

International performance measurement

A small contingent of Australians went to the first International librarian performance measurement conference held at the University of Northumbria at Newcastle on Tyne. Librarians from across the world gathered to share research and applications of performance

measurement in libraries.

Australians who attended the conference were Andy Exon, Curtin University who presented a seminar at the conference, John Mills, Charles Sturt University, Janice Rickards, Griffith University and Kay Poustie, City of Stirling who was a keynote speaker. ■



Pictured above (L-R) are Andy Exon, Kay Poustie, Professor John Dean, University College of Dublin (University of Ireland) Ruth Alston, Essex Libraries and Nigel Canaway, Dunham Department of Arts, Libraries and Museums. Photo courtesy of City of Newcastle upon Tyne photo unit

Ever wondered what you would do if you had more time?

Or even if you didn't...

Every year it's a fight to get people to nominate for committees. You twist their arms, bribe them with chocolate frogs, promise them you'll be there when they next move house. And afterwards? Notice how it's often the same people serving on committees year after year. Well, let's explode the myth. These are not weak-willed people, they are people who have discovered the value of being involved. Why don't you join them?

The following nominations for NSW Branch council are now being called: Vice-president (President elect), General councillor (2 year term), secretary, treasurer and branch councillors (6).

As an active member of Branch council you will be exposed to a broad range of issues affecting the profession and have the opportunity to participate in discussions at which all sectors of the industry are represented. You'll do new things, learn new skills and have a chance to impact on the future of your profession. If that's not enough, think of the contacts, think of the gossip, and think of your CV!

Nomination forms are available from the National Office or from the NSW Branch local presence co-ordinator. They need to be returned by 30 November.

Jo-anne Fuller, NSW Branch local presence coordinator

RAISS Networking

RAISS Queensland is continuing its 1995 program of scintillating activities. On 23 August, we hosted a talk by Mal Bryce of Ipswich City Council, about their ground-breaking Global Info-links project.

Global info-links electronically links the city's households, businesses, schools, and community organisations to the internet.

The Ipswich city library is now an integrated mobile, traditional and electronic library. People go to the library to get their subscriptions and information about the project.

The rationale of the \$15 million project is to help with the economic turnaround of the city and region, by providing an information rich community. The project has also created spin-off businesses.

IT is leading development in many areas of the world, and first class information systems are now necessary for the production of economic wealth.

In Ipswich, 65 per cent of homes with dependent offspring have a PC. This, coupled with the dramatic emergence of the internet, illustrates the demand.

Mal emphasised that communities must be proactive, that we simply must spend large amounts of money getting the technological infrastructure right, just as we have had to spend money setting up the traditional infrastructure of roads. Nobody is going to do it for us — nobody is going to produce the infrastructure for rural and remote communities.

A seniors' internet group is active in Ipswich. Schools in the area have each been given a free modem (although not all of them have taken it up).

Ipswich council believes it is ensuring universal access to networked information at a reasonable cost.

For details of the project, and their very reasonable access costs, phone (07) 810 6786, or e-mail giladmin@gil.ipswichcity.qld.gov.au

Check the *Events* column for details of RAISS Queensland activities.

Helen Hobbs, RAISS Queensland committee