

ARNOLD HIRSHON

BIOGRAPHY

Arnold Hirshon has more than thirty years of experience in the management of non-profit organizations, information technology, higher education, and academic libraries. He has worked with many organizations nationally and internationally to develop strategic, business and technology plans, and to improve library management and operations.

Since October 2009, Arnold Hirshon has been the Chief Strategist and Executive Consultant at LYRASIS, the largest library consortial organization in the United States serving libraries and information professionals across the United States and beyond. In this role he develops internal organizational strategies and provides consulting services for libraries.

From 1999 through 2009, Hirshon served as the Executive Director of NELINET, Inc.. During his tenure at NELINET he launched many new programs, including digital services, consulting, and open source software support and hosting.

Prior to NELINET, Hirshon served as Vice Provost for Information Resources (Chief Information Officer) at Lehigh University, where he was responsible for university academic and administrative computing, telecommunications, and libraries. Previously, he served as the University Librarian at Wright State University as the chief administrator for both the academic and medical libraries. He also served as Associate Director of Libraries at Virginia Commonwealth University, and in library administrative posts at Duke University and Wayne State University.

Hirshon is a Past President of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services. Among many other service assignments, he was a member of the Executive Committee of Counter, and the Vice-Chair of the OhioLINK Library Advisory Committee.

A highly experienced international consultant on issues of strategic and business planning, facility redesign, operations management and assessment, and technology integration, Hirshon currently is an advisor for a Carnegie Foundation-funded project to develop new ways to employ technology to advance faculty research at major research universities of South Africa. In addition, since 2000, Hirshon has been a consultant for EIFL, an international organization that brings together technology and information for forty-eight developing countries in Central and Eastern Europe, Africa, and Asia.

Hirshon has an extensive scholarly record that includes many monographs, such as *Outsourcing Library Technical Services* (co-authored with Barbara Winters) and the *LYRASIS Library Strategic Planning Toolkit* (co-authored with Stephen Spohn). In addition, he is the author of numerous articles in peer-reviewed publications about strategic management and organizational design, technology and library leadership, information service integration, assessment and optimization of operations, and non-profit management.

A frequent lecturer nationally and internationally, Hirshon has given numerous lectures in over thirty-five countries on six continents on a wide range of topics, including organizational management, trend spotting and analysis, technology planning, and operations assessment and optimization.

Hirshon holds an MLS from Indiana University and an MPA from Wayne State University.