

## WORKING GROUP ON LIBRARY SYSTEMS INTERCONNECTION

On Wednesday 17 September, this Group had its inaugural meeting at the National Library. The Group was initiated by the National Library so that developments of standards for the interconnection of library and information systems could be monitored and the implementation of these could be co-ordinated between various suppliers and utilities.

Group members come from systems suppliers (AWA, Stowe, Prime, GEAC, Facilities Support), bibliographic utilities (ABN, ACI Computer Services, IDAPS) and consortia (OLC, CLANN, CAVAL, State Library of Queensland). There is currently also a representative from Telecom, pending the establishment of the National Protocol Support Centre, which will eventually provide consultation and advice to organisations similar to the Working Group on matters to do with the implementation of these standards.

The terms of reference of the Working Group are:

1. To study and to share information about appropriate international, national and industry standards, and draft standards, which provide for the interconnection of international, national, regional and local library systems for applications such as file transfer and directory services, and for the interworking of applications such as interlibrary loan management and the acquisition of library materials.
2. To advise the National Library, the Australian library community and organisations which supply services to this community, on those standards and on options within those standards, which are

recommended in order to promote the interworking of library systems.

3. To encourage the use of the recommended standards by the library community and related organisations.

The initial thrust of the Group's activities will be in the direction of the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Reference Model of the International Standards Organisation (ISO), which has been the basis of the Linked Systems Project (LSP) in the US and the National Library of Canada's Protocol Development Programme.

A number of tasks have been identified to be completed before the next meeting of the Group. They include:

- a study of the OSI FTAM (File Transfer Access and Management) standards to determine their suitability for the transfer of MARC records;
- a study of the Canadian ILL protocol specification;
- a study of the detailed SLP specifications;
- a draft long-term scenario on the potential use of OSI in the library community;
- the establishment of a clearing house at the National Library for journal articles on OSI.

Depending on the space available at the venue, observers are welcome at meetings of the Working Group. The next meeting will be held at the CLANN Board Room, Surrey Hills on Friday 30 January 1987.

Suggestions for Group activities are also welcome. Comments should be addressed to: Kerry Webb, ADP Systems Branch, National Library of Australia, Parkes ACT 2600 (062) 62 1535

## AL GRASSBY LAUNCHES NSW CAPL CAMPAIGN

Al Grassby, Derek Whitehead and Marina Garlick spoke to a group of 94 at the Sydney YWCA Conference Centre on Thursday, 2 August and successfully launched the NSW CAPL campaign.

State Parliamentarians, local government officials and representatives of ethnic organisations who attended met with librarians and representatives from various resource centres before the meeting. This contact and the summary of the submission sent with each of the 600 invitations stirred some interest and promises of involvement.

Mr Grassby spoke to the point and conveyed his enthusiasm for the cause. The meeting was held two days after the Federal budget so his positive approach and his insistence that the campaign was timely were appreciated! Marina Garlick as Secretary of the Working Group on Multicultural Library Services (NSW) spoke about the need in NSW. Derek Whitehead from the State Library of Victoria spoke in his capacity as a member of the CAPL National Co-ordinating Committee on the campaign so far. Alison Crook chaired the meeting. The meeting unanimously resolved on the motion of the Hon. Francis Arena, MLC, seconded by the Hon. James M Samios, MLC —

'That this meeting supports the Campaign for Commonwealth Assistance to Multicultural Public Library Services and urges the Federal Government to:

- i) Take account of the urgent need for financial assistance to Multicultural Public Library Services in its consideration of existing multicultural programmes and services.
- ii) Implement the National Language Policy recommendation 107 for funding to be provided to public libraries to increase their holdings and services for minority linguistic groups.'

Letters including the resolution from the meeting have been sent to the Prime Minister and the Commonwealth Ministers for Immigration and Education respectively and to the Premier and Mr Carr who is the Minister representing libraries in the State Government. Press reports have been sent to various journals.

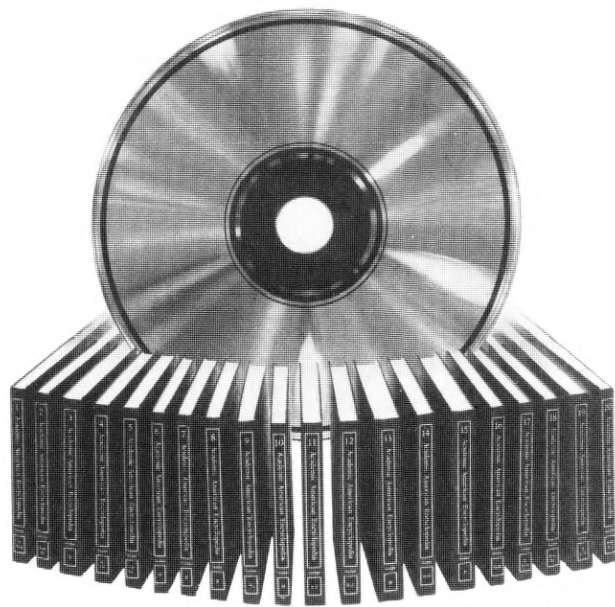
There is a need to broaden the impact of the campaign at State and local levels in NSW and to sustain the interest which has been expressed thus far.

The Working Group On Multicultural Library Services (NSW) can operate to some extent as a link group with various ethnic organisations. Public librarians and their representative organisations also can operate in this way, especially those in areas with large ethnic group populations.

The NSW Co-ordinating Group urgently needs input from people working with ethnic groups. The next phase of the campaign will involve lobbying and contact work. Please phone the State Co-ordinators Faye Lawrence (Woollahra) or Diana Oliver (Sutherland) if you are enthusiastic, concerned about multicultural public library services, and want to assist in achieving Commonwealth financial assistance.



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