

Your Vice-Presidential Candidates

Bev Kirby and Barry McIntyre were invited to amplify their 'professional concerns' in the biographical sketches in the ballot paper.

Bev's statement

My involvement with ALIA has been the single most important step taken in my professional life. Access to professional development, the support from its networks, faith in its ability to lobby on my behalf and to speak for me in every forum and perhaps the greatest of all, contact with and support from my peers are all good reasons for being a member and for being involved. This is the message I would wish to bring as President-elect.

When approached to nominate for the position of Vice-President I wondered how some may see a librarian working out of the mainstream library scene as President of ALIA. I represent a growing team of library professionals who have taken their skills into business, industry and government and who now see themselves as creating signposts to the broadening of our professional base in the future.

It was as a library consultant that I first went to the National Fishing Industry Training Council. After establishing their Resource Centre and information service I designed the system to be used in the labour force database project involving an occupational analysis, a skills audit and the development of a training database for the future. It seems perfectly logical that I should do this kind of work. As a librarian I have the experience and knowledge. I am sure that had they been available, Dewey and Ranganathan would have been working on the project as well. I know that the people I deal with have come to recognise the advantages of a solid library background.

In all I have been involved with libraries for 26 years. I value my experience in special libraries, school libraries and TAFE. For 9 years I was a manager of a library in a post-secondary college with 10 000 students. I see the value of my involvement with ALIA at Branch and Section level as it has served to keep me in touch with so many other professionals and the issues they must face on a daily basis.

I enjoyed my experience as a library educator teaching collection development. This had to come to an end because of the pressure of other work. Over the years I have been involved in selection panels for two Victorian library schools and acted as an examiner for the Masters program at Monash University. As Victorian Branch President I had the opportunity to meet with heads of our Victorian library schools and Victorian members of the Board of Education. I see a crucial role for the Board of Education in maintaining education and training standards.

I have published articles and papers and my book, *One large step: Automation and the school library* was published in 1989. Conference papers I have given include LAA, VALA, TAFE and the Microcomputers in Education Conference, Arizona 1985.

Bev Kirby

Bazz's manifesto

1990 is a watershed in Australia's publicly funded library and information services. Many services face significant funding cuts. Privatisation is in the air. The fates of many services and jobs are delicately balanced.

In such interesting times we might expect a strong and vigorous campaign to be waged to lead the professional association. I am offering you one. A good fight has to be fought within ALIA as much as it has to be in support of libraries. There is a need for strong, practical and realistic leadership. We need to energise ourselves!

The best way I can express what I stand for is to consider how I might judge the accomplishments of my prospective term of office.

In 3 years time I would want to see:

- An increased sense of personal ownership by all association members as evidenced by the return of significant numbers of lapsed members;
- The active prosecution of elections with search committees seeking good candidates with innovative policies, and at least 50 per cent of members voting;
- A significant reduction in the cynicism about what ALIA offers;
- The discovery of a better formula to ensure that we do really associate as evidenced by a 200 per cent increase in attendance at ALIA activities;
- The coordination and delivery of effective and reasonably priced continuing education to members regardless of their geographic location;
- The encouragement and development of talent so that we can call upon a wider pool of 'doers';
- The creation of an effective lobbying machine to regain ground lost to other competitors in the share of the arts dollar;
- The revision and vigorous promotion of library standards and publication of a useful collation of statistics concerning the 'library state of the nation';
- A biennial conference accessible to a large number of members and including more than 1000 nonlibrary delegates who are stakeholders in having effective library and information services;
- Revitalisation of ALIA's Sections;
- An ALIA that reflects its marketing 'street smartness' both in the way it runs itself and promotes library and information services;
- A publication program that produces tools that an assertive and confident Association should create; and
- An *inCite* filled with accounts of action, excellence and success and fewer exhortations like this campaign speech.

The first step to this better view is you voting. Realise that such participation also carries a responsibility. If elected I will be asking you to associate, enjoy and excel.

Barry McIntyre

In brief:

Training Guarantee Scheme

The Australian Taxation Office has just produced a booklet *Training Guarantee — Your Questions Answered* which

should provide some much needed guidance on the operation of this scheme. It is being distributed to employers, and copies may be obtained from the Tax Office.

Since July it is now compulsory for employers to spend 1 per cent of their payroll on training.

Another sponsor for Bookprint Reading 1990

Mercedes-Waratah Press, Melbourne-based printers specialising in high-quality four and six colour printing, are to print celebrity and theme posters for this campaign during the last 3 months of the year.