

## OECD documents for Australian libraries

As soon as the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) began making its documents and statistics available online to users outside Paris, it became possible for Australian users to access the information within hours of its release. The OLIS network which distributes the information locally is managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The DFAT Library downloads all the electronic documents and files of data, lists and indexes them, and makes them available to Australian users through Keylink. Individual users dial in and electronically transfer the documents of their choice into their own mailboxes. The DFAT Library maintains a machine-readable archive of OECD documents released since October 1989 and supplies copies of archived documents to users. Departments and agencies pay for the documents they transfer.

At the moment only the OECD is making its documents available in this way. Should the documents of other international agencies such as the United Nations and GATT become available electronically, then a mechanism exists for distributing them quickly and economically to other government users.

*Rosemary Bell*

## Thai visitor at Defence Information Services



*Kat with Pat Reilly, the Manager of DIS Training and Online Services.*

Defence Information Services in Canberra (DIS) is hosting a visit under the Defence Cooperation Program by the librarian of the Military Research and Development Centre (MRDC) in Bangkok, Kanokporn Rattanamongkol. Kanokporn, who prefers to be called Kat, holds the rank of Squadron Leader in the Royal Thai Airforce.

Kat's particular interest is library

automation. She is planning to computerise library processes on her return to Bangkok, and during the 5 months with DIS she will spend a period of time in each section gaining familiarity with various aspects of library processes. DIS staff are greatly enjoying Kat's company, her sense of humour and lively interest in all aspects of librarianship. *Pat Reilly*

# Board of Education

## A report on its June meeting

The Board of Education held its second meeting for 1991 in Melbourne on 25/26 June prior to the ELISS Conference 'Educating for Change'. Unlike previous meetings, the agenda was divided into two sections: on day one the Board dealt with confidential matters such as course recognition visits, Fellowships and other Awards, and on day two with non-confidential matters which allowed the meeting to be open to observers. Several people took this unusual opportunity to see the Board at work and to participate in the discussion.

Items discussed were:

### Introduction to Education Statements

Twenty responses were received from schools of librarianship and divisions to the redrafted Introduction to the Education Statements. A second draft accommodating a number of the suggestions in the responses was considered by the Board and approved with minor changes. The proposed new Introduction, which was analysed in detail

by the President in *inCite* No. 7, assigns to librarians the tasks of evaluating and packaging information. Using this major change as a basis, the Board will now begin reworking the Education Statements themselves.

### Graduate Destination Survey

In early 1990, a survey was undertaken of 1989 graduates from librarianship courses in almost all Australian library schools. The data has now been aggregated and the national results published. Among the interesting trends revealed by the survey was the fact that most new graduates were highly satisfied with their jobs but that many were dissatisfied with their level of pay. Individual schools of library and information science will be sent the results relating to their own schools and a copy of the report. The report on the national survey results is available from ALIA. The Board plans to replicate the survey in 3-4 years time. A similar survey of library technician graduates will be undertaken in early 1992.

### Publicly advertised positions in the information industry

A report from Mairéad Browne of the University of Technology, Sydney, on Phase 1 of the survey of publicly advertised positions in the information industry was received by the Board. Information was gathered and analysed from newspapers around the country six times between December 1989 and October 1990. The outcomes include lists of job titles, tasks/functions of information workers, qualifications/skills/attributes sought, number of positions advertised, salaries, and the nature of the employment available during the survey period. The Board plans to continue the survey for the next 2 years as originally intended.

### Training and development

Two teleconferences held in late May/early June provided the Board with much information about the focus of the Association's Training and Development Officer and the T & D Subcommittee

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assistance. Please send me details of any problems in this area and I will write to the relevant department. My address is in Vital Link or in ASL (Australian Special Libraries).

**Denise Bird**  
Special Libraries Section

## Towards better decisions...

### Dear Editor,

At its meeting in Melbourne in April ACLIS National Council decided to produce a follow up to the lobbying brochure *Decisions are only as good as the information they're based on* that was produced in 1989.

The focus of this new edition will still be on the contribution and value of information to economic development, but this time we are looking for actual examples of instances in which access to timely and useful information has saved money and/or contributed to organisational bottom lines or national development.

Your assistance is sought in providing examples of how the information you have provided has lead to cost savings or contributed to economic development. Please forward your examples to me at the State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, NSW 2000 by 20 September 1991. Confidentiality will be respected where required but the purpose is to produce a brochure that is impressive and convincing by including real examples of the value of information.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

**Alison Crook**  
President, ACLIS

with the Professional Development Officers from the Branches, and the second link-up was with the Regional Groups. The teleconferences indicated that the development of a database of training and development activities and providers was seen as being of high priority, as was the need for the ALIA Office to play a coordinating role, particularly in relation to planning programs for overseas visitors.

### Government reports

A number of recently published government reports have implications for the education of library and information services personnel. Reviews of a number of them were provided to the Board who then decided to consider the overall implications at its October meeting. The reports under consideration are Australia as an Information Society, *The Review of Library Provision in Higher Education Institutions*, *The Review of the Teaching of Modern Languages in Higher Education*, *Australia and the Northeast Asian Ascendancy* and *Exporting of Education Services*.

### Deadline for Board of Education Agenda

People wishing to include items on the agenda of the October Board meeting should ensure that they reach the ALIA Office by 13 September. There is at least one Board member in each State (except the Northern Territory) who will be pleased to discuss with you any items relating to education for library and information services personnel.

**Ann Hazell**

## Two little reminders...

☛ Know someone who's worthy of a Letter of Recognition? Nominations may be made at any time. For further information and/or nomination forms contact the Membership Services Manager at ALIA National Office.

☛ Library Manager of the Year Award. Full details were given in *inCite* 11. There is just time to send nominations before the deadline of 1 September.

## LIAISE

### Want a job ?

### Need new staff ?

*Liaise* first - the ALIA NSW Branch employment service.

For permanent and temporary library staff in the Sydney metropolitan area.

**Call Jo-anne Fuller on  
(02) 906 6000.**

# Elections

**Reminder:** There is still time to nominate for Vice-President 1992! (See details in *inCite* 10, p 6). Nominations close at 5 pm on 1 September.

**Reminder:** The leaflet that reached you with *inCite* 11 listed calls for nominations for officers in Branches, Sections, and Sectional Groups. Note that these, too, close at 5 pm on 1 September.

**Late calls for nomination** have been received from:

SA Branch: Vice-President, \*Secretary, Treasurer, \*General Councillor, Newsletter Editor, \*Professional Development Officer. Nominations to: Di Booker, Learning Resource Centre, Adelaide College of TAFE, GPO Box 1872, Adelaide, SA 5001.

TAS Branch: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Professional Development Officer, Membership Officer, Publicity Officer, Newsletter Editor, Branch Councillors (4). Nominations to be sent to Andy Smithies, c/- Clinical Library, University of Tasmania, 43 Collins Street, Hobart, Tas 7000.

Cataloguers Section, NSW Group: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Members (4).

Children's and Youth Services Section, NSW Group: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Members.

Health Libraries Section, NSW Group: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Members (3), Branch Councillor. Nominations to be sent to Bronwyn King, Library, Westmead Hospital, Westmead, NSW 2145.

Special Libraries Section, NSW Group: Committee Members (12).

\* 2-year term.

*It's not too late!...*



## Achieving Excellence

**1-5 September 1991**

**National Convention Centre  
Canberra**

**4th ASIAN-PACIFIC SPECIAL & LAW  
LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE WITH 9th BIENNIAL  
HEALTH LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE**

**Registrations will be  
accepted right up to  
the day, and even  
during the  
conference, at the  
door if need be!**