

IN THE NEWS

Third World Libraries

River Forest, Illinois - Rosary College Graduate School of Library and Information Science is pleased to announce *Third World Libraries (TWL)*, a new scholarly journal exploring the relationship between libraries, information services and economic growth. *TWL* focuses principally on the impact that library and information activities have on the socio-economic conditions in non-industrialised regions. *TWL* is not limited in scope to emerging nations, however, but will include contributions illuminating the relationship between libraries and the economic or societal situation in any context.

Rosary College has ceased publication of the *International Journal of Reviews in Library and Information Science* with the 1989 distribution of Volume 4, Number 2. Current subscribers will instead receive the first two issues of *TWL* to appear in Spring/Summer 1990. Individuals who are interested in writing articles and/or reviews for *TWL* are invited to direct inquiries to the Managing Editor, *TWL*, 7900 West Division Street, River Forest, Illinois, 60305, USA.

Valuing corporate libraries

The opinions of senior-level managers at 164 corporations regarding their libraries and information centres and the information specialists who run them is captured in a study published recently by the Special Libraries Association USA (SLA) in cooperation with Temple, Barker & Sloane (TBS), a Massachusetts-based management consulting firm.

Topics of the 12-page study include managements' criteria for evaluating libraries ('a substantial proportion of the respondents declared they had no procedures'), most valuable types of information (almost 80% cited database searching as a key service), and the value of services rendered.

'Like all good research', writes SLA Executive Director David R Bender in his introduction to the study, 'the investigation raises questions that call for additional research, suggests new explorations and proposes possible solutions to some of the problems identified.'

Tyranny of time

CSIRO AUSTRALIS will undergo a number of major changes in the next few months. These changes include a new pricing structure, a new host and an upgraded version of the STAIRS software.

From 1 July 1990 AUSTRALIS will cease to operate on a connect hour/monthly account maintenance fee basis and change to a flat price of \$425 for 12 months use or 50 hours connect time, whichever comes first. We believe this flat fee system will encourage not only more use but also a more creative use of the databases on AUSTRALIS — users will no longer be terrorised by the 'tyranny of time'. For the first time you will be able to provide accurate budget forecasts for AUSTRALIS usage.

In January 1990 AUSTRALIS went to public tender for provision of telecommunications and computing services. After an exhaustive process of tender evaluation, Ferntree Information was the successful tender. AUSTRALIS will cease to be available via the Paxus ComNet network from 30 June 1990. June 1990 will see AUSTRALIS running in parallel on Ferntree Information and Paxus ComNet prior to changeover on 1 July 1990.

The tender specification included the ability to provide and support STAIRS 5.0 software. This upgrade will bring about a number of enhancements to our present version of STAIRS.

Over the next few months AUSTRALIS staff will be heavily involved in the testing, documentation and promotion of these changes. Users will be guided through the changes taking place via regular mailouts, on-line updates and visits to each capital city. A smooth transition for our users is of paramount importance.

Re-usable resources

Christ the King Parish School in Graceville, Brisbane, is a small parish school (175 students) which, thanks to Federal Government assistance, has purchased a mini-bus and employed a driver. Twice daily, this bus makes an hour-long run

all over the city and collects our Aboriginal and Islander students for school. This ensures more regular attendance at school, which makes a more positive impact on learning. At present, almost 25 per cent of our school population is of Aboriginal and Islander descent.

My appeal is to any of you who are culling good re-usable library stock, suitable for any section of a primary school library, to donate such stock to our school. Any such donations would be gratefully received and would greatly assist us in our work.

Please direct any enquiries or suitable donations to the Principal, or Teacher-librarian, Christ the King Parish School, 7 Randolph Street, Graceville, Queensland 4075.

Dick Aylward
Principal

Australian War Memorial— 'Search Tech'

The Australian War Memorial has chosen Search Tech Pty Ltd, to supply a computerised Image Management System to control and provide access to its extensive collection of historic photographs.

The Australian War Memorial pictorial library contains approximately 700 000 items relating to Australian military history. Photographs in the collection cover the period from the Boer War to the present day and are of incalculable significance to researchers and casual visitors to the Memorial.

Visitors to the War Memorial will be able to gain access to the Search Tech Image Management System which will be used to provide online access initially to around 120 000 of these images. This number will grow to over 200 000 images in the next few years as more pictures from the photographic collection are added to the system.

In addition, the system will allow access to images of other items in the Memorial's collections, including approximately 8000 posters, some 22 000 works of art, and various relics (currently numbered at more than 70 000). It will take a number of years before all of these images can be captured; however with the on-site capture capability of the system, this work will become a routine feature of Memorial activities.

