

DOCTORAL THESIS

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Library and
Information Science

Pieta Eklund

ACADEMIC LIBRARIANSHIP IN FLUX:
THE DYNAMICS OF NEGOTIATING PROFESSIONAL JURISDICTION

Professions continuously adapt to changes in technology, society, and organization, causing professions to lose professional tasks to others. However, the changes also offer opportunities for professions to gain professional tasks. Academic Librarianship in flux: The Dynamics of Negotiating Professional Jurisdiction is about the changes in the professional work of academic librarians.

This doctoral thesis is based on qualitative research investigating academic librarians developing library services for researchers in situ. The study offers insight into the changes in the jurisdictions of academic librarians, revealing an active push and passive pull movement. In addition, it reveals academic librarians' traditional access jurisdiction as a gateway to approaching, negotiating, and settling jurisdiction within research. The study also reveals several disturbances that affect the academic librarians' professional work and possibilities to claim professional tasks within the research jurisdiction. A lack of support from the library management and the feeling of a lack of relevant skills and competencies are examples of the disturbances experienced by the participating academic librarians.

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