

#### **4B—THE POLITICS OF SPACE: CRITICAL GEOGRAPHY AND THE LIBRARY #3**

*Higher Education, Globalization, and the Academic Library: On the Possibilities of a Human/Critical Geography Approach to LIS*

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As “the study of the interlinked temporality and spatiality of human activity,” human/critical geography affords LIS researchers a means to shift their focus away from abstract, atemporal things toward processes, practices, and relations unfolding across space and time (Downey, 2007, p. 685). Although there has been a renewed interest in time/temporality and space/spatiality within the humanities and social sciences since the 1980s, LIS has not taken up issues of space/time with the same enthusiasm—or the same degree of criticality—as other social science disciplines (Downey, 2007). Drawing on human geography’s central claim that space and time are dialectically produced through social practices, in this presentation I will explore some of ways that the logics and practices of an increasingly globalized higher education sector impact the work of academic librarians.