

inlite 12

Newsletter of the Australian Library & Information Association

University medals to librarianship students

In two universities, this year's top awards went to librarianship students.

The University of Canberra awards only a single University Medal at its annual graduation ceremonies, for outstanding academic achievement. In 1991, for the first time, it was won by a librarianship student, Christine Fulton. Christine completed her BA in Library and Information Studies with an impressive bag of nine High Distinctions and seven Distinctions. She also won the ALIA ACT Branch Prize as the undergraduate student with the most outstanding academic record.



pictured: Julie Hill (left) and Christine Fulton (right)



Other prize winners from the Centre for Library and Information Studies at the University of Canberra were Siew Bail, who won the ALIA ACT Branch Prize for the Graduate Diploma student with the most outstanding academic

record, and Sandee Rumball, who won the John Balnaves prize for the student with the most outstanding academic record in Information Retrieval.

And in Charles Sturt University, this year's University Medal was won by Julie Hill. A reference librarian at the Fisher

Library of Sydney University, Julie studied for a BA in Library and Information Science by an external course at CSU-Riverina, taking four and a half years instead of the more usual six, and was 'rather taken aback' to learn that she had won the Medal as well as her degree. □

Patrick White MS for Australia

The National Library of Australia and the State Library of NSW have just acquired the autographed manuscript of White's last novel, *Memoirs of Many in One*, auctioned at Sotheby's in London on 18 July.

This manuscript is something of an 'aberration'. It is almost certainly the only manuscript of any of his books to survive. White had directed that he should be judged by his published work, and that all surviving manuscripts

should be destroyed after his death. But this manuscript had been given by White to an anti-apartheid institution in South Africa and so escaped the destruction.

Both the State Library of NSW and the NLA have links with White. The former has a long association with him, and received a bequest of his book library and some personal possessions. The latter has extensive printed holdings and many letters directed to it by David

Marr, White's biographer. Both libraries became aware of the manuscript in Sotheby's catalogue and sought further advice. Estimates of its auction value ranged from £1000 to £50 000 and the two libraries decided to purchase the item jointly, if possible. In the event, the manuscript was acquired for £11 500.

It is likely to be housed in NSW initially, but will be available to both libraries for exhibition.

Warren Horton □

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