

Centre for communication and information research

On 23 February 1990 the Centre for Communication and Information Research (CCIR) within the Faculty of Communication at the University of Canberra was launched. The Centre's program is concerned with research into communication and information processes in the Australian-Asian-Pacific region. Its main focus is on the production, distribution, and social uses of information and communication in organisational and intercultural contexts. It will have an administrative orientation, as well as a concern with cultural, literary, and linguistic studies.

Launched in 1990 to coincide with the establishment of the University of Canberra, it aims to develop an innovative research program over the next 18-24 months based on a strategic research plan currently being developed. It will examine some of the long-term social and cultural implications of Australia becoming an information-based society.

At this time, CCIR is in its initial stages of development, but is in the process of forming affiliations with other centres for communication and information research in Australia. It already has a number of links with overseas advisors in its own geographical region and in the US. The long term aim of the Centre is to become self-financing and engage in significant and socially responsible research. There is a real need for the human implications of the current rapid changes taking place in the global and national communication and information industries to be carefully examined.

CCIR will draw on existing disciplinary skills from the Centres of Communication Studies and Library and Information Studies, and where appropriate, also use the expertise of staff in other School Centres, such as Modern Languages and Media.

Current research program

Current research projects include: studies in television audience analysis; the historical development of Australian communication industries; database

development for Australian communication and information research; information needs and information seeking behaviour.

As well as developing its own unique research projects, the Centre will coordinate on-going graduate and staff higher degree research. Some current work here includes the introduction of pay television to Australia, job-design requirements in office automation, and information needs of sports coaches, bilingual school students and education administrators.



Left to right- rear: Professor WF Mandie, Dr Graeme Osborne, John Langmore, Member for Fraser, Vice-Chancellor Roger Scott, Dr Glen Lewis. Front: Dr Patricia Gillard, Dr Maxine K Rochester, Ian Mathews.

Photograph taken at CCIR Launch. Photograph: *Malcolm Bodley.*

CCIR will also communicate its research findings to the interested public via seminars, workshops, public lectures, and publications.

For a copy of the first issue of the *CCIR Newsletter* and an information brochure please write to the Centre for Communication and Information Research, Faculty of Communication, University of Canberra, PO Box 1, Belconnen, ACT 2616, or telephone (06) 252 2008.

Dr Maxine K Rochester
Acting Director, CCIR
University of Canberra

EVENTS

NATIONAL

29-31 May. 7th Conference for Librarians in the Criminal Justice System. Burgmann College, ANU, ACT. Contact: John Myrtle, Librarian, Australian Institute of Criminology, PO Box 28, Woden, ACT 2606 (06) 274 0264.

19-20 July. National Library Staff Development seminar. SACAE, Underdale Campus. Contact: The Convener, Jane Hiscock, c/ The SACAE Library, Holbrooks Road, Underdale, SA 5032 (08) 354 6357, fax (08) 354 6699.

• **1-4 September 1991.** National Special and Law Librarians' Conference, National Convention Centre, Canberra. Planning now underway. Contact: Rosemary Bell, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Library (06) 261 2965. Pat Stone, Defence Information Services (06) 266 2258.

• **30 September-5 October.** ALIA 1st Biennial Conference 1990. Perth Concert Hall, Perth. Contact: Conference Organiser, Promaco Conventions, 9/890 Canning Hwy, Applecross, WA 6153 (09) 364 8311.

NEW SOUTH WALES

31 May. Seminar in Librarianship and Information Science. Speaker: Dr Barbara Poston-Anderson. Blockbusters: providing information for children. UTS, Kuringai Campus, Lindfield — small lecture theatre. 1 pm-2.30 pm. Contact: Helen Gilkes (02) 413 8336.

• **31 May.** School Libraries Section. **Gwen Gawith workshop.** Practical display and presentation. NSW Department of School Education Conference Centre, 3a Smalls Road, Ryde. 4.30 pm-9 pm. \$20 ALIA members, \$30 non-members (includes dinner). Contact: Niki Kallenberger, 66 George Street, Homebush, NSW 2140 (02) 808 9456 (W), (02) 76 7889 (H).

• **2 June.** School Libraries Section. **Gwen Gawith workshop.** Information skills and the missing links: Imagination, motivation and self-esteem. NSW Department of School Education Head Office Library, Signature Tower, 2-10 Wentworth Street, Parramatta. 9 am-3.30 pm. \$40 ALIA members, \$60 non-members (includes lunch and teas). Contact: Niki Kallenberger, 66 George Street, Homebush, NSW 2140 (02) 808 9456 (W), (02) 76 7889 (H).

• **5 June.** Library Technicians Section. **Committee Meeting.** Fisher Library, University of Sydney. Common Room,