

ADINET (Advanced Information Network of Libraries in Gujarat)
e-News Digest

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Pause & Ponder

“I have a passion for teaching kids to become readers, to become comfortable with a book, not daunted. Books shouldn’t be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage.”

– Roald Dahl

ADINET Librarian’s Day 2026



National Forensic Sciences University
Knowledge | Wisdom | Fulfillment
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(Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India)



ADINET Librarian’s Day Seminar 2026

In Collaboration with
National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar

**Secure Knowledge
Networks:
Libraries in the Era of
Cyber Security and Digital
Collaboration**



August 22, 2026 | NFSU, Gandhinagar, Gujarat

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Readers Please Note

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Little free libraries are turning into 'Little Bee Libraries' to give pollinators a cozy place to rest



Rachael Harms Mahlandt specializes in “sidewalk joy.”

For years, the Portland artist, who goes by @pdxdinorama on social media, has been helping her neighbors transform ordinary walkways, curb gardens, and front yards into colorful, interactive art installations.

Through the Worldwide Sidewalk Joy Map, Harms Mahlandt encourages artists around the world to “add whimsy” to their own neighborhoods with tiny puzzle libraries, Wishing Trees, toy swaps, miniature art museums, plant exchanges, dino dioramas — and, of course, little free libraries.

And one of her latest additions to the list isn’t just sparking joy; it’s helping the pollinators in her neighborhood thrive.

On May 5, Manlandt shared a video of a Little Bee Library, a bookbox that had been transformed into a miniature garden for local pollinators to rest and recharge...

Source: [Goodgoodgood, 28 May 2026](#)

Mychal Threats Brings ‘Library Joy’ to Harvard



The librarian and social media star gave the keynote address for Harvard Graduate School of Education’s convocation.

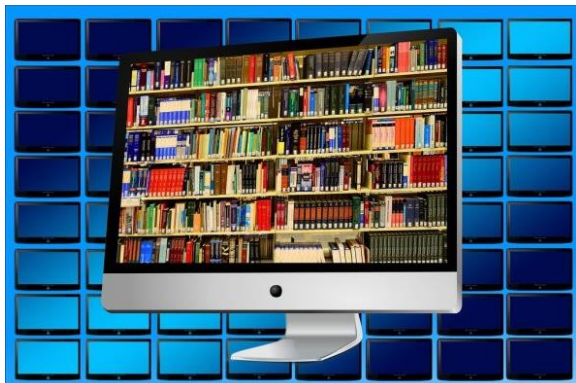
Homeschooled as a child, Mychal Threats “grew up” in the libraries of

Solano County, California. He began his career there shelving books, before eventually becoming a supervising librarian in the same system.

At the 2026 Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) convocation ceremony, Threets, a social media star and the host of the Reading Rainbow reboot on PBS, recounted that origin story to illustrate the role libraries can play in shaping individual lives. In conversation with HGSE Dean Nonie Lesaux, he also spoke about the enduring social and civic role of public libraries...

Source: [Harvard Magazine, 28 May 2026](#)

The Future of Large Libraries in an AI-Driven World



People have always viewed libraries as majestic centers of knowledge, culture, and learning. Over the centuries of their existence, they've undergone multiple changes, successfully adapting to technological progress.

At first, all manuscripts were handwritten; later, they were printed. Today, we have AI, and while it has made some scholars concerned about the future, it has already become a vital part of modern libraries. Find out about the current impacts of artificial intelligence in libraries and see what else we might expect to witness in the future.

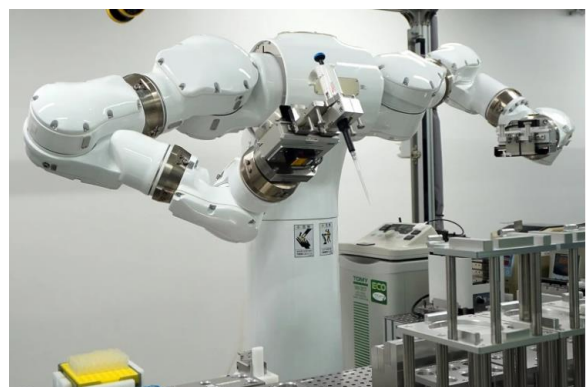
How AI Is Reshaping Libraries

A lot of physical libraries have started going digital long before the introduction of AI. Common and rare books, music that used to be available only through vinyl records, movies that you could watch only in cinemas or in VHS format: today, accessing the piece you're interested in is simpler than our parents and grandparents could ever imagine.

