

IN THE NEWS

New Masters at RMIT

A new interdisciplinary Masters Degree by coursework which combines studies in the areas of information and library services, technology and management is likely to be available at RMIT in 1988 as a part of the 'Information Services' stream of RMIT's new cross-faculty Masters Degree in Information Technology and Communication Studies.

The purpose of the new degree is to provide individuals with opportunities to develop their understanding of, and competence in, information and library management, information technology and information policy. The course is aimed particularly at practitioners and, in the initial years, will be available on a part-time basis only.

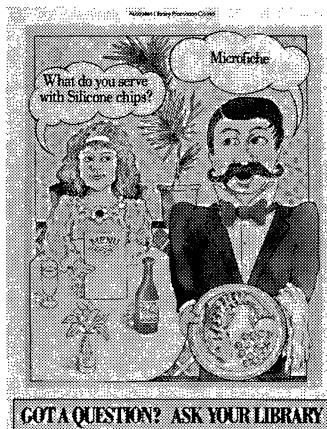
For further details and to register your interest, please contact Marianne Broadbent (03) 660 2562 or Barry McIntyre (03) 660 2900 c/ RMIT's Department of Information Services, GPO Box 2476V, Melbourne, 3001.

Travelling east

The Department of Library and Information Studies, Curtin University of Technology is planning a group visit to the IFLA Conference next year. Anyone interested in joining a group travelling from Perth on 26 August returning from Sydney on 4 September can contact the Department which is looking at chartering a flight to reduce the normal airfare. For further details contact Jenny Peters on (09) 350 7215 by 27 November.

It's library week!

'Everybody needs a library' is this year's theme for Library Week, which runs until 23 October. Throughout the week libraries will be presenting a variety of special activities — talks, tours, storytelling, 'meet the author' sessions, competitions, etc. The winners of the 1987 Public Relations Awards will be announced at the official opening of Library Week, which this year is in Brisbane.



One of the library world's best kept secrets is that Library Week is sponsored by The Library Promotion Council. Established in 1967 the Council helps libraries and library organisations promote their aims and services to the public. The Council comprises representatives of each of the State Library Promotion Committees, and representatives from other organisations in the fields of writing, publishing, bookselling, and library and information services. One of the ways the Council promotes libraries is by selling nifty posters and bookmarks. If you'd like to see their range call the Council on (03) 663 7194 for a catalogue of all their products.

Staff development freebie

SACAE Library has produced the third (May 1987) issue of its occasional newsletter *Staff Development in Australian Libraries* compiled by SACAE Staff Development Librarian, Ruth Slater. People interested in receiving it (there's no charge) and other issues for 1987 please write to: Library Publications, SACAE Library, Holbrooks Road, Underdale, SA 5032.

Directory for disabled

The National Library of Australia is preparing to publish a third edition of *Library and Information Services for People with Disabilities: a directory*. The library will soon be distributing a questionnaire to gather up-to-date information about organisations which provide library or information services for people with disabilities.

The second edition, *Directory of Library Services for the Handicapped in Australia*, was published in 1983 and is now considerably out of date.

The National Library welcomes contributions to the new *Directory* from organisations providing a library or information service to people with disabilities. Copies of the *Directory* questionnaire are available from Susanne Bruhn, Chief Librarian, Library Services for People with Disabilities Section, National Library of Australia, Canberra ACT 2600, Ph: (062) 62 1251.

Open all hours

Around Australia the deregulation of retail shopping hours is responding to modern community needs, but how well are public lending libraries responding? Not too well as a recent LAA survey suggests. Only 34 (7.24%) of library services provide Saturday afternoon opening, only 6 (1.27%) provide Sunday AM opening and only 34 (7.74%) provide Sunday PM opening.

These libraries have found weekend opening highly successful. The General Council is concerned about the opportunity cost of restricted public library hours in the context of the National Information Policy promotion. Copies of the 'Survey of Saturday PM/Sunday opening by Australian public lending libraries' are available at no charge from LAA Head Office (02) 692 9233 or (008) 22 1481.

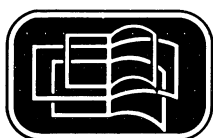
Alan Bundy

Who's where

- Janette Wright has joined Dynix Australia as Director of Marketing after three years with AWA Computers. Janette was Urica Support Manager in Victoria and then moved to Adelaide as National Marketing Manager for Library Systems.

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James Bennett Library Services

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