

Editors preface

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The library profession was and is undergoing dynamic changes related to the processes taking place in the information and culture contexts of modern society. Reflection on the profession, its role, responsibilities, competence, and development have been central to LIS research from the middle of the 19th century. This is an ongoing process as one can see from the latest edition of the *Svensk Biblioteksforskning*, which includes three articles exploring different aspects of LIS professional development processes.

Anne-Sofie Axelsson, Diane Sonnenwald, and Maria Spante have explored the the need for a modern sociotechnical instrument for professional collaboration (collaboratory) by interviewing ten professional librarians from different libraries. They discuss the advantages, as seen by the librarians, for creating a collaboratory, the barriers that can hinder the process, and the role that a collaboratory could play for librarians' professional development and work.

Anna Sofia Perotti focuses her attention on the problem of marketing the librarian's expertise and information competence as an alternative and complement to marketing library services. She draws parallels with the marketing of other professional competences, reviews literature about the existing attempts to promote librarians' professional skills and knowledge, and interviews four librarians about their experience in library marketing.

Lars Seldén exploits rich data collected in the Swedish librarians' registries published in 1932, 1949, 1955, and 1967 to demonstrate the development of educational and recruitment changes within librarianship. He introduces the data sources in detail in the first part of the article. The second part includes statistical analysis that exposes the process of the establishment of librarianship as a profession dominated by women.

The issue also includes three reviews of books recently published in Nordic countries. In addition, a scholarly journal published by Vilnius University (Lithuania) is introduced– *Knygotyra* (Book Science).

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