

ALIA's Board of Education

Kay Poustie, the Board's Chair, brings us up to date

The Board of Education met at ALIA House on 6-7 June. We were pleased to welcome ALIA Vice President, Jan Gaebler to the meeting in the place of President, Bill Linklater who was overseas at the time. We also welcomed Di Booker to her first meeting as a member of the Board.

dation process. I am sure that Divisions will be hearing from Anne on competencies after the July meeting of the Taskforce.

Review of education and training policy statements

The Board received the report of a working party to review the Education

effective use of ALIA's framework and its opportunities for strategic alliances with institutions and private education providers. A working party has been formed to work with the Executive Director to look at mechanisms for delivering continuing professional development (CPD), options for instituting a 1995 program and future priority areas for CPD. A report from the working party will be tabled at the next Board Meeting aiming at a strategy for implementation in part in 1995.

I had promised to speak on CPD to the ELISS Group and Victorian Branch but I came down with laryngitis and flu. My thanks to Angela Bridgland who read my paper and fielded the questions on the evening of 7 June.

Library school reviews

Given the spate of reviews of schools of library and information studies, the Board discussed how it could best address the issues and be supportive of educators without interfering in their institutional or academic affairs. The Higher Education Council released a paper in May 1993 on professional associations interfering in the affairs of institutions, and ALIA has always been particularly sensitive to internal issues on these occasions.

However, the Board is concerned by recent events such as the rationalisation of schools of information and library studies; fees for graduate study and their implications on entry levels to the profession; equity and access; and the future of education for the profession. A working party will consider these issues and report to the next Board meeting. ■



(l-r) Marlene Anderson, Educational Co-manager (Royal College of Nursing); Kay Poustie (ALIA); Elizabeth Percival, Executive Director (RCN); Virginia Walsh (ALIA); Jennifer Rabach, Educational Co-manager (RCN)

The Board included in its agenda a session with the Executive Director and two nurse educators from the Royal College of Nursing, Australia. At this session a very useful discussion on professional education and training and the development, implementation and assessment of competencies was held. An outcome of the meeting was the development of a beneficial professional relationship with a group who have already developed competencies for their profession. The Board members gained an insight into the way that another professional group are responding to a changing education and training agenda.

Competency Standards National Taskforce

The Competency Standards Taskforce has decided to establish an education and training expert reference group. The Board has been proposing to the National Taskforce for some time that educators and trainers are part of our sector and should be represented, but this has been opposed. The Board, therefore, supports this new initiative and has put forward some names for consideration by the Taskforce. Anne Hazell will also be consulting with education and training representatives as part of the ALIA competencies vali-

and Training Policy statements.

Instead of the lengthy and repetitive statements that appear in the Handbook at the present time, the working party have produced two succinct and updated statements: an *Education Policy Statement* and a *Continuing Professional Development Statement*. It is proposed that these Statements be distributed to Divisions and Institutions for comment prior to ratification.

Continuing professional development for members

The Board discussed strategies for the provision of continuing professional development for members, to make

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