

Reference and Information Services Librarians Section formed

On Friday 23 March, the ALIA General Council resolved to approve the formation of a national section of ALIA called the Reference and Information Services Librarians Section. A petition signed by 116 delegates to the third National Reference Librarians Conference held in Melbourne 17-19 November 1989 requested the formation of the Section.

Why the Reference and Information Services Librarians Section?

The Section has been formed because there is no other section within ALIA which specifically focuses on issues relating to reference and information services at a national level. We need a national section to deal specifically with the needs of reference and information librarians across all types of libraries; for example, to consider the inclusion of reference and information services in performance evaluation of libraries, or to lobby for expanded and improved Australian databases.

Terms of reference

The following draft terms of reference for the Section were approved at a meeting of delegates at the third National Reference Librarians Conference.

- to deal with issues related to the provision of reference and information services in libraries;
- to represent reference and information services personnel within the profession;
- to lobby for the improvement and extension of reference services provided by libraries and information agencies;
- to develop, monitor and promote standards associated within the provision of reference and information services;
- to organise conferences and other professional activities at national and regional levels;
- to support publications related to reference and information services;

- to cooperate with other groups having similar aims.

Structure and responsibilities

The structure of rails will be similar to the Cataloguers Section:

- The national committee of President, Secretary, Treasurer and five committee members will be in a host State.
- The national committee has as its responsibility the organisation of a national conference in the non-ALIA conference year.
- The national committee has as its responsibility the organisation of any ALIA associated pre or post conference sessions.
- The national committee should not be in the same State as the next ALIA conference.
- State committees (except in the State which is host to the national committee) will have a similar structure to the national committee.

The committees will have as their brief the coordination of activities within the terms of reference of the Section.

Interim Steering Committee

President:

Barbara Paton, La Trobe University, telephone (03) 479 1928.

General Secretary:

Erica Maxwell, Sunshine Melton Regional Library Service, telephone (03) 311 0712.

Treasurer:

Susan Bray, University of Melbourne, telephone (03) 344 8567.

The Melbourne based Interim Steering Committee which was appointed at the conference will continue to operate and will form the National Group Committee for 1990. The first elected National Committee will take office in 1991 as a result of formal ALIA elections which will be held later this year.

The Interim Steering Committee will be undertaking those tasks required to

get the Section running, including supporting the formation of State Groups. The first general meeting of the Section is scheduled to be held during the 1990 ALIA Conference in Perth. (More details in a future issue of *inCite*).

Membership of the Reference and Information Services Librarians Section

Those ALIA members who signed the petition for formation of the Section are to be entered immediately in the membership database as Section members by the ALIA National Office. Any ALIA member interested in joining the Section is invited to contact Membership Services at the National Office (telephone: Toll Free 008 02 0071) and ask for it to be added to your membership record. Interested members are urged to do this as the number of members on record in November 1990 will form the basis of the budget allocation to the Section in 1991. Membership of the Section in 1990 is free.

Members are also invited to contact your State representative (listed on page 12) who will be coordinating interested parties in forming State Groups of the Section.

The formation of the Reference and Information Services Librarians Section is a major development for reference and information services librarians and for ALIA, and the Committee implores all those interested to register for membership of the Section so that 1991 can be a productive and satisfying year.

Barbara Paton

State coordinators are:

ACT

Bette Dracoulis, ABS Central Library, telephone (06) 255 6603

NSW

Craig Grimison, University of Wollongong, telephone (042) 27 0550. Clare Wilde, Macquarie University, telephone (02) 887 4752

NT

Alex Byrne, Northern Territory University, telephone (089) 46 6192

QLD

Denise Dryburgh, University of Queensland, telephone (07) 377 3249

VIC

Erica Maxwell, Sunshine Melton Regional Library Service, telephone (03) 311 0712



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SA

Patrick Condon, University of Adelaide, telephone (08) 228 5370

TAS

Twila Herr, University of Tasmania, telephone (002) 20 2784. Cathy Doe, State Library of Tasmania, telephone (002) 30 7460

WA

Malcolm Traill, Curtin University of Technology, telephone (09) 351 7256



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the establishment of most of the 45 school/community libraries we have in rural South Australia today.

