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the seminar 'Government publications and collection development in the South Pacific area' held in Canberra immediately following IFLA in 1988. It brought together Pacific and Australian librarians and provided an opportunity to discuss common problems and plan solutions.

The need for improvement in our information sources on Asia and the Pacific is acknowledged in many fields, not the least of which is trade. The Australian Trade Commission has recently (*The Age*, 19 May 1989) acknowledged that a (lack of) expertise in 'language and culture and insufficient understanding of differing business environments are inhibiting Australia's trade with Pacific Rim and other markets'.

As an Association, and as individual Australian librarians, we must re-focus our attention so that it is more on the region in which we live to enable us and our fellow countrymen to 'plan for and manage the future as part of the Asian region.'

George Miller

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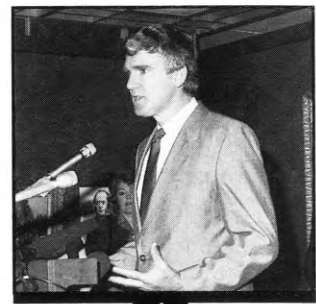
Australian National University

David Williamson's gift

Noted dramatist David Williamson, AO, has made a gift of his Papers to the National Library of Australia under the Taxation Incentives for the Arts Scheme. The gift was officially accepted by the Hon. Paul Keating, MP, Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia, on 11 October.

David Williamson is a foundation member of the Australia Council for the Arts, current President of the Australian Writers' Guild, and winner of three Awgies.

The manuscripts highlight Williamson's creativity and give an insight into his writing technique. The collection contains many plays and scripts written for films and television dramas. These include *The Coming of the Stork*, *The Removalists*, *Don's Party*, *Travelling North*, *Emerald City*, *Gallipoli*, *Phar Lap* and *The Year of*



Living Dangerously. Supplementary material includes research notes and correspondence relating to the works.

The collection also includes many drafts of plays that remain unfinished, and letters from, and copies of letters to, leading figures in politics, theatre and film, such as Gough Whitlam, Don Dunstan, Patrick White, and Kirk Douglas.

In addition, there is a great wealth of personal material: primary school reports, family letters, diaries, childhood stories and drawings, photographs from Williamson's adolescent years, cuttings from university papers during his student years, and diaries of a trip to China.

David Williamson, AO, speaks at the presentation of the Williamson Papers to the National Library. [Photo: National Library]

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