# Summary

### Libraries and the Climate Crisis / A Mega Topic through 2030 and Beyond (Jan-Pieter Barbian)
(pp. 102 – 107)

The climate on our planet Earth is not only going through changes, it is also undergoing an acute crisis. This impacts the lives of millions of people and in the long run even threatens the survival of mankind. Moreover, the results of the climate crisis have an impact on the entire natural world of plants and animals. The question of how we want to deal with the scientific research findings and the already perceptible and serious consequences has been of very particular concern to the next generation of young people. All around the world they see their future threatened and have therefore since December 2018 been holding public demonstrations called »Fridays for Future«, following the example of Greta Thunberg. These are aimed at highlighting the obvious failures of politicians and the inacceptable passivity of the vast majority of adults in regard to our common responsibility for the preservation of planet Earth. One aspect of »climate justice« is, however, the urgently needed commitment of rich countries to the people of Africa, the Indian sub-continent, of Asia and South America who have been especially hard hit by the climate crisis. How should libraries respond to this mega topic, both now and in the future? Do they want to remain spectators and on-lookers or should they take on an active and substantive role in public discussions?

The answer by the author of this article is: Each library can make a contribution to climate protection, both within its own walls, as well as beyond. This will involve, in part, shaping the library's media profile and offering public information and programmes for discussion. And why not also offer the library as a venue for »Fridays for Future«?

### With Bourdieu in the Library / Taking a Critical Look at Today's Library Spaces (Karsten Schuldt)
(pp. 108 – 110)

If you were able to build or re-furnish a library, how should you build and who should ultimately decide what will be built? These are the questions Karsten Schuldt deals with in this article for BuB. Libraries should not indulge in planning methods which claim that the differences between various stakeholders, social groups, etc., can be evened out by, for example, everyone making a contribution to the project's design. Such methods obviously foster the tendency for ideas put forward by those strata of society that are already powerful to prevail. Instead, methods should be chosen which facilitate compromises without levelling out such differences. Consistently attention should be given regarding who is participating in the planning process and appropriate conclusions drawn.

As to the question of which spaces and infrastructure will actually facilitate social interaction and be used by persons from different social strata, there are sociological studies available. Libraries can draw upon their findings for orientation: simple, unpretentious rooms which appear to be actually used and offer as little aesthetic or other kinds of barriers to different groups as possible, but also allow for a certain degree of privacy. These are not perfectly designed rooms, but rather might be considered nondescript or even boring by the largest number of people from as many segments of society as possible. That is why a simple bakery counter is a much better place to meet than a hipster café.

### Major Bookmobile Gathering in Hanover / Leadership and Agile Operations / A Model for a Stable and Dynamic Framework in a More Complex and More Digitalised Future (Martin Lee, Daniela Poth, Friederike Sablowski, Frauke Untiedt, Isabelle Tannous, Cornelia Vonhof, Maike Arensmann, Katrin Glatzel)
(pp. 111 – 115)

Together with the idea of agile teamwork and agile organisations, agile leadership comprises a model for developing a basic framework that is dynamic while also stable, in order to deal with the needs of a more complex and increasingly digitalised future. In this approach communication standards and formalised, transparent feedback are of central importance. Those in leadership positions are responsible for such feedback.

Leaders are faced with contradictory requirements. Management can be made operational by focussing on the work process. What decisions are being dealt with by any single individual at a given time? What criteria are being used to measure the specific steps of work? What was the last step, what is the next one? In addition, the role of the manager is changing – away from that of the supervisor who assigns and checks work, toward the facilitator who enables free spaces to be opened up, promotes cooperation and helps develop competencies.

Studies and current insights show that agile working procedures are anything but unstructured, informal or chaotic. On the contrary, clearly defined processes and close timing have achieved surprising results.

The authors of this contribution hope to further assist with networking, with information exchange about agile work methods in libraries, and to encourage learning from one another. At the German Library Congress 2020 in Hanover they have therefore scheduled another get-together devoted to »Agile Management« and herewith extend an invitation to all those interested.

*Translated by Martha Baker*