

News from the Divisions

NSW BRANCH

The New South Wales Branch publication *So You Want to Work in Libraries* has been updated and available since April. Aimed at supplementing the LAA Handbook, it gives brief comments on aspects of various Awards applying in Public, University, Special and School Libraries in addition to summaries of courses.

Copies have been distributed to metropolitan Public, University and CAE Libraries and all LAA groups. Distribution to country Public Libraries was through the Public Libraries Division and for High Schools we were assisted by Library Services, Dept of Education.

As stocks are getting low, it is suggested that, if more than one or two copies are required, you obtain a master copy from the editor, Diana Oliver, Sutherland Shire Library, Eton Street, Sutherland 2232. Single copies are available from LAA Head Office or from the Branch Secretary.

The Central Metropolitan Careers Market 1983 was held at the NSW Institute of Technology from 6 to 8 June.

The LAA was well represented with an eye-catching booth located in a central position. Printed material from the LAA and all Library Schools was available on request and the booth was staffed by library workers with a broad range of working experiences representing Special, Tafe, Public and University Libraries.

A similar market was held at the St George Institute of Education at Oatley from 12 to 14 July. This was a Southern Region Market and was staffed by libraries in the area. The display and leaflets available were representative of library work as a whole.

Sincere thanks to all those who gave their time assisting in the setting up and staffing the displays.

UCLS – NATIONAL

The 'Collection Management in Academic Libraries' national seminar, previously scheduled for November 1983, is now planned for 16-17 February 1984. A heavy schedule of other continuing education activities and the need for adequate preparation time for speakers and the committee caused the postponement.

Topics will include measuring collection adequacy, use surveys, evaluation of collections, collection development policies, deselection, budget management, technology of document delivery, regional resources and co-operation and the role of academic libraries in national collection development.

Venues for the seminar are currently being investigated at the Gold Coast, because of the LAA/NZLA conference in Brisbane during August 1984.

Early expressions of interest from throughout Australia have been particularly encouraging. Potential speakers are being contacted and the programme is taking shape. Keep watching *InCite* for further details.

INFORMATION SCIENCE SECTION

A helping hand to Perth

The Information Science Section extends an invitation to all isolated members of the Information Science Section to apply for sponsorship to attend the Second National ISS Conference in Perth on 29-30 September, and also the Special Libraries Conference 26-29 September. The only requirement is that you be isolated and a member of ISS. The sponsorship will be in the form of travel subsidy.

Please send details of your isolation to: Ian Stone, Secretary, Information Science Section, C/o Library Board of WA, 102 Beaufort Street, PERTH WA 6000 to arrive no later than Friday, 2 September 1983, and you could be winging your way to Perth.

UCLS QLD. GROUP

In association with the Cataloguer's Section, the group hosted a general meeting on 21 July concerning the effects of amalgamation within the Brisbane CAE libraries.

Gaynor Austen is the Head of Bibliographical Services and as Acting Head of the College Resource Centre, spoke on the history of the amalgamation and its implications for the staffing structure. The amalgamation of the five colleges has engendered uncertainty and anxiety for all staff. The reorganisation has been time consuming and has involved an examination of all policies and procedures.

Lenore Deacon, Head of User Services, spoke on her role in co-ordinating this area. Regular meetings are held with the Campus Librarians and also the co-ordinators for special functions such as circulation.

The Acquisitions Librarian, Elisabeth Dolby described the centralisation of order procedures. Selection is completed within the individual campuses but ordering and receipt of items is centralised. Although serials are ordered centrally, issues are dispatched direct to campuses because of the need for local records of receipt.

The integration of the different cataloguing systems has caused a continuous headache for Cathy Crawford, the Cataloguing Librarian. The lack of automated authority control and the difficulties of multi-campus operations have had to be addressed.

Despite the difficulties encountered, all speakers were optimistic about the future of the Resource Centre. So much has been involved in the amalgamation that all speakers agreed, 'Please Mr. Hawke, don't de-amalgamate us!'

Philip Kent

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL GROUP

A panel discussion on the subject of book publishing and distribution formed the basis of a meeting of the Regional Group on July 6, 1983.

Three speakers took part – John Krins, Director of the library supplier, D.A. Book (Aust.) Pty Ltd; Andrew Yeomans, of the University of New England Library's Acquisitions Department; and Bill Duhigg, proprietor of the New England Bookshop in Armidale.

Each speaker gave a short initial talk on the general topic from his particular perspective and area of expertise; then the panel was available for questions and discussion.

The meeting was held in the newly dedicated F.J.H. Letters Room of the Dixon Library on the New England campus before an audience of 25 people.

Karl G. Schmude

LITERACY SECTION

VICTORIAN GROUP

The Victorian Group ran a general meeting at Blackburn Library on July 11 including a panel discussion which canvassed a range of topics of interest to the librarian and tutor. A display of materials from the Blackburn Adult Literacy Programme was presented.

Margaret Chadwick, who is the co-ordinator of the Blackburn programme, discussed various student experiences with the programme. Marie Gaspar, Literacy Librarian, Dandenong Valley Regional Library Service covered the area of literacy materials, pointing out ways to exploit existing public library collections and material that can be obtained free. Concluding, Carmen Hannaker, Regional Librarian, Moonee Valley Regional Library described Glenroy's literacy programme and discussed the importance of library staff awareness of literacy tutor and student needs.

The meeting was a resounding success judging by the numbers attending, and the Group would like to thank the speakers for their valuable contributions.

Tapes were made of the proceedings and an edited transcript will appear in *Fine Print*, the Victorian Adult Literacy Council journal. For further information contact Julie Wilson, c/- Nunawading Public Library, 379 Whitehorse Rd., Nunawading (03) 874 2211 Ext 21.

NSW BRANCH

On Saturday, 16 July 1983, the NSW Branch Council held its second all-day meeting, which provided an opportunity for all regional, sectional and interest groups to meet and discuss finances, programmes and activities.

The perennial issue of membership fees was again raised and the meeting decided to put the following motion to the AGM on 15 September 1983

That the LAA revise the membership fee structure so that a scaled-to-salary fee be levied which

1. includes membership and a subscription to *InCite*;
2. provides for charging additional fees for membership of sectional and special interest groups;
3. provides for charging additional subscription fees for LAA publications, including *ALJ*.

Concern was expressed about North Sydney Council's proposal to hold a referendum on user pays. Branch decided to lobby both the Premier and the Opposition Leader and as well to issue a general press release on the funding of public libraries in NSW.

The meeting also discussed the role of sections and sectional groups, Information Scientists and the LAA, and made plans to hold a joint meeting with the Victorian Branch Council in Wagga in November.

VICTORIAN BRANCH

The Victorian Branch has scheduled a Workshop on Career Planning for Saturday, 8 October 1983. It is designed to take a practical approach in career planning and should be of great value to all members of the profession.

It is on a Saturday to enable lower and middle levels to attend, as well as senior staff. The workshop will be led by Susan McPhee of Impact Communication Consultants, who conducted the 'Women and management in libraries' sessions at the LAA's 22nd Biennial Conference, 1982. Further details from Jan Lindner, (03) 818 8407.

Jan Lindner