The evolution of the Internet and other tech is what made all types of collections accessible. Music fans can access large libraries with their favorite songs by going through torrent websites; safety tools like VPNs help them preserve their privacy and get better access to the most obscure resources. Various books are available online; if you can't find a copy, you can check if a library holds the title you need digitally before making a physical visit to it...

Source: [Easy Reader, 28 May 2026](#)

Robots run this laboratory in Japan — and are changing how scientists work



In a biology laboratory in Tokyo, ten robots conduct experiments, using their two arms to handle liquids, grow cells on plates and operate scientific instruments, among other basic tasks.

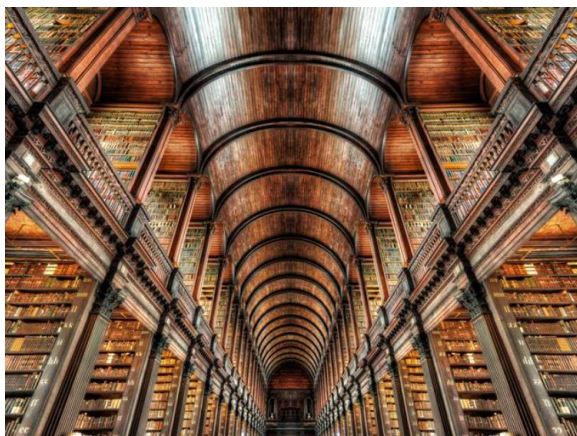
The Robotics Innovation Center at the Institute of Science Tokyo opened its

automated laboratory in April. Later this year, the lab will be made available for use by other researchers at the institute, says Genki Kanda, an automation researcher who works at the robotics centre. He says that the lab's ultimate goal is to create a "factory-scale" facility with thousands of robots that could be used by local and international scientists by 2040 or 2050.

A laboratory with that many robots would be exciting, says Yan Zeng, a materials scientist at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. "I will be curious to see how soon they are really going to achieve that goal," notes Zeng, who hopes that the lab could be used by scientists globally, in a similar way to leading scientific facilities such as Europe's particle-physics lab, CERN...

Source: [Nature, 26 May 2026](#)

How to articulate a clear identity for university libraries – and why it matters



"(T)he library's purpose is now in question. Is it just a study hall where students gather to work? A high-tech teaching space? Or merely the physical infrastructure for housing various campus functions, like coffee shops, advising centres or even an honours college?"

This observation by a history professor highlights a lack of clarity about the identity of today's academic libraries.

Such uncertainty is relatively recent. Just a few decades ago, the stacks of printed volumes dominating the library's buildings projected its clear-cut identity as the indispensable conduit to scholarly information, epitomised by metaphors such as "academic temple" or "scholars' playground". The transition to digital information changed everything, upending the library's monopoly of access to published scholarship...

Source: [Times Higher Education, 25 May 2026](#)

Plagiarism of ideas in the age of generative artificial intelligence

Generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) tools are challenging our understanding of plagiarism. How should we deal with plagiarism of ideas if this misbehaviour is increasingly common, and it is extremely difficult to prove when GenAI is involved? Definitions of research misconduct that specifically address the use of GenAI tools are needed.

During the early 1990s, the scientific community forged a consensus that research misconduct includes three types of unethical behaviour: fabrication of data (or images); falsification of data; and plagiarism. Historically, these three types of misbehaviour have been grouped together because they considerably damage the integrity of research. Fabrication and falsification, both of which involve the propagation of falsehoods, undermine the integrity and reliability of the research record; and plagiarism, which is essentially a form of intellectual theft, harms the research environment by eroding trust among scientists, distorting the academic record and provenance, and

discouraging innovation and original inquiry. Those who are found to have committed research misconduct can face serious adverse career consequences, including debarment of grant funding and employment termination...

Source: [Nature Machine Intelligence, 18 May 2026](#)

Do we absorb information better on paper, rather than screens? It depends on the screen



The Swedish government recently announced it was moving from the classroom use of digital devices back to physical books. It cited concerns over declining test scores and increasing screen time.

Are these concerns well founded? And what does the science of reading say about the possible consequences of reading on digital devices versus books?