Her involvement and support for these joint-use libraries of which South Australia has more than the rest of Australia put together has assisted with their success. So much so that they have been recognised by overseas experts as the best joint-use libraries in the world.

To record her commitment to school/community libraries ALIA and Auslib Press have established an award for a program designed to enhance, for both the public and school clients, the services offered in school/community libraries in South Australia.

The winner of the inaugural award was Pauline Jolly, the Librarian of the Ceduna School/Community Library in the District Council of Murat Bay.

Euan Miller
State Librarian,
State Library of SA

**A.L.I.A. 1990****1st Biennial Conference****Perth - Western Australia****September 30-October 5, 1990****at the Perth Concert Hall**

Tom McKeon, Industrial Information Officer

Union amalgamations

In this time of rapid change in industrial relations the ACTU and the Federal Government have turned their attention towards encouraging union amalgamations. The Australian Industrial Relation Act (1988) may be amended this year to remove barriers to the amalgamation process.

The ACTU plan is to reduce the current 360-odd unions down to 20 unions structured along industry lines. A report by Pam Williams in the *Financial Review* of 2 April 1990 called 'ACTU switches focus to union mergers' lists a number of possible changes.

This process is of interest to library staff working in non-unionised special libraries. Pam Williams says that the ACTU wants the Federated Clerks Union to work towards forming a new private sector union covering professional, administrative and clerical workers.

I have spoken previously of the Miscellaneous Workers Union covering staff in special libraries. Obviously a good deal of trading of members will be required over a period of time.

Video resources

A useful brief bibliography *Video resources on award restructuring* has been compiled by the Queensland University of Technology Library.

The following are of particular interest:

Award Restructuring: a better deal for you and Australia. Produced by Parmelia Productions, Perth. One videocassette (VHS) (10 min.): sd., col.; 1/2 in. Discusses the principles of award restructuring for efficiency within the Australian public sector. Available from: TAFE National Clearinghouse Library (08) 362 7905, (08) 79 6351, Department of Labour (Victoria) (03)

654 8039, Department of Technical and Further Education (South Australia) Library (08) 226 3416.

Award Restructuring: implications for Australia. Produced by Inhouse Video Productions in association with the Australian Institute of Training and Development. One videocassette (VHS) (70 min.): sd., col.; 1/2 in. Colour recording system: PAL. Leaders in Australian industrial relations discuss award restructuring in terms of industry training, evaluating and marketing the training function, training management, training staff and adult learning principles. Available from: Queensland University of Technology Library (07) 223 2218, Deakin University Library (052) 44 2777, Footscray Institute of Technology Library (03) 689 4069, Western Institute Library (03) 367 8286.

Award Restructuring and Devet. Produced by TSN11 for Devet, Queensland. One videocassette (VHS) (30 min.): 1/2 in. Available from: Queensland Divisional Library, Department of Employment, Vocational Education and Training (07) 237 0609. For loan.

In the Nick of Time (Title on container: *Award Restructuring: in the nick of time*), one videocassette (VHS) (17 min.): sd., col.; 1/2 in. discusses award restructuring for the Australian vehicle manufacturing industry. As restructuring is introduced, benefits include a career path, better pay, more rewarding jobs, greater training opportunities, and improvement in product quality. Major themes are the role of joint decision making committees and the difficulties in reaching agreement on restructuring proposals. Available from: Department of Technical and Further Education (South Australia) Library (08) 226 3416; Clyde Cameron College (TUTA), Wodonga. Not for loan, hire from Video Projects, Fitzroy (03) 419 8750.

Negotiating Award Restructure. One videocassette (VHS) (15 min.): sd., col.; 1/2 in. In the first phase of award restructuring negotiations, issues such as minimum rates, training, and career paths are raised. The relationships of the issues to one another are examined. Available from: TUTA Queensland Centre (07) 229 5211. View by appointment.

Video resources on award restructuring is available from Carolyn Chalmers, Technical Services Librarian, Library, Queensland University of Technology, GPO Box 2434, Brisbane, Qld 4001.

