

SAIL PROJECT—ALL HANDS ON DECK!

The Project Team would like to thank librarians around Australia who have given their time to help the project by coding. At the time of writing, data has been received from more than 200 libraries and, as the photos show, this presents its own problems! We have high hopes of keeping to the project deadline.

The extensive Project has attracted some interest from overseas. Now that it has moved into a different phase it is possible to release some information about its size and scope. Table 1 shows the distribution of the sample across States and types of library. These include the National Library and State Libraries, all the University, College and CSIRO libraries, with samples of TAFE, Public and School libraries. To these were added members of all known co-operative systems, and those libraries reporting anomalous ILL activity to the AACOBs Census. In this way it was intended to sample the nation's ILL traffic by selecting a group of libraries likely to be at the core of the activity. Since each library was asked to record the library they approached, or who approached them, it will be possible to 'invert' the file to estimate traffic in non-participant libraries.

Table 1 shows that a generally good level of



Your data arrives . . . and is keyed in . . . then taken for . . .

Keyboarding . . . and then analysis



acceptance was received from nearly all types of library, recognising the importance attached to the problem; several libraries, of course were prevented from participation by a variety of factors in these difficult times. It is likely that their ILL activity will be picked up by the file inversion described above.

The question of how much data we shall go back is exercising the minds of the Project Team, as well as the keyboarders! Table shows the number of forms requested by each type of library in each State. Since each form represents one transaction, May was clearly expected to be a busy month! Over a third of libraries have already returned their data which as you can see is already being keyboarded. The last date for accepting data is 30 June.

Many librarians have expressed concern that a study of traffic alone does not give a complete picture of ILL activity, and this is an appropriate time to remind you that the project includes (another) questionnaire. This will be distributed as widely as possible, as well as asking for data about ILL policies and procedures, and other statistical data. This is a vital part of the Project, since so many patterns are obviously dependent on these factors. The questionnaire will be sent out in July, and will be analysed in the final report.

It is a long time since the National Summary in November 1984. The report of such a massive project will obviously take some time to appear. However, to give some idea of the broad thrust of the results, preliminary findings will be circulated before the end of 1987 with a full report early in 1987.

Andy E...

	Borrowing	Lending	No. of Libraries
Education	35,231	45,010	144
Government	21,927	18,740	176
Private	1,936	860	30
Misc. Special	434	360	10
Public	6,877	5,140	41
State & National	1,478	27,420	8
Total	67,883	97,530	409

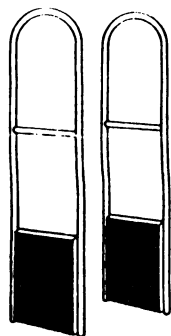
Table 2: Estimated transactions, based upon forms requested by participant libraries.

	ACT	NT	NSW	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	TOTAL
Uni's & Cae's	2	2	31	9	5	2	22	4	77
TAFE	3	1	8	5	2	4	6	5	34
Pub. Schools	3	0	2	0	3	3	4	1	16
Priv. Schools	1	1	2	2	2	0	1	3	12
Govt.	19	14	56	12	20	6	36	13	176
Private	0	0	20	1	1	1	7	0	30
Misc. Special	2	0	9	0	1	1	2	0	15
State & ANL	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Public	0	5	9	8	6	2	7	4	41
TOTAL	31	24	138	38	41	20	86	31	409

Table 1 = Distribution of participant libraries across types of Library and States.

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