To address these questions, it's worth remembering that, although reading might appear to be an easy task, this impression is false. Reading is arguably the most difficult task one must learn – one that requires years of formal education and practice to master. In contrast to spoken language, it is a skill we are not biologically predisposed to learn.

Why is reading so difficult?

To understand why reading is difficult, one must first understand the physiology of reading.

As you are reading this sentence, your eyes are making a series of rapid movements, called saccades, from one word to the next. During these saccades, the processing of visual information is suppressed and is only available during brief intervals, called fixations, when the eyes are stationary.

Experiments that measure readers' eye movements have shown we fixate most words because our capacity to extract visual information during each fixation is extremely limited...

Source: [The Conversation, 07 May 2026](#)

Lament for the MIT Libraries

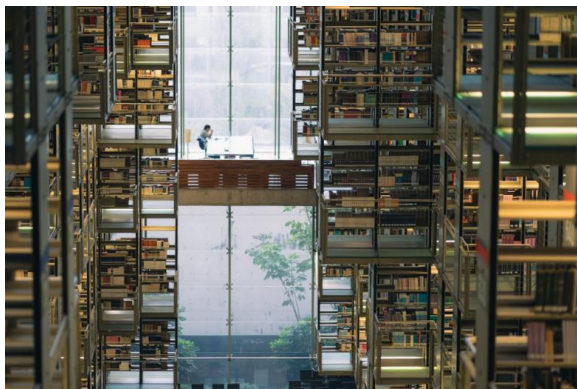
For universities across time, the library was the heart, research center, and substance of the knowledge and processes of education that any university contributed to, built on and extended. Indigenous Poet Kaitlin Curtice celebrates how libraries pervade, inspire and become substance of our lives, communities and development [see the first quote below]. Libraries invite us into worlds, understandings and questions that stretch our experience and put us in dialogue [see second quote below] with the direct words and efforts of those of disparate times, outlooks, cultures and conditions.

I write with dismay, grief and sorrow for the permanent closure of MIT Libraries Barker, Dewey and Rotch [not yet closed, but likely to suffer the same fate, ed. note], and termination of library staff in those libraries. For over half a century, I have learned, studied, researched, reflected, taught, created and rested in these libraries, as an MIT undergraduate, graduate and postdoc student, as an MIT researcher and instructor, and as an MIT alum. Across the diverse ever-changing areas of the

studies and investigations that involve me and my students – from physics to poetry, from historical science to electrical engineering, from sculpture to photography, from philosophy to psychology – all the MIT Libraries have stimulated, opened, and connected us with human efforts, current and historical, to understand, express and learn in and with the world. Welcoming for me, and all students, the MIT Libraries were oases, spaces apart from the stresses, deadlines, demands of this school, where one could reflect apart, go to a familiar bookshelf, read in companionship with others and be challenged by human voices new, unexpected and concerned for nature, learning and truth. The MIT Librarians and MIT Libraries Circulation desk were available, interested and open to assist for whatever confused questions, incomplete references, tangential details or specific analyses we might be working on or stumped by [see MIT 1912, third quote below]. There were always other places to look, another staircase to climb, or resources to consider. MIT Libraries could open to anywhere and also facilitate rethinking of one’s own understanding and local contexts...

Source: **MIT Faculty Newsletter, May/June 2026**

AI and Libraries: Why Librarians May Become Arbiters of Reality



I’ve written a lot for my newsletter The Bottom Line about AI and publishing—the copyright lawsuits, the controversy over AI detection and disclosure, the new AI-based editorial services—but a recent Book Industry Study Group webinar offered specific insights I hadn’t heard before: librarians as the publishing industry’s early warning system. Librarians are not working in the realm of “what if” when it comes to AI; they’re managing the real-world effects right now.

BISG executive director Brian O’Leary presented survey data about libraries and AI, followed by a conversation with R. David Lankes, a library scholar who has conducted research in the field.

BISG’s survey on AI and what it says about librarians

BISG conducted a survey on AI use across the publishing supply chain, drawing responses from publishers, librarians, and industry partners. The full dataset was presented in an earlier webinar; this session focused specifically on the library segment...

Source: **Jane Friedman, 23 Apr 2026**

ADINET Librarian’s Day 2026

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This issue has been compiled by the Institute for Plasma Research (IPR) Library, Gandhinagar