Communication is crucial to the successful planning and implementation of a new system. These include barriers between the IT staff and the systems librarian and barriers between the systems librarian and the staff. Discuss some barriers to communication that might hinder the effectiveness of a project.

Off the bat, I would say a major barrier to communication is the individuals knowledge and comfort level of technology.   Staff members who feel overwhelmed by new technology, or have trouble understanding current technology can have huge communication issues with their systems librarian. They may receive information from the systems librarian that the staff member simply cannot comprehend. I knew a woman who absolutely refused to learn how to turn off a monitor; even when the light was interfering with her own work. This sort of technology ignorance and the fear of being exposed as less technologically savvy can stop staff members from asking for more detailed information when working with new technology.

This as is a barrier when the systems librarian is working with IT staff and the SL isn't completely informed about how a particular technology is used. There is a caution before exposing one's own ignorance, especially when your job is to be more knowledgeable about technology that the average librarian.

Especially in multiple department wide projects, it's important to recognize the importance of how individuals feel about technology. Questions to ask would be: Is this a new technology for most staff? Would it be a good idea to create literature, or host an informal class, to full explain the new technology? Is there an informal open door office where staff members (or SL) can go to ask questions?

Additional barriers include: