

## WORLD CE CONFERENCE

This is an interim report on the First World Conference which was organised on the initiative of Dr Elizabeth Stone (formerly of Catholic University of America, in Washington). It took place in the week before the main IFLA conference in Chicago (which I also attended in my dual capacities as Co-ordinator of the FLA Clearinghouse for Australia and South East Asia, and member of the IFLA Standing Committee on Library Schools — and where I was elected to the five person international executive of the newly formed IFLA Roundtable on Continuing Education).

The conference was limited to 150 participants from many countries, and speakers included three from Australia. Margaret Trask talked about 'Interconnections in the library and information science career development process' based on the past ten years at Kuring-gai CAE; Marianne Broadbent moved to the present on 'The LAA and continuing professional development: using co-operative efforts and resources'; whilst I looked to the future in my topic on 'International co-operation in the continuing education of librarians, using the distance education mode'. These, and 41 other papers, are included in the 434-page volume given to each participant on registration during the day preceding the conference (*Continuing education: issues and challenges*, edited by Esther E. Horne. New York: K. G. Saur, 1985, ISBN 0-89664-325-5).

I recommend this book as the fullest and most up-to-date source of information on continuing educational philosophies, technologies and activities in many parts of the world. The sessions I enjoyed most were 'Strengthening the quality of continuing education' by Alan Knox; and two hands-on sessions: 'Computer-conferencing as a tool for instruction' by Norman Kurland, and 'Online network of continuing education (ONCE)' by Joseph Natale. An interesting participative session was 'Learning styles of librarians and satisfaction with continuing education' by Jana Varlejs, which was based on her current degree research.

Some papers were received too late for inclusion in the printed work, and I would be happy to copy these for interested colleagues (check the book's contents list for likely titles). Personally, I would have preferred fewer concurrent sessions, and for the conference to

## INFO-LINK HAS THE ANSWERS

The community information service operated by the State Reference Library in the new Alexander Library Building is now open to the public.

The service, called INFO-LINK, has been designed to connect people with groups and organisations most likely to have answers to their questions. Thousands of sporting, recreation, health, self-help and hobby clubs are on INFO-LINK files: a holographic arts society that promotes the creation of laser-generated holograms; a hot-air balloon and airship club; an over-55 walkers' association; and a Darby and Joan club, to name a few.

INFO-LINK will assist groups and organisations who wish to establish their own community information resources. The professional staff can offer advice on how best to gather and store data, how to organise and retrieve it, and how to solve problems arising in existing services, collections or files.

INFO-LINK is open to the public on the ground floor of the Alexander Library Building in the Perth Cultural Centre Monday to Friday between 9am and 5.30pm, and on weekends between 2pm and 5.30pm. Their telephone number is (09) 427 3100.

### GRAPHICS FOR TEACHER-LIBRARIANS

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have lasted a day or two longer to enable us to participate in sessions which we were forced to miss. As in all professional conferences, however, there were great 'invisible' benefits gained from informal discussions and interchanges during and after the twelve-hour (9 am to 9 pm) days. *Edward R. Reid-Smith*

## INFORMATION ONLINE 86 — TICKETS FOR FREE ENTRY TO EXHIBITION

One of the objectives of the Information Online Exhibition is to encourage as many library users as possible to visit the exhibition to see for themselves the range of information services now available online. Any librarians wishing to obtain free tickets to encourage their users to visit the exhibition may do so by contacting ACMS — Australian Convention Management Service, Box 3695, GPO Sydney 2001 (telephone (02) 332 4622).

Confirmed exhibitors early in September were:

ABN  
ACI Computer  
Services  
CAB Abstracts  
CAS  
CLIRS  
COMPENDEX  
CSIRO  
DATASTAR  
DERWENT  
DIALOG  
Elders Pastoral  
FIZ Energie,  
DMYSIK,  
Mathematik,  
GMBM

IDAPS Australia Ltd  
Joint Exchange  
Computers  
LEXIS/MEAD Data  
Central  
MEDLINE  
Pergamon Infoline  
SALTER Information  
Retrieval Services  
SDC Information  
Services  
STN International  
Telecom Australia  
TRIAD Information  
Man. (NSW)  
WESTIRS

Negotiations are continuing with many others.

### NEW SERVICE TO MEMBERS DIAL 008-22 1481 FOR TOLL-FREE ACCESS TO HEAD OFFICE

We are pleased to announce that the LAA has now installed a toll-free phone service to allow members to contact Head Office for the cost of a local call.

The service is currently on a trial basis and will be available for a two hour period each day.

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