

LIBRARY VICTORY!

Agreement has been reached between the Municipal Officers Association (MOA) and the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) in the long-running campaign to achieve improved salaries for librarians and a new classification for Library Technicians working in Victorian Municipal Libraries.

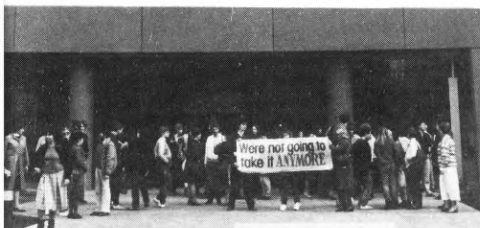
Library Technicians

The Local Governing Authorities Officers (Victoria) Award, 1984 has been varied to insert classifications for Library Technician Class 1 (salary range: \$18,055-\$19,784) and Library Technician Class 2 (salary range \$8,927-\$19,784 and discretionary range \$9,784-\$22,483) the new classification is to operate from the first pay period to commence on or after the date that the officer commenced performing the duties of a library technician, but not earlier than April 22 1985.

Librarians

New salary ranges for librarians have also been achieved, with increases ranging from 5.29% to 10.48%. The new salaries are effective from the beginning of the first pay period commencing on or after August 1 1986.

The LAA has strongly supported the MOA in this campaign and welcomes this outcome. The



LAA's Industrial Information and Research Officer attended a stop-work meeting of municipal library staff in September 1985 which expressed dissatisfaction with the salary levels of municipal librarians.

In April 1986, the LAA wrote to the MAV and all Victorian Councils, calling on the MAV to withdraw its appeal against the decision by the Commissioner Sheather to establish a new classification for library technicians. The Industrial Information and Research Officer also addressed a stop-work meeting on 20 May 1986 when municipal library staff held a 24-hour strike to protest at the MAV's appeal of the Library Technician decision and to condemn the MAV's opposition to the salary claim for librarians.

Library Technicians have been an established part of the library workforce in Victoria for many years and have gained recognition as such in most awards covering library staff in Victoria. It is gratifying that they are now recognised as a separate occupational category in Victorian Municipal libraries. Librarians working in Victorian Municipal Libraries were amongst the lowest paid in the country. The salary increases granted to them help to resolve this situation.



IFLA TOKYO



24-29 AUGUST



Left: Barrie Mitcheson, Chairman, IFLA Conference Committee, Jenny Adams, Executive Director, Warren Horton, Director-General, National Library of Australia at the opening of the 52nd IFLA General Conference at the National Theatre of Japan.



and right: the Executive Director squeezing in some sightseeing at Asakusa Nakamise.

Barrie Mitcheson, Chairman of the 1988 IFLA Conference Committee, officially invited participants of the Tokyo IFLA to attend IFLA in Sydney in 1988. The invitation was issued at the closing ceremony held at the Nippon Seinenkan Hall and drew attention to the many attractions of Australia both at a professional and a tourist level.

Barrie referred to the appropriateness of the theme for the conference, 'Living together' which it is hoped will draw representatives from over fifty countries, and expressed the hope that many international visitors would also attend the LAA Biennial Conference being held immediately prior to IFLA. He reminded intending participants that Australia is a large country and that they should allow ample time for visiting places such as Ayers Rock and the Great Barrier Reef.

The invitation followed five days of a very busy and exciting conference with much participation by Australian delegates.

The opening ceremony was held at the beautiful National Theatre of Japan and delegates were honoured by the presence of the Crown Prince and Crown Princess who also attended the reception given by the Governor of Tokyo, Mr Shunichi Suzuki, on the Monday evening.

The Social Program Committee excelled themselves in ensuring that conference delegates received a real taste of Japan and

throughout the conference there were demonstrations of woodblock printing, origami, kite making, tea ceremony and ikebana. The highlights came on Wednesday evening with a spectacular Japan night demonstrating the colour, style and sound of Japan. It included a fashion parade featuring the kimono as well as modern Japanese designer wear, a traditional Japanese play and a magnificent performance of Japanese drumming by a world famous troupe 'Kodo'.

The conference was attended by 1934 participants and 642 of these were from outside Japan. Australia had 21 delegates, at least 10 of whom presented papers. Others were active in the work of some of the divisions of IFLA, including Art Libraries, Asia and Oceania, Information Technology, Education and Research, Libraries for the Blind, Management of Library Associations, to name a few.

Members of the 1988 organising committee were able to meet IFLA staff and the President, Hans Peter Geh, to discuss arrangements for the conference, and a very fruitful meeting was held with the Japan Organising Committee to discuss the problems they had encountered in running the conference. The distribution of papers is still a major difficulty and the Professional Board of IFLA has set up a sub-committee to look at the problem. They will report back to the Professional Board in November this year and the results of their deliberations will be quickly passed on to the Brighton and Sydney committees.

Jenny Adams
Executive Director