

Board of Education news

The Board met on 19 and 20 February, and new members Jean Bailey, Joyce Kirk and Vicki Williamson were welcomed. Anne Hazell was elected Deputy Chairperson. The Board recorded appreciation of the contribution by Eric Wainwright during his term as Chairman.



Fay Nicholson

Issues addressed by the Board were:

Professional development

Proposals have been accepted for the 1990 National Professional Development (PD) Program — How to Conduct Selection Interviews; Legal Reference Resources for the Non Specialist; and Audio Visual Copyright.

It was decided that proposals for PD programs would be considered at times other than when expressions of interest in relation to topics identified by Divisions are sought. The first is on Time Management.

Development of self instructional PD packages is proceeding, supported by an allocation of \$4000 from General Council. The packages are: How to Approach AACRIIR; Promoting Library Services to Minority Groups; Making the Most of Your Teleconference; How to Select a System for Automating a Small Library. The package, Stopping the Rot, currently in production, will be available shortly.

Professional standards

The Board is involved in advising institutions on courses at the developmental stage, the upgrading of technician certificate courses to Associate Diplomas, and in course recognition visits. It was agreed to develop detailed procedures for course recognition panels including

guidelines for accreditation reports.

The annual returns from library schools were examined. Follow up action will be taken on schools which did not submit a return and on those that raised concerns, for example staff numbers. The current annual questionnaire will be revised for implementation in 1991.

Workforce and employment

A questionnaire on the employment of 1989 graduates will be administered in July 1990, with the assistance of library schools. Returns for each school will remain confidential to the Board and the school, while State and national analyses will be released to the profession.

The Market Analysis Survey of advertisements for relevant positions appearing in newspapers in each state on certain designated dates is proceeding well.

The Board is monitoring developments in award restructuring, skill analysis and the position of teacher-librarians in Victoria.

The Board's request for special grants for Perth Technical College for support for fast track conversion courses for library technicians to upgrade from Certificate to Graduate Diplomas has been successful. A further request for extension of time for this upgrading has been made.

Policy statements

Revision of ALIA educational statements: A review and discussion paper, will be distributed to ALIA Branches, Divisions and Library Schools for comment. Board members are prepared to take part in these discussions in their home state.

Summit recommendations

The Board has considered all relevant summit recommendations, and has addressed the issues in the appropriate areas of its responsibilities.

1990 meeting with educators

A pre-conference session has been arranged for educators and members interested in library education. The agenda will be finalised in July and circulated to library schools.

Fay Nicholson

ALIA Board of Education

Chairperson

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President

Lynn Allen, Library and Information Service of WA, telephone (09) 427 3325.

Study Grant Award

The 1990 ALIA Study Grant has been awarded to Elizabeth Brown, Senior Librarian at the C B Newling Learning Resources Centre in Armidale, NSW. Elizabeth proposes to overview the management of serials by libraries and subscription agencies in Europe, with special reference to a detailed examination of the interface between library and agent.

The Assessment Panel for the award considered the project to be particularly relevant in regard to streamlining serials routines for cost effectiveness; management problems involved in contracting out; implications for serials services in rural areas; and implications for commercial agents.

Elizabeth plans to travel to Holland in July, visiting SWETS Subscription Services and some of their client libraries in Holland, West Germany and the UK.

An advertisement for the 1991 Study Grant Award can be found on page 2 of this issue.