

# Aurora Leadership Institute participants selected

**S**election has now been completed for the 32 participants in the Aurora Leadership Institute to be held at Thredbo Alpine Village, from 2–7 November 1995.

This institute is based on the acclaimed Snowbird Leadership Institute held annually in Utah USA, and is a 6-day residential program open to information professionals and those from associated disciplines.

The selected participants come from both Australia and New Zealand, and from across a range of libraries. They have a diverse range of experience, both in libraries and in other employment. This is a significant difference from the Snowbird program, where partici-

pants tend to be younger and in the early stages of their first career.

An important component of the Institute is the participation of senior professionals as mentors who work on the Institute activities with the participants and provide guidance and advice based on their expertise and experience. Mentors are also asked to give a short presentation about themselves and their career. Mentors at the first Institute include Helen Tait, Brenda McConchie, Helen Renwick from Massey University New Zealand, David Malpas, Ian McCallum, Earle Gow and Warren Horton.

The Aurora Leadership Institute is sponsored by Dynix Australia with support also received from Swets and AIM. ■

# Multimedia preservation

## Capturing the rainbow

**T**he Government's cultural policy *Creative Nation* places considerable emphasis on using multimedia to disseminate information and culture. It urges artists to use the new technologies to create artistic works, and also emphasises the role of the Government in preserving our heritage.

As we race towards a global village where universal access to electronic information is blurring the boundaries between traditional libraries, archives, museums and galleries, it is essential to ensure ways of preserving the new form of culture for future generations. The new technologies may also have an important role in preserving past cultural products and/or making them more accessible.

However, interactive multimedia are like rainbows—perceptible but not tangible. The only way to re-create them, for preservation or access, is by understanding how they are produced. To promote this understanding the theme of the second national conference of the Na-

tional Preservation Office (NPO) is *Multimedia preservation: capturing the rainbow*. The program will include national and international experts to address issues such as: the advantages and disadvantages of digitising to preserve access; economic issues for electronic conversion programs; technical considerations for electronic preservation strategies; standards for electronic conversion and bibliographic control of digitised material; and copyright and other legal issues.

A pre-conference workshop titled *Towards the digital collection*, poster sessions and panel discussions will allow the exploration of Australian case studies and experiences. Trade displays and demonstrations by conference sponsors will also be an attraction.

The conference will be held at the five-star Brisbane Hilton, 28–30 November 1995. To be put on the conference mailing list contact Joanne Paull, National Preservation Office, National Library of Australia on 06 262 1137 or fax 06 273 4493. ■

# 50th anniversary

Australia remembers its involvement in World War II this year, the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the conflicts. Pilgrimages to old battlefields, re-enactments of special events and special media coverage have kept it in the public eye.

Good historical sources are essential to the successful planning of such an ambitious programme, and Australia's library and archive collections have played an important role in this. One important source of documented Australian military history and tradition, under-exploited by historical researchers is the Defence Information Services (DIS) Library Network which serves the information needs of the Australian Defence community.

A cooperative group of libraries with a shared computer-based catalogue, the DIS Network has libraries on all major defence training establishments and in defence scientific and technical laboratories throughout the country.

There are a number of special collections of historical significance in the library network in addition to its loan collections of history books. While many of these are not available for loan, all may be used by defence personnel, and will be temporarily located at the most convenient DIS Network library unless too fragile to travel.

The history of Australia's Defence science is recorded in the collections of technical and scientific reports housed in the libraries of the DSTO Laboratories and other Network libraries.

For further information on Defence library collections, contact the Director of Library Services in your State capital city.

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