

CSIRO Libraries Conference

5-7 June 1989

More than sixty CSIRO librarians, senior CSIRO Corporate Centre staff and outside experts attended a CSIRO Librarians' Conference at Merrijig near Mansfield in country Victoria from Monday 5th to Wednesday 7th June.

The Conference included reports on current projects within the CSIRO Library Network and exposed delegates to new products and processes, including developments with the GEAC system.

The CSIRO Library Network System is now Australia's most advanced GEAC installation and is one of the world's leading GEAC sites. It was interesting to note that CSIRO has pioneered the installation and the 'Australianisation' of the GEAC Acquisitions Module and has led the way in data transfers to and from the Acquisitions database. CSIRO is the only Australian GEAC site to make extensive use of advanced features such as serials ordering and accessioning, and has successfully introduced invoice tape loading.

Speakers included senior CSIRO staff, who spoke on finance, budgeting

and current management techniques, and librarians from CSIRO Divisions and the Information Services Unit, who covered such topics as the needs of remote users, patents, gifts and exchange, developments with GEAC's Acquisitions Module, new cataloguing rules and ABN.

Outside speakers included Norma Tovey (Inmagic), Richard Siegersma (DA), who demonstrated Current Contents on diskette and various CD-ROM products, and Marianne Rajkovic from GEAC (Sydney), who demonstrated the GE Circulation Module and the GEAC 9000 Cataloguing Module.

The Conference also presented CSIRO librarians with the opportunity to discuss a wide range of issues including those peculiar to CSIRO as well as some that impact on the wider Australian library community.

Following the Conference, some delegates attended the Optical Disk Conference and Exhibition, held on 9-10 June at the Southern Cross Hotel in Melbourne.

The next CSIRO Librarians' Conference is planned for early 1991.



Research into ethnic services librarians

Northcote Library is embarking on a research project to collect, compile and evaluate data relating to the employment of Multicultural Services or Ethnic Services Librarians and Information Professionals in Victoria.

ALIA will administer the project funds of \$11 675, granted by the Commonwealth Government through the Department of Employment, Education and Training's National Policy on Languages Multicultural and Cross Cultural Supplementation Program at the end of May.

The research project will fill an obvious gap. To date, no formal baseline research has been done in Victoria to determine where multicultural or ethnic services librarians and information professionals are working, the formal qualifications they needed to obtain their positions, and the nature of their job specifications and duty statements. Professional standards may well be suggested as a result of evaluation of the collected data.

An independent researcher, based at Northcote Library for 12 months on a part-time basis, will undertake the project. The research will be done in conjunction and consultation with a reference group, which will have input from the Working Group on Multicultural Library Services, the Continuing Education Officer of ALIA's Victorian Branch and other relevant ALIA officers.



CD initiative in NSW TAFE Library Services

The Director General of NSW TAFE, Michael F. Brinsden, recently launched two initiatives developed by NSW TAFE Library Services.

The first was CD CAT, the CLANN network's catalogue on CD ROM, and the second was the expansion of online services to Grade 2 colleges.



2

More than sixty delegates from forty-five CSIRO libraries converged on the alpine resort of Merrijig, Victoria, for the successful 1989 CSIRO Libraries Conference.

Sesquicentenary

Dear Editor,

The NSW Parliamentary Library celebrates its sesquicentenary in 1990. I would be glad to learn whether there is any library in Australia that is as old or older, having a continuous existence since 1840 either as an independent body or as a library attached to the same institution throughout, which has funded it all that time.

Incidentally, it would also be of interest to know what is the earliest printed library catalogue issued in the colony of New South Wales.

Anyone who is able to throw light on these questions is invited to contact me.

R.L. Cope

Parliamentary Librarian

Parliamentary Library

Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Reader education research

Dear Editor,

As part of the requirements for a Master's degree in educational administration, and with the support of the inaugural Anne Harrison Award sponsored

by the Health Libraries Section of ALIA, I am currently undertaking research on reader education in health-related libraries.

I have recently distributed copies of a survey to all current hospital librarians in Australia plus other librarians in health-related institutions. There is, however, the definite possibility that I may have missed sending the survey to an interested library, or to individuals who have had previous experience in this area that they feel would contribute to the study. If anyone is interested in completing the survey, please contact me at Westmead Hospital Library, Westmead, NSW 2145.

I would like to thank those who are already participating in this research, and I hope to keep receiving your replies so that I can continue this important study and finish writing the paper that I must submit by the end of July for presentation at the Medical Librarians' Conference in New Zealand later this year.

Linda Mulheron

Chief Librarian

Westmead Hospital

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All NSW TAFE libraries belong to CLANN, a cooperative network of NSW and ACT government and education libraries. NSW TAFE Library Services is leading the field in the development and implementation of new technology — the CD ROM (compact disk read only memory). The CD ROM initiative will replace all microfiche catalogues with CDROM by the end of 1989, achieving improved service and cost savings.

The launch was held at Crows Nest College of TAFE Library, recently opened by the Premier of New South Wales, the Hon. Nick Greiner, and the Minister for Education, the Hon. Terry Metherell. It provided an excellent opportunity for people from the library, education and computer professions to mix and exchange ideas and to acknowledge the work and support of all those involved.

For more information, contact Michele Sullivan, Librarian (Planning and Facilities), TAFE Library Services, Department of Technical and Further Education, PO Box K638, Haymarket, NSW 2000. Telephone (02) 289 7846.

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