

## TAFE Section (Qld)

The TAFE section had a busy year in 1995 with the main focus being the National TAFE section Biennial conference held in Brisbane on 28–29 September. The Queensland group committee decided to hold two evening functions as the conference aimed to provide the main professional activity for the year. These evening functions were on Interactive multimedia and the internet.

The conference, *TAFE libraries: a quality service*, provided members with the opportunity to hear speakers from TAFE, university and the private sector speak about many aspects of quality library service; to network, meet with colleagues and enjoy the beautiful Brisbane spring weather. It proved to be an informative and successful conference.

The first evening function on interactive multimedia was held in July. Robert Burnheim from the library and information management services at the Open Learning Institute presented

a condensed version of his road show. This was well attended and a most informative evening. We saw some interesting interactive multimedia programs and heard about the possibilities for using this technology in the delivery of vocational education and training.

An internet awareness session took place in November. Judy Peacock from QUT library, an experienced internet user and key trainer in the internet gave a demonstration of the world wide web and e-mail. The session aimed at providing exposure to the internet for those unfamiliar with it, and an example of how to run an internet awareness session for those who had some experience.

On behalf of the TAFE section (Queensland group), David Perry and Janice Cook attended a planning meeting organised by the Queensland Branch council to plan activities for the coming year.

*Janice Cook, Secretary*

## School Section (NSW)

It has been a very active year for the School Section NSW. A collective energetic effort from this committee has produced some wonderful results. Lobbying, professional development, teleconferencing and meetings have focused on such issues as equal access to information technology, dual qualifications for teacher-librarians, and ensuring that national and state-wide information for schools (SCIS curriculum directorate and OASIS) is maintained.

Lobbying activities involved the setting up of a committee for the State election that resulted in a positive meeting of the executive with the new Minister's advisers.

Two teleconferences with country members highlighted such problems as the need to define the role of the teacher-librarians, and specific concerns of release from face-to-face teaching and timetabled classroom teaching. The restructuring of the Department of Education was also discussed.

The professional development program for 1995 commenced at Marist Sisters College, Woolwich on 24 June. This seminar covered CD-ROM's and information skills, Nexus, and an introduction to the internet, catering for both primary and secondary teacher-librarians.

A one-day seminar, *Using the internet* was conducted at Macquarie University on 29 July. This was a thor-

ough and satisfying hands-on training session for all involved.

Dr Delia Neumann from the University of Maryland, conducted a thought provoking seminar on what the experts say about how information technology can support higher-level learning. Held at Monte Sant'Angelo Mercy College on 19 August, Dr Neumann discussed her research that identified problems encountered by students' use of bibliographic CD-ROMs and highlighted the role that teacher-librarians need to play in information literacy with new technologies.

The seminar *Literature 2000* was held at the delightful venue of the Australian National Maritime Museum on 16 September. Current and future trends in children's literature in education were discussed.

The concluding item in our program was conducted by Mike Eisenberg, Professor of information studies, Syracuse University, on 4 November. *Curriculum initiative in action* was a program based on Mike's books and concerned strategies for the information age.

It looks as if the momentum of this year will carry through to 1996, as a dedicated committee has plans underway for a full professional development program and continuing lobbying for the professional status of the teacher-librarian.

*Denise Hoeflake*

## Hunter Regional Group

The group began 1995 with its Annual General Meeting in March, at which Dr Veronica Lunn from Lake Macquarie City Library took over as president. Following a tradition of several years, we were able to obtain the services of the president of ALIA as our guest speaker. This year Jan Gaebler was joined by the president of NSW Branch Council, Graig Grimison.

At the next meeting, Phil Teece, manager, personnel and industrial services of ALIA outlined some of the industrial changes affecting the profession, and Jennifer Stevens, best practice facilitator with Newcastle City Council gave a local case study of best practice.

Our networking seminar held in July was attended by 30 participants and netted the group a profit of \$400. Speakers were Adrian Bates from VicNet and local members Veronica Lunn and Jim Cleary.

Several technicians in the group attended the *Techs at the top* conference in Darwin, and Judi McLean presented a paper. They reported back to the group on their experiences at the conference.

The year will end a meeting on copyright with Margy Burn from NSW State Library, and an advocacy seminar using the package developed by ALIA. A Christmas luncheon is planned for December.

All meetings have been well attended, and it is pleasing to have classes from the TAFE Associate Diploma in Library Practice come along to relevant meetings. All members are invited to come to dinner after the meetings to meet the guest speaker in a more informal setting.

Planning is under way for the 1996 program with the membership being invited to submit suggestions — some excellent ideas have already been put forward.

*Margaret Stewart,  
Newsletter editor*