What’s Hot in Intellectual Freedom?

The FBI has not been here

[watch very closely for the removal of this sign]
What is Intellectual Freedom and why is it important?

• **Intellectual freedom** is the right of every individual to both seek and receive information from all points of view without restriction. It provides for free access to all expressions of ideas through which any and all sides of a question, cause or movement may be explored.

• **Intellectual freedom** is the basis for our democratic system. We expect our people to be self-governors. But to do so responsibly, our citizenry must be well-informed. Libraries provide the ideas and information, in a variety of formats, to allow people to inform themselves.

• **Intellectual freedom** encompasses the freedom to hold, receive and disseminate ideas.

• A Core Value of librarianship
NSA Judgement where the appeals court ruled last week that the National Security Agency's collection of telephone metadata was not authorized under section 215 of the Patriot Act

Edward Snowden was right? But still violated his promise to keep NSA secrets

Congress has until June 1 to pass legislation and if the ruling is not overturned by SCOTUS, the NSA may have to abandon the program
IF News

• Net Neutrality  FCC ruling from Feb, 2015: ISP’s and governments should treat all data on the Internet equally, not discriminating or charging differentially by user, content, site, platform, application, type of attached equipment, or mode of communication.

• FCC ruling in favor of Net Neutrality

• What are the new rules?
  • No Blocking: as long as its legal, its okay
  • No Throttling: providers can't single out Internet traffic based on who sends it, where it's going, what the content happens to be or whether that content competes with the provider's business
  • No Paid Prioritization: rules prohibit Internet fast lanes
The Library Freedom Project (libraryfreedomproject.org)

Awarded $244,700 in Jan, 2015 from the Knight Foundation to expand on what they have already done.

Their goal: “The Library Freedom Project teaches librarians about privacy rights, law, and tech tools to protect patrons from dragnet surveillance.”

Website has several IF sources (librarians, technologists, attorneys, and privacy advocates) for all librarians

Alison Macrina’s acceptance of award
IF News

• Intellectual Freedom Manual, Ninth Edition was released in April, 2015

• An indispensable resource for day-to-day guidance on maintaining free and equal access to information for all people

• Eighth Ed. is available online (http://www.ifmanual.org/) & the Ninth Ed. Is available through the ALA Store and Amazon

• Reports of challenges from media across the country are compiled in the bimonthly Newsletter on Intellectual Freedom
Challenges to IF

- Book Challenges
  - 311 in 2014
  - 307 in 2013
  - 464 in 2012 (Fifty Shades of Grey released in 2011)

1) *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, by Sherman Alexie
2) *Persepolis*, by Marjane Satrapi
3) *And Tango Makes Three*, Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell
4) *The Bluest Eye*, by Toni Morrison
5) *It’s Perfectly Normal*, by Robie Harris

http://www.ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/top10
Report your book challenges

• Easy to do and anonymous (http://www.ala.org/bbooks/online-challenge-reporting-form)
• And, if you need help, go to http://www.ala.org/bbooks/challengedmaterials/reporting
• Why share this info? Stats to analyze trends, better info to support all librarians, and to educate the public.
• Banned Books Week Sept 27-Oct 3, 2015
IF and Privacy

• 91% of adults in the survey “agree” or “strongly agree” that consumers have lost control over how personal information is collected and used by companies.

• 88% of adults “agree” or “strongly agree” that it would be very difficult to remove inaccurate information about them online.

• 80% of those who use social networking sites say they are concerned about third parties like advertisers or businesses accessing the data they share on these sites.

• 70% of social networking site users say that they are at least somewhat concerned about the government accessing some of the information they share on social networking sites without their knowledge.

http://www.pewinternet.org/2014/11/12/public-privacy-perceptions/
We want our online privacy

• 86% of Internet users have taken steps online to remove or mask their digital footprints
• 55% of Internet users have taken steps to avoid observation by specific people, organizations, or the government
• 59% of Internet users do not believe it is possible to be completely anonymous online, while 37% of them believe it is possible.
• 68% of internet users believe current laws are not good enough in protecting people’s privacy online
• 24% believe current laws provide reasonable protections.

http://www.pewinternet.org/2013/09/05/anonymity-privacy-and-security-online/
What is a privacy policy?

When a company posts a privacy policy, it ensures that the company keeps confidential all the information it collects on users?

- 52% of internet users believe this to be correct
- 44% disagreed

Why the misperceptions
- Don’t read the privacy policy
- They are unreadable (jargon)
- ordinary users don’t fully understand the scope of the data that is being collected on them

- http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/12/04/half-of-americans-dont-know-what-a-privacy-policy-is/
- A privacy policy is a statement or a legal document that discloses some or all of the ways a party gathers, uses, discloses, and manages a customer or client's data.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Privacy_policy
Can you remove your online identity?

http://time.com/13002/this-infographic-show-how-to-completely-erase-your-identity-from-the-internet/
Online Privacy is Dead

R.I.P.

Online Privacy

Born: October 29, 1969
Died: October 17, 2013
Who is tracking us online?
Why are you being tracked online?

• Providing you a better user experience.
• Inexpensive and plentiful storage and power (Big Data)
• National and Security Intelligence
• Identity theft, Phishing,
Where are you being tracked

• Facebook and Social Networks
• GPS (Smartphones and tablets)
• Email
• Search Engines
• Cookies
• Automatic License Plate Readers
• Surveillance Cameras and Closed-Circuit Television
When are you being tracked online?

• When you turn on your computer/smartphone/tablet and until you turn it off.
What is being tracked

• Every click, tap, and swipe you make on the Internet is being tracked, not just by your browser but by many of the companies that connect that click, tap, and swipe to your IP address -- then to your name. And that data is sold to the highest bidder.
How your data is used

• Relevant Search Results - Good!
• Recommendations - Good!
• Info based on user action - Good!
• Excessive Ad Retargeting - Bad!
• Identity Theft – Ugly!
• Selling data – Ugly!
Share your thoughts

• Please consider taking this 5-10 minute survey from ALA’s Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC).

• https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ifc2015

• The IFC wants to gather data from ALL librarians (ALA membership not required) about their perceptions of the intellectual freedom issues that are taught in graduate school programs. The survey results will be used to evaluate strengths and weaknesses in library school programs, as well as areas to target for improvement. This survey will close on June 12th.

• http://suu.beta.libguides.com/whif