

**Change and Continuity in Professional Community:
The PUBYAC Listserv and Historical Context in Youth Services Librarianship**

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This paper examines how the topics of discourse on the listserv PUBYAC, the primary listserv used by public librarians in youth services work, reflect continuities and changes in the professional community of public youth services librarians. Despite the long time-frame since the founding of the profession, the many generations of librarians who have since come and gone, and the intervening changes in professional communication, from infrequent conferences to daily emails on a listserv, there are tremendous continuities in discourse topics and in the core values these topics reflect. PUBYAC discourse today shows a resilient set of core values amongst children's librarians. These core values include honoring maternal/sisterly/matriarchal authority, consensus building in times of conflict, mentoring of new librarians, and promoting the significance of children's aesthetic experiences.