**WCMC-Qatar conference**

*Emerging Technologies in Libraries*

12 – 13 April 2016

**ABSTRACT**

*Museums in context: identity curation, technology and forces of momentum*

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Museums are often reported in international press as being new to the Gulf States, however this belies the almost 60 year history of these institutions in the region, and the extensive private collections and other collecting practices which take place. The increased growth in museum creation, and the re-imagination of existing institutions, over the last ten years has received considerable coverage, particularly the regeneration of national museums, and the creation of large art museums. What these discussions omit is analysis of the rapid changes within museums in the Gulf, what this means for visitors and users, and how these and similar institutions align with national objectives and desired educational outcomes. This presentation will discuss some aspects of this ‘future museum type’ in light of the rapid museum development in the region, uses of technology, and how these museums support visitors in their own curation of identity.