

ACT

• **1/5 UCRLS ACT.** Our digital future: new and better ways to interact with imagery, sound and video over the information superhighway. A talk by David Keightley, CSIRO Div Information Technology, 4th Floor Conference Room, NLA. Contact Margaret Henty, (06) 262 1496.

• **2/5 Librarians' libations** have returned to predicability and are now back to the traditional first payday of the month, 5.30pm at the Hyatt. So it all continue on 2/5, 13/6, 11/7, 8/8 and so on. Rejoice with the specials in those rare moments of sudden affluence. Contact Libby Coates (06) 266 2346.

• **8/5 Professional perspective's lecture.** Colin Steele, ANU librarian, *Virtual professions and digital libraries*. University of Canberra, Building 2, Level 1, lecture theatre. Contact Trish Milne on (06) 201 2312.

• **15/5 ACT branch council.** Kerry Webb will demonstrate ALIANet in the 4th Floor Conference Room, NLA. 5.30pm. Contact council secretary Lisa Spillers on (06) 249 3388.

• **5/6 See stars with the specials** at the Mount Stromlo Observatory library, long established and very special. RSVP to David Bradley on (06) 266 4814.

• **7/6 APSIG.** Karl Lo, Uni of Cal at San Diego, is visiting Australia to work on the National CJK project, and will talk about East Asian librarianship in the USA. Contact Marie Sexton on (06) 262 1519.

10-13/6 Magellan Leadership Institute — specially designed for senior information service executives in Australia and New Zealand by AIMA Training and Consultancy Services Ltd in conjunction with Schreiber Shannon Associates. Presented as a residential workshop at The Hyatt Hotel, Canberra. Limited places available. Contact AIMA for details (06) 262 1223, e-mail: aima@nla.gov.au

• **25/6 APSIG.** Dine with the Canberra librarians who will attend CONSAL X in Kuala Lumpur in May (including George Miller, Dorothy Polonyi, Adrian Cunningham and Robyn Stokes). Brief reports on their experiences and much good food. Contact Marie Sexton on (06) 262 1519.

NSW

• **1/5 Australian Library Week oration.** presented by Sir Anthony Mason. A gala event in the Dixon Room, SLNSW 12 for 12.30pm. Details available from ALIA NSW branch local presence coordinator, Jo-anne Fuller (02) 9906 6000.

• **8/5 Seminar with Laurence Prusak plus James Matarazzo** on the relationship between knowledge management and competitive advantage for both private AND public organisations 1-5pm. Venue: ABC Ultimo Centre. Cost Members \$75/Non-members \$95. Contact: Jo-anne Fuller (02) 9906 6000. Presented by ALIA NSW branch for the information industry.

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In the news

Reflections on management training

Collette McCool, Cairns City Council

I originally enrolled in management studies out of a need to know more about methodologies and techniques of program evaluation. At that stage my intention was to complete the single unit. The semester-long unit provided good knowledge and a sound basis in program evaluation. In addition I found the interaction with generalist managers during lectures, workshops and syndicate sessions to be both informative and stimulating.

I was coming in contact with other managers from a wide range of backgrounds — engineering, accounting, veterinary science — many of whom had a completely different view of the world to me, very similar to the group of managers I interact with daily in the real world. It was a good training opportunity for negotiating, resolving conflict, gaining an understanding of other disciplines, and generally communicating effectively with managers. An added advantage was that I was able to be an advocate for libraries among people who were destined to be the leaders in the public sector.

After the program evaluation unit I was hooked and resolved to pursue further studies in management. Part way through a master's program, I was selected to participate in the Northern Territory Public sector's Execu-

tive Management Program (EMP). This was a year long, intensive course, studied in conjunction with the normal workload. Units from the EMP transferred to the master's course. This program, based on an action learning methodology, added a further dimension to my management studies. I had to focus on the skills of learning from my experience and from those around me.

Balancing a relatively heavy workload, family responsibilities and studies has been taxing at times; however, I have thoroughly enjoyed and gained much from these studies. I have increased my *répertoire* of managerial skills, extended my network of professional contacts, gained confidence in interacting with other generalist managers and — most importantly — I have acquired the skills to learn how to learn, and continue learning.

For these reasons I have found the study invaluable. I have some reservations about establishing specialist management programs for librarians, similar to those offered to engineers. I think such a move could isolate librarians from generalist managers with whom they must interact on a day-to-day basis. We as a profession have much to gain, as well as much to offer through interacting with others.

A conference: Libraries, books, and ideology during WWII

Papers are now due for a conference planned by the National Library of Latvia

Half a century has now passed since the end of the Second World War. During the six years of the war millions of people lost their lives, state borders were violently changed, material and intellectual values destroyed.

Though there have been many popular books and research publications about WWII there are still many blank pages in the history of this period, especially regarding East Europe. Also, very little research has been

carried out on publishing and library activities during this period.

The aim of this conference is to acquaint society with the course of history and ideological statements; publication and distribution of books, their censorship and destruction, and the fate of books taken as war booty; library activities, lists of undesirable and recommended books, the fate of national military literature, and of Jewish and other publications; and librarians and

publishers under pressure of war.

The National Library of Latvia invites you to attend the conference or present a paper. Send your application including, name, position, qualifications, address and contact details, the title and language of your paper and an abstract to Anna Maulina, National Library of Latvia, K Barona iela 14, Riga, LV-1423, Latvija, fax + (371) 728 0851, e-mail lnbnpn@lnbnpn.org.lv, by 1 May 1996.