

# Concepts of Library Science and Library and Information Science by L.S. Estabrook and M.J. Bates in the U.S.A. and by R. Audunson, S. Myburgh and A.M. Tammaro in Europe

YAMAMOTO Takako  
ŌSHIRO Zensei

L.S. Estabrook published an article, “Library and Information Science” in the *Encyclopedia of Library and Information Sciences*, 3<sup>rd</sup>ed. which was published by CPC Press in 2010. And M.J. Bates, who was the editor-in-chief of the *Encyclopedia*, published an article in 2015, “The Information Professions: Knowledge, Memory, Heritage.”

R. Audunson, who was a chair person of the European Association for Library and Information Education and Research at that time, published an article, “Library and Information Science - Discipline Profession, Vocation?” in 2007. And S. Myburgh and A.M. Tammaro published an article, “Education for Digital Librarians: Some European Observations” in the *Library and Information Science Trends and Research: Europe* which was published by Emerald Group Publishing in 2012.

The concepts of library science and library and information science described in these four articles are considered to be authoritative. This paper summarizes and discusses the merits, problems, etc. of these four papers.

Estabrook argues that library science in the U.S.A. changed its paradigm in the late 1960s, emphasizing the concept of ‘information,’ and became library and information science in 1970s. She also argues that it is now disputing over its jurisdiction with information science in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. On the other hand, Bates

argues that there are disciplines that cross over traditional disciplines, and some examples of them are information disciplines, communication and journalism, and education. She defines them as meta-disciplines.

Audunson argues that there are two approaches of discipline-oriented and profession-oriented in the research of library and information science in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. However, he argues that discipline-oriented approach has several problems, while insisting that profession-oriented approach should be desirable. On the other hand, Myburgh and Tammaro argue that library and information science has a problem because it lacks theory. Since theory is based upon core concepts, they propose the definitions of 'knowledge,' 'information,' and 'document' which are the core concepts of library and information science.

Taken all these four papers together into consideration, we concludes that library and information science has been struggling in order to establish as an academic discipline and disputing over its jurisdiction with related disciplines such as information science.