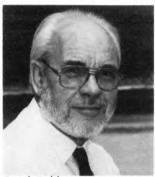


Derek Fielding, University Librarian at the University of Queensland since 1965, has just been appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor for academic support services. In his new function Derek oversees more than 350 staff and a \$20 million budget. He will be responsible for the University's Prentice Centre, the Library, Tertiary Education Institute, Computer



Derek Fielding

Assisted Learning Unit, Centre for University Extension, Counselling Services, Health Service, Chaplaincy Services and Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islanders Studies Unit. The Deputy Librarian, George Eichinski, will be Acting University Librarian until a new appointment is made.

Many inCite readers will remember Judy McQueen, now a library consultant in Chicago. Judy is one of two librarians selected this year by the US Council on Library Resources for a nine months' Academic Library Management internship. She will spend her intern period at Harvard University with Richard De Gennaro, the Harvard College Librarian. Judy formerly held a number of positions at the National Library of Australia, specialising in bibliographic control and automation, and she served as the Library's liaison officer in North America. She has since been a senior consultant with Information Systems Consultants Inc. and a Vice-President at Library Systems and Services, Inc. She was the Program Chair for the 1992 Integrated Online Library Systems meeting, serves on the editorial board of Library Hi-Tech, and is a member of the part-time faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Rosary College.

Evelyn Portek has been appointed

to the position of Music Branch Librarian at the University of Melbourne. Evelyn completed a BA (Music) in 1982 at the Canberra School of Music and then obtained her graduate diploma in librarianship at the Canberra CAE. She was a music specialist at the State Library of Queensland from 1987 to 1991. Her most recent position was Deputy Librarian of the Queensland Premier, Trade and Economic Development departmental library. In addition, Evelyn has a wide background in music having spent 11 years as a freelance orchestral and chamber musician and 13 years in music teaching and adjudicating.

Amanda Spink writes from New Jersey that she is currently completing her doctoral dissertation on Feedback in Online Searching, and plans to return to Australia early next year. She has just been awarded the 1993 Association of Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) Doctoral Student Award, given to potential ALISE leaders to support their attendance at ALISE conferences and meetings. In June she also conducted a week-long seminar in Mexico on Intelligent Information Retrieval Systems, for information professionals from ten Latin American and Carribean nations.

Beth McLaren has been appointed to the newly created position of Senior Curriculum Adviser—Library and Information Literacy with the New South Wales Department of School Education, the most senior position in the school library field in NSW. She was formerly Chief Librarian of the Department's Head Office Library.

Carol Gerrard is now the foundation Library Manager of the Pittwater Library Service. The service is part of the newly established Pittwater Municipal Council on the northern beaches of Sydney. Carol was previously Community Services Librarian at Warringah Shire Council.

Alan Bond has taken indefinite leave from his position as librarian at the Woorooloo Prison Farm, WA.

Susan Thomson is off to Japan. She has received a grant to participate in the 1992/93 Japan Foundation Japanese Language Study Program for Librarians to be conducted at the Japan Foundation's Japanese Language Institute in Urawa, Saitama, Japan, commencing on 30 September. Susan is the Faculty Librarian for the Faculty of Education and the Arts at the Gold Coast Campus of Griffith University. Among her reference responsibilities



Susan Thompson

she covers Japanese studies, with a wide-ranging collection that includes interactive video and CD-ROM. The six-month intensive course is aimed precisely at librarians in Susan's position and, although there are no prior language requirements, she will be able to build on the BA majoring in Japanese language that she is currently completing at the University of Queensland. Congratulations!



Shelving standards

A New Zealand library has recently experienced problems with cantilevertype steel library shelving which was supposed to comply with the Australian Standard 2273-1979 Steel library shelving. Some shelves bent under their load, and the end flanges of many shelves began to bend outwards so as to be no longer securely fixed to the end plates.

I understand that the manufacturer of the shelving, a New Zealand company, submitted samples to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for testing against the Australian Standard, and that they passed. This defied our observation of events, my colleague writes, and made us begin to question the adequacy of the Standard.

As the standard is frequently quoted in specifications, and freely cited by Australian manufacturers, I am making further inquiries into the New Zealand incident.

In the meantime if any of your readers have had similar experiences to my New Zealand colleague (and I hope they haven't!), I would like to hear from them. Incidents which will be of interest are those where shelves failed under what seem to the librarian to be normal loads.

David J Jones
State Library of New South Wales