The Acquisitions Essay Prize

Derek Whitehead, President of the Victorian Group of the ALIA Acquisitions Section, introduces the first prize winner

N 1991 the Acquisitions Section of ALIA inaugurated an annual prize for the best essay on the topic of acquisitions or collection development by a student of library and information science.

The first winner of the prize was Jim Packer, a student in the Graduate Diploma of Library and Inform. n Studies at Charles Sturt University–Riverina. Jim's essay, *Collection Development Policies in Academic Libraries: a Reappraisal*, takes a theoretical look at collection development, from an unfashionable (and very provocative) non-functionalist viewpoint—the collection development policy as a declaration of competence and independence. It will be published in the next issue of *Acquisitions*. Jim will conduct a poster session on hypertext cataloguing at the ALIA '92 Conference at Albury-Wodonga.

The prize is open to any enrolled student of a formal library and information studies course,

professional or paraprofessional. Entries must contribute to the body of professional thought in this area, and must demonstrate evidence of research and original thought. The closing date is 31 August.

For further information please contact: Divisional Support Officer ALIA, PO Box E441 QueenVictoria Terrace ACT 2600, or telephone Carol Kenchington at ALIA on (06) 2851877.

Job service stops

NSW Branch Council has discontinued the Liaise Employment Service

HE DECISION is mainly budgetary: Branch Council needed to trim its expenditure for 1992 by reassessing its program priorities. The number of job vacancies coming through the service had been almost nil over a period of many months.

Also there are now two agencies in Sydney handling library placements, Library Locums and LibraryStaff by Zenith Personnel.

The decision was not taken lightly. Branch Council spent

considerable time discussing ways in which the functions currently being met by the service might be better addressed.The idea of a low-cost workshop on job seeking, including where to look, interview preparation and presentation skills, had a wide support. The Branch is currently investigating starting such a workshop in the latter part of the year.

If you would like details of this workshop please contact Jo-anne Fuller, Local Presence Coordinator, on (02) 906 6000, fax (02) 906 5987.