

Report of General Council Meeting



The General Council is the Australian Library and Information Association's chief decision-making body. It comprises elected representatives of the State Branches and the elected officers of President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past President. The Executive Director is an *ex-officio* member of the Council.

General Council provides direction to the Association at the national level, and it establishes all Association policies.

The first meeting of the General Council for 1989 was in March. Many of the decisions made at the meeting will have far-reaching implications for the future direction of the Association.

ALIA National Headquarters, Canberra

The design concept plans for the national headquarters building were presented to Council by the architect for the project, Philip Cox. Council endorsed the overall direction of the design, accepting that further refinements would be carried out by the building project team in consultation with the architect.

These plans are available in the Association's office at Ultimo. Members are most welcome to visit the office to see the plans.

The Council also had to decide at this meeting whether of not to sell the Ultimo building to obtain the remain-

ing \$1 million to finance the construction of the national headquarters building. (ALIA has bank approval to borrow \$2 million, and for an overdraft of up to \$300 000. The new building will cost approximately \$3 million to con-

Many of the decisions made at the meeting will have far-reaching implications for the future direction of the Association.

struct and fit-out.)

Council decided that it should sell the Ultimo building. Based on advice that it received from the Baillieu Knight Frank (NSW) Property Management Office, Council decided that the best result would be achieved by auction. Therefore the building will be auctioned on Wednesday 31 May 1989 by the auctioneer from Baillieu Knight Frank (NSW). The reserve price established will ensure that ALIA realises at least \$1 million from the sale.

This decision will mean that all of ALIA's national headquarters opera-

tions will be provided from its new building in Canberra. In the interim period, ALIA will need to lease temporary premises from which to operate.

By-Laws and Regulations

ALIA's Standing Committee on By-Laws and Regulations presented to Council for consideration the revised By-Laws and Regulations that reflected the changes recommended by the Corporate Plan and Review (1986), and which were subsequently approved by the General Council and incorporated into the Supplemental Royal Charter (1988).

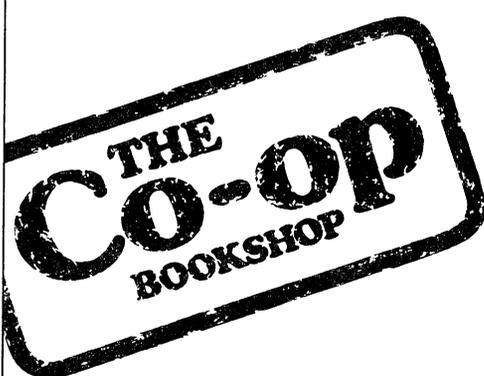
Council discussed and made some amendments to the revised By-Laws and Regulations. It then resolved to adopt the revised By-Laws and Regulations, as amended. The amendments will next be cleared with the Association's solicitor, and then the By-Laws will be forwarded to the Governor-General for approval. (The Regulations require only General Council approval to become part of the Association's constitution.)

The final step in the process of full approval for ALIA's revised constitution (Royal Charter, By-Laws and Regulations) is their publication in full in the **Commonwealth Government Gazette**.

Australian Libraries Summit

ALIA was given responsibility for a large number of resolutions at the October 1988 Australian Libraries Summit. The November meeting of General Council resolved a strategy to ensure that these resolutions were implemented as far as possible by the Association as a matter of priority.

Consequently, various ALIA Boards,



Competitive, professional and backed
by Australia's largest technical bookseller.

CO-OP SUBSCRIPTIONS

For over 10 years Co-op Subscriptions has provided a professional, competitive and innovative service to Librarians and Information Managers. Call us today and find out how you can save time and money managing your serials collection.

**THE UNIVERSITY
CO-OPERATIVE BOOKSHOP**
"More than just a bookshop"

CO-OP SUBSCRIPTIONS
P.O. Box 54 Broadway NSW 2007
Phone (02) 212 2211 Toll Free (008) 22 2762
Fax (02) 212 3372 Telex AA12 1968 ILANET MLN 208200
Manager. Grahame Manns

Committees and Divisions were given responsibility for the carriage of these resolutions, with reports to be made to Council at appointed times. (For the report on 'user pays', see below.)

The coordination of ALIA's activity on the Summit resolutions is to be undertaken by the Industrial and Educational Services Manager and the Victorian General Councillor.

ALIA and ACLIS

After considerable discussion, the General Council resolved to adopt a new policy towards the Australian Council of Library and Information Services (ACLIS). This new policy states that:

1. General Council requests ALIA members to encourage their institutions to join ACLIS.
2. General Council considers that it is in the interests of Australian library and information services for there to be maximum cooperation between ALIA and ACLIS at both the national and State/Territory levels. General Council does not consider that this cooperation necessitates formal membership of each body by the other, and requests the President and the Executive Director to discuss further with the Chairman and Executive Officer of ACLIS appropriate cooperative mechanisms at the national and State levels.
3. The above resolution be brought to the attention of all Branches, national Sections and Special Interest Groups with requests:
 - i. that Divisions do not pursue membership of ACLIS until the results of further discussions with ACLIS have taken place and been reported on;
 - ii. that Branches seek discussions with State and Territory ACLIS committees aimed at the establishment of appropriate cooperative arrangements in each State and Territory.

Policy on free library service to all

Following the Australian Libraries Summit resolutions on user pays, the General Council in November 1988 requested the Tasmanian General Councillor to convene a Committee to review ALIA's policy statement on free library service.

The Tasmanian General Councillor presented a draft policy statement to Council for discussion. Council decided that any major change to this

basic Association policy should receive discussion at the Branch and Division level of the Association, before it is considered by Council. All Divisions will be asked to comment on the draft prior to the July Council meeting.

