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Trending..The Latest From PLOnline

- The verdict is in—Apple illegally worked behind the scenes with publishers to limit competition in the e-book market. Last month, the US Supreme Court upheld a lower court ruling which found Apple conspired with the “Big Five Publishers” (Hachette, Macmillan, HarperCollins, Penguin Random House, and Simon & Schuster) to fix e-book prices. Apple will need to pay a settlement of \$450 million to e-book customers and the class-action law firms representing them. Read the entire article, "[Apple E-book Verdict an Opportunity for Libraries.](#)"



- Data science isn't a common phrase. So let's start with an increasingly popular phrase: big data. Big data earned buzz word status with employers several years ago, and numerous vendors are now talking about big data in libraries. Big data generally refers to the storage and management of large data sets. In this field, it would not be uncommon to work with a sizable datasets of five terabytes or larger. By comparison, five terabytes would hold approximately one million music tracks (85,000 hours of music). Big data's companion field, data science, focuses on extracting knowledge from these large data sets, and practitioners are called data scientists. Much like with big data, data science emerged when the right conditions developed—robust computing power, massive data sets, theoretical algorithms to extract knowledge, and powerful and flexible program languages. In practice, data science often focuses on predicting customer behavior and financial outcomes using large data sets that previously would have been too large to process for analytical purposes. Performing such tasks draws on a number of skillsets including machine learning, database programming, and predictive analytics According to Levi Bowles, practicing data scientist and author of [DataScienceNotes.com](#), “The core abilities for a data



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scientific method and experimental design.” Additionally, communication skills to translate highly technical findings to stakeholders throughout the business or organization are a huge plus. This combination of skills, encompassing expertise from a broad range of a number of fields, is a tall order. Read "[More Than Buzz Words: Big Data and Data Science.](#)"

- Deanna Marcum, managing director of consulting firm [Ithaka S+R](#), has many thoughts on library leadership. At 2016’s annual meeting of the [National Federation of Advanced Information Systems](#) Marcum delivered a lecture on how leadership is changing as libraries move towards a more digital environment. She had many different ideas, but some of her biggest takeaways were as follows: **Focus on digital strategy.** Marcum is very clear: “We are no longer waiting for the digital revolution to happen. It is here.” She suggests that organizations cease viewing digital services as being a new addition to a library’s existing blueprint. Instead, management should focus on embedding digital initiatives and literacy across the organization as a whole (e.g., web services and programs are no longer “add-ons” in most libraries; they are essential services). Read the entire article, "[Modern Day Library Leadership.](#)"



Midweek Media Mash-Up

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- [Is Posting Pix of Your Kids Infringing on Their Privacy Rights?](#)
- [Want to Live Longer? Don't Retire.](#)
- [Digital Media May Be Changing How You Think](#)
- [Teaching Kids to Disagree Well](#)

From the Print Magazine

This article appeared in the January/February 2016 issue of Public Libraries magazine.

[Knowledge is Power: Serving Gender Diverse Youth in the Library](#)

As we strive to serve every member of the community, especially our YA patrons, public librarians may be looking to learn a bit more about a particularly marginalized group, transgender youth. Transgender youth, defined as those who do not conform to prevalent gender norms, can be an overlooked segment of the LGBT community. As society becomes more accepting of LGBT issues, transgender youth are also increasingly more comfortable being open about who they are. However, despite recent societal inroads, trans youth are at increased risk for being ostracized, as well as physical, verbal, and sexual abuse. Currently, 41 percent of trans people attempt

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