

## Sabina Fras Popović



Sabina Fras Popović, born on 24 September 1974 in Maribor, has a Bachelor's Degree in comparative literacy and library science. She also completed her Master's degree and PhD in the field of librarianship. Since 2001 she is employed at the Maribor Public Library. From 2002 to 2005 she was head of the department for public relations and marketing, and since 2006 she is the head of the Library Network Department. During her professional career she oversaw various projects, including: Quality in the Library, Introduction of Business Changes in the Maribor Public Library and Maribor Public Library Day. Ever since 1996 she has been actively involved in the Library Association of Maribor, and in the last two terms 2008–2010 and 2010–2012 she is also the head of this association.

### **Raising Professional Consciousness and Conscience: Co-operation and Co-creation**

The library, whether a school, local or university library, is the centre of wealth. By this we mean wealth which the librarians are conscious of at such a level that they can be absolutely sure that without libraries, and of course librarians, the world would come to a halt. There would be no room for independence, credibility, trust, growth and progress. There would be no room for co-operation and co-creation. The librarians are absolutely sure about this, despite the fact that we often claim we have no way of proving it. If we actually cannot prove this and explain it in a language and in a way, which can be understood by the people in charge of the decisions regarding the libraries and librarians (who very seldom actually use library services), is the key question we will try to answer in this discussion. At the theoretical level we will consider the display of the influence libraries have as a centre of wealth, which is not based on material values, but on the relationship level among individuals. During this we will offer the explanation of everyday words, such as awakening, professional consciousness, professional conscience, co-operation and co-creation in the context of a specific area of interest: public library services in Slovenia and the coherence of the individual as the agent of the personal professional responsibility as well as authentic leadership with the forming of identity of a legal subject as the agent of the library activities programme. The theoretical discussion will be illustrated with empirical examples of co-operation formed by IZUM and Slovenian Library Association in the previous years as well as with examples of co-creation formed by IZUM and the Maribor Public Library.