For further information contact Search Tech (part of the Infolink Group), c/- 'The Others', Wendy Giles or Howard Needleman Tel: (02) 906 5088, fax (02) 906 4893.

China Daily highlights

Griffith University is to publish a bi-monthly index highlighting the articles and issues run in the *China Daily* newspaper. The *China Daily Index* was launched on 1 May, marking the culmination of 3 years' planning and negotiation between the newspaper and the university. It is a joint project of Griffith University's library and its academic Division of Asian and International Studies and the *China Daily*.

A 3-year agreement has been struck for the University to produce the index, with a view to *China Daily* staff being trained at Griffith. The index was the brainchild of Griffith University reference services librarian Elsie Leow who identified the need from the requests of students and academics for assistance in finding articles in past editions of the *China Daily*.

Co-editor of the index, and lecturer in Chinese economics, Dr Paul Ivory said that as the only English newspaper in China, the *China Daily* was essential reading for the vast majority of people interested in the country but unable to speak Chinese. The first edition of the *China Daily Index* covers all stories published since 1 January 1990.



Griffith University Librarian Elsie Leow (left) works on the first issue as Dr Paul Ivory, Darrell Dorrington and Alla Mazuk look on.

Excerpta medica

Excerpta Medica announces the forthcoming release of six new CD-ROM products covering biomedical abstracts, citations and indexing in specialist subjects. The first three products are now available for Trial and Buy or annual subscription and will include Drugs and Pharmacology, Cardiology, and Immunology and AIDS. In July a further three products will be released — Gastroenterology, Psychiatry, and Neurosciences.

Each CD-ROM product will cover 10 years of backfile information from the Excerpta Medica database (Embase) 1980 through to the present and will be updated quarterly. Content selection is based on cover-to-cover inclusion of material from the most significant journals in the specialist field, which from 1990 also includes letters, notes, editorials etc. This core information is enhanced by comprehensive selection per subject from the entire Embase database journal collection for 3 500 journal titles.

'Beyond 2000' for ILL delivery in Darwin in the 90s?

A staff member (qualified Library Technician) at ABC TV Archives in Darwin recently applied for a position with a more conventional library.

A member of the interviewing panel rang the Director of News and put a number of 'conventional' questions to him about the applicant. The Director later admitted to the applicant that he hadn't understood most of the questions and quite honestly had no idea what the panel was talking about. But he said that he understood the inter library loan one although he didn't know why the panel seemed baffled by his answer.

He was asked if the staff member was familiar with inter library loan procedure. Sure, he said, we are always getting items from other places and sending items interstate. She is very good in this area. I have no problems with her getting items almost immediately I request them. He said the panel was impressed by this and went on to ask him whether or not she used the ALIA voucher system for inter library loans? 'No', he said, 'we don't use the voucher system, we use the Satellite system.'

Periodical centre for Qld schools

Queensland schools have found an innovative way to cope with budget restraints and the ever-increasing need for students to be able to access a wide range of current information sources through periodicals.

Centre 2000 in Ferny Hills in Brisbane has set up a facility which has been greeted with enormous enthusiasm by schools right across the State.

This centre maintains a collection of periodicals of use to high school students and teachers. It provides a photocopying service to schools of articles from these periodicals.

Most of the periodicals indexed in Guidelines are now held by the centre. The centre has subscribed to sixty of these titles since 1988. Others and back issues have been donated from school collections. Schools are regularly provided with lists of gaps the centre would like to fill.

Photocopies of articles are normally made and posted to schools on the same day as the request is received. Five days gets a return delivery in most of Queensland's provincial cities. The service is cheap and efficient and schools can benefit from advantages such as re-allocation of funds to other resources previously unaffordable; saving of shelf space for storing back issues; no space concerns about lost or misfiled back issues of periodicals.

Centre 2000 is offering a wonderful service to schools and we are grateful for the initiatives by the Department of Education and its staff which have made its existence possible.

Judy Hunter



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Biography, PAIS International, Psyclit (abstracts or summaries of the world's periodical literature in psychology and related disciplines), Social Sciences Citation Index, Social Sciences Index and the most recent addition — Sociofile.

The popularity of the databases makes it advisable to contact the relevant library for a booking. Contacts are: Physical Sciences Library: Tony Cargnelutti (ext 2680); Biomedical Library: Christine Lindsay (ext 2651); Social Sciences and Humanities Library: Richard d'Avigdor (ext 2659); Law Library: Peter Sidorko (ext 2685).

Pat Howard

University of NSW Library
(Reproduced from *Uniken* the University of NSW newspaper)



A \$10 000 large facsimile cheque is presented by Ron White to Dr Henderson (left). Looking on is Pat Howard, Development and Planning Librarian.