migration from print to electronic collections and capture the efficiencies made possible by this change.

2. Retire legacy print collections in a way that efficiently provides for its long-term preservation and makes access to this material available when required. This will free space that can be repurposed.

3. Reposition library and information tools, resources, and expertise so it is embedded into the teaching, learning, and research enterprises. This includes both human and, increasingly, computer-mediated systems. Emphasis should be placed on external, not library-centered, structures and systems.

4. Redevelop the library as the primary informal learning space on the campus. In the process partnerships with other campus units that support research, teaching, and learning should be developed.

5. Shift the focus of collections from purchasing materials to curating content.

Changing Object of Academic Library
- Is changing “L” school to “I” school a solution?
- “L” or “I” knowledge vs. domain knowledge

Changing Roles of Academic Library
- Libraries as Educators
- Libraries as R&D Organizations
- Creating Metadata
- Offering Virtual Reference Services
- Maintaining Digital Repositories
- Collaborators in research, teaching

Changing Role of Librarians
- Knowledge Resources for Community
- Promoters of Open Strategies
- Researchers and Developers of Open Capabilities
- Enablers of Open Digital Education
- Interact more with the users and have better understanding of their information seeking and problem solving behavior.

Changing of User Expectation
- Perfect collection
- Excellent services
- Beautiful and lively place
- Physical & virtual accessibilities
- Friendly and helpful library staff
- Modern technology Etc.

Institutional Expectation
- Teaching and learning support
- Effective budget management
- Efficient library staff
- And compared with other libraries, “We Are Better Or The Best”

Advancing the Repository Movement
- National Repositories
- Institutional Repositories
- Discipline Repositories
- Consortium Repositories
- Individual Repositories
- Virtual Repositories

Group Membership
- National Libraries
- University Presses
- University Libraries
- Book Publishers
- Software Companies
- Electronic Publishers
- Library Associations
- Museums

Library Cooperation
- Library Systems
- Local and Regional Cooperation
- National Consortia
- International Partnerships
- Researcher Collaboration
- Publisher Collaboration
- Collaboration with Technology Organizations

Advantages of Digital Information
- Accessibility
- Availability
• Searchability
• Dynamism
• Researchability
• Interdisciplinary
• Multimedia Aspects
• Linkability

Digital Library what is needed
• Building the Infrastructure
• Open Web Content
• Institutional Content
• Multimedia Content
• Integrated Services
• Software Tools
• Creating Metadata

Education in Cyberspace
• Land Rush/Web Rush
• Electronic Commerce
• Online Education Entrepreneurs

Network Development what is needed
• Connectivity
• Performance
• Reliability
• Capacity/Bandwidth

• Interoperability
• New Applications

Innovations in virtual Reference Services
• Browsing versus Search
• Journals versus Repositories
• Find Articles (http://www.findarticles.com)
• Merriam-Webster online (http://www.m.w.com)
• Britannica versus Wikipedia (http://www.wikipedia.org)
• Yahoo Answer (http://answer.yahoo.com)
• Dictionary.com (http://dictionary.reference.com)
• Answer.com (http://www.answer.com)
• Google Scholar (http://scholar.google.com)
• Google Book Search (http://books.google.com)

Conclusion
Academic libraries provide services that help students and academics reduce, or at least deal with such complexities more effectively. The future of academic libraries is dependent on the future of universities. The information and communication revolution in the last decade have created many new scenarios for universities to ponder. E-learning, open learning, virtual libraries, digital libraries, collaboratories and strategic alliances are some of the buzzwords we hear today. If we cannot or will not do this, our campuses will invest in other priorities and the libraries will slowly, but surely, atrophy and become a little used museum of the book.