The Special Libraries Section will be asked to comment on the need to have a similar policy statement covering government departmental libraries.

ALIA policy statements

The General Council endorsed a proposed Statement on Library and Information Services in Schools. This Statement has also been endorsed by the Australian School Library Association and, as such, it will be promoted in a Joint Statement (see Box).

ALIA Publications Board

In 1988 a consultant was employed to review the Association's publications' operation and to make recommendations on its future direction and operational structure.

The consultant's report was presented to the Publications Board in November 1988. The Board considered it at two meetings, and made recommendations to the General Council for approval.

The Council has now resolved that the Association establish ALIA Press to publish Association monograph titles on a commercial basis, and that a manager be sought to establish ALIA Press. It further resolved that members should continue to receive favoured treatment

From 1 • •

Contracts for the building will go out to tender in May, and work should begin in June 1989. The building should be completed by mid 1990.

The Sydney ALIA office staff and the ACT Branch are currently planning a tree-planting and sod-turning ceremony for late May. More details on this will be provided in the next issue of *InCite*.

The building project team has been careful to ensure that public areas have finishes and fit-out that convey to visitors an impression of a leading, image-conscious, national professional body.



in the pricing of ALIA Press publications.

The Publications Board will develop further the guidelines for the operation of ALIA Press.

ALIA role in library promotion

The ALPC has been experiencing financial difficulties, and has decided to go into voluntary liquidation. This will leave a gap in Australian library promotion. The General Council has decided that ALIA has a leading role to play in library promotion, and is supporting a national forum on the subject. Anne Hazell and Alan Bundy

Continued 8 • •

Joint ALIA/ASLA Statement on Library and Information Services in Schools

1. School library and information programs and services are integral to the goals of the school and the aims of the curriculum.

2. As a member of the school's teaching team, the teacher-librarian has a role in the planning, implementation and evaluation of educational policies, curricula, outcomes and programs, with particular reference to the development of students' information literacy.

3. As a member of the school's management team, the teacher-librarian has a role in ensuring the school community's access to an organised collection of teaching and learning resources and services designed to meet the educational, recreational and cultural needs of the community.

4. As a significant sector in Australia's total information resources, school libraries should provide access to a network of library and information programs and services at the local, State, national and international levels.

5. So that the library and information services offered through the school library both shape and reflect the school's goals, professional staff should be qualified in teacher librarianship on entry to the profession, and have the opportunity to undertake continuing professional development. Appropriately qualified technical and clerical staff should assist professional staff.

6. Library and information programs and services in schools should be developed within the context of other ASLA- and ALIA- endorsed statements.

WHO'S WHERE

Recently appointed Chief Librarian of the newly established Northern Territory University, Alex Byrne, leaves the position of Deputy Librarian of the UNSW University College at the Australian Defence Force Academy, ACT. Prior to that appointment, he was at James Cook University.

Alex has wide experience encompassing the areas of automation, reader



services, database and catalogue development, building management, staffing and financial management and general library management. His publications have dealt with online searching, subject access to information, national information policy and maintenance of serials collections.

Alex has been very active in ALIA, and will relinquish the position of President of the ACT Branch when he leaves Canberra. (He will be ably replaced by Kay Winter.) He is a member of the Information for the Nation National Committee, the national headquarters building project team, and the executive of the ACT Group of the University and College Libraries Section (UCLS) of ALIA.

Don't miss out! In 1989, over 3000 people missed out on subscribing to *Australian Library Journal* because they left it too late. If you want to be up with the leaders in 1989, get your subscription in now. The *Journal* only prints a limited number of copies, and back issues go out of print quickly. At only \$16 for four issues, post, it's got to be a bargain. Subscribe now! Join the thousands of Australian information professionals who already subscribe.

▶ From 4 • •

have been invited to convene this forum in Adelaide on the 4-5 August 1989. See ALIA advertisement on page 15.

ALIA will also be seeking sole responsibility for the library symbol.

ALIA Divisions

The General Council endorsed the name change for the Bookmobile Librarians Special Interest Group to the Mobile Libraries Special Interest Group. It also endorsed a recommendation that the Industrial Matters Special Interest Group be dissolved owing to lack of any interest by members over a period of at least 4 years.

International Relations Committee

Council supported the establishment of a small Working Group to review the terms of reference for the International Relations Committee and to make recommendations to Council on policies required before the Committee is established. The Working Group is to comprise the ALIA President, Averill Edwards, Director-General of the National Library, Warren Horton, Chairman of the 1988 IFLA Conference Organising Committee, Barrie Mitcheson, and ALIA Executive Director, Sue Kosse.

The Working Group is to report back to the July 1989 meeting of General Council.



Cataloguing backlogs are a thing of the past

That's the promise of BOOK Plus from Stowe Computing Australia, the only library management system offering direct and interactive communication for Down Line Loading from ABN.

BOOK Plus saves you money too, by giving every terminal in the library direct access to ABN for Down Line Loading and Online Public Databases, WITHOUT the need to buy additional hardware or software!

Batch processing is also a thing of the past with BOOK Plus, because ABN records are accepted by your system and loaded into the catalogue within a matter of seconds.

And it's so simple. A single standard ABN command activates the entire Down Line Loading process. A dual task facility enables simple switching from your own catalogue maintenance and enquiry to ABN and back again.

Catalogue records are processed within seconds and items may be passed straight into circulation. Easier for the library staff, and much better for the public.

If you would like to learn how to remove your cataloguing backlog, contact:



ADELAIDE
(08) 224 0100

BRISBANE
(07) 229 2522

SYDNEY
(02) 437 5511

MELBOURNE
(03) 690 4788

PERTH
(09) 474 2611