



## the front line

In considering the rationale of any professional body it is helpful to conceptualise two main concerns. The first is the concern to provide a framework for the development of the individual professional; the second, the concern to influence the creation of the social framework within which the profession as a whole can develop.

The Association has made probably no greater contribution to the development and acceptance of the individual professional than in its earliest and continuing concern — that of professional education. The standards so established are now recognised by all federal and state authorities. The establishment of standards in so many other areas has also been an important feature of the LAA's activities.

Another major ingredient in the success of the Association as a supporter of the individual has been its publication program which has played an immensely important role in providing the Association with a voice, and its members with an essential means of communication.

These, together with conferences, meetings, CE activities and a variety of other member services have provided a framework for the needs and development of the individual.

Less successful, I believe, has been our attempt to influence the creation of the social framework within which the profession as a whole can develop. It is true that we have fabricated some aspects of this framework well, such as the educational accreditation program; the establishment of librarianship as a gradu-

ate profession; and the influences we were able to exert to good effect in the areas of copyright and freedom of information, as well as the funding of secondary school libraries.

On the other hand we have had the frustration and disappointment of seeing the report of the Commonwealth Committee of Inquiry into Public Library Service which was conducted under the distinguished chairmanship of Allan Horton gathering dust in Canberra for over a decade. We cannot claim to have a high political profile, nor carry much weight in the corridors of political power.

The Association's present concern with National Information Policy is, in part, a direct reflection of the need to change this situation. At its next meetings, the Executive and the Council will be developing strategies to lift the profile of libraries, librarians and information specialists in the political arena especially, but also throughout the community, through lobbying and other means.

An NIP 'Lobbying Kit' is being developed which will assist all members to promote both their own, and Australian libraries generally. It will include descriptive and statistical data, a select bibliography on NIP, and a guide to lobbying itself.

It is the hope of those preparing this material that this essentially practical program will bear fruit in the form of greater recognition and hence stronger financial support for the essential services provided by our members.

Peter Dawe  
President

... And don't forget about the LAA's book clearance sale. *Libraries after 1984*; *Readings in School Librarianship*; *Information Online 86*; and *National Interlending Conference* reduced to only \$5. Plus if you buy two of these titles you receive 10% off any other LAA title.

## Nominations for LAA Committees

There will be a number of vacancies on LAA committees, and for LAA representatives on other bodies, for 1988. Vacancies will be filled by the General Council or the Executive Committee later in the year, and members who are interested in nominating are invited to advise the Director, Jenny Adams or Sue Phillips of their interest by 1 October 1987 at the latest.

The following positions will be vacant (number of positions and terms of office in brackets).

### Committees

- Audiovisual Services Committee (3 x 2 years)
- Publications Board (2 x 3 years)

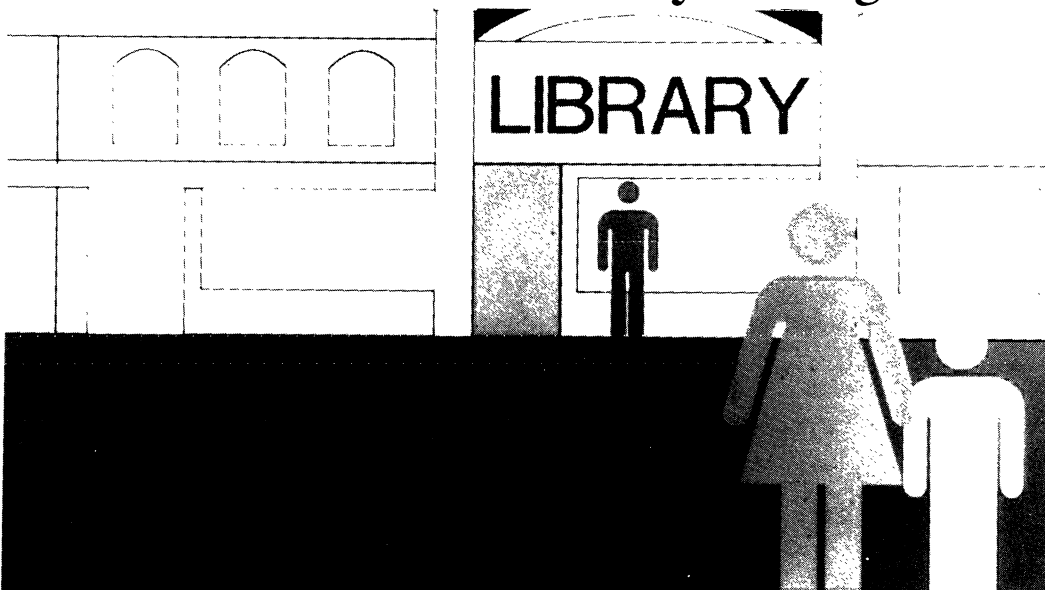
### LAA representatives on other committees

- Australian Book Trade Committee (1 x 2 years)
- Australian Committee on Cataloguing (1 x 3 years\*)
- Australian Government Publishing Service Liaison Committee (1 x 2 years)
- Australian Library Promotion Council (1 x 2 years)
- Commonwealth Library Association (1 x 1 year)
- National Book Council (1 x 2 years)

(\*Nominations to Cataloguers Section — see notice in InCite No 15.)

Sue Phillips  
Assistant Director

## Enter a new world of Library Management.



With URICA the world's finest library management system.

URICA, the most sophisticated library system available today, is ideally suited for use in all types and sizes of libraries.

The library's existing records can be loaded into the URICA database from a variety of sources, such as ABN or Bibliofile using a choice of input programs.

AWA Computers has the experienced personnel to advise libraries on their automation needs and to provide a timely and effective transition to the new URICA system.

AWA Computers has a program of regular enhancements and development of the system to cater for the changing requirements of today's libraries.

# AWACOMPUTERS

## We work as one

AWA Computers, 132 Arthur Street, North Sydney, NSW Australia. Ph. 922 3300 Tlx. 26082 Fax. 9222107.  
2896 Dunearn Road, Singapore 2158. Ph. 469 8822 Tlx. R528450 Fax. 4690143.

Sime Darby Systems, Wisma Sime Darby, Jalan Raja Laut, 50350 Kuala Lumpur. Ph. 03 2939322.

Division of Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd

