

General Council — March meeting summary

General Council met at the ALIA National Office in Canberra from 14 to 15 March 1996

Branch presidents were again invited to attend the March meeting and were warmly welcomed. It was noted that the Association's 1996 Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at 10:00am on Thursday 10 October, during the biennial conference.

Corporate services

General Council noted that financial packages had been received from all divisions and were being consolidated in preparation for the external audit of the 1995 accounts. The role of ALIANet within the Association was discussed.

Strategic planning

The future governance of the Association was discussed with General Council agreeing that a committee should be established to specifically look at this issue. General Council discussed the Association's strategic plan and other planning strategies being used by the Association.

Education and training

The Graduate Diploma of Arts in Library and Information Management and the Bachelor of Arts in Information Management at the University of Canberra were given an extension of their course recognition for one year until December 1997.

Workplace

The national co-ordinator of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Recruitment and Career Development Strategy for



the library and information sector was discussed. During 1996 a survey of all university libraries and all libraries within this year's target areas (particular regions within the Northern Territory, Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Victoria) will be conducted, advising Aboriginal communities and organisations about the opportunities for cadetships, traineeships and scholarships in the sector and a cultural awareness training strategy which will be prepared for the profession.

Membership

There was a good response to the request for sector information on renewals for 1996 and this information will be useful in marketing the Association. General Council determined that Institutional members of the Association are not entitled to vote in ALIA elections.

ALIA policy statements

General Council endorsed changes to the following policy statements: *Statement on library services for people with disabilities*; *Statement on libraries and multiculturalism*; *Statement on joint-use libraries*; *Statement on libraries and literacy*; and *Statement on volunteer workers in libraries*.

The *Statement on non-discrimination in the employment of library staff* and the *Statement on public library services to young people* were reaffirmed without change at this meeting. Copies of these