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Mindful Leadership within Librarianship: Leading from within

"The range of what we think and do is limited by what we fail to notice. And because we fail to notice that we fail to notice, there is little we can do to change. "R.D. Laing

Mindfulness refers to the ability to take full cognizance of and appreciate the current moment and circumstance. It refers to letting go of limiting habits and judgements and fully engaging in the present moment, thereby increasing self-awareness and in the process developing a keen 'open intelligence' and poise in turbulent times. Mindful leadership refers to leading with this sense of openness and self-awareness, fully engaged with what is happening internally and within the environment.

The increasing complexity and pace of change within the profession and within the world of work require mindful leaders who are open and self-aware. These leaders have perspective on issues and trends, they let go of their narrow focus and they embrace change. This paper explores the complexities and ambiguities in the library profession and how mindful leadership and thinking can provide a fresh perspective on dealing with change in the profession and leading and inspiring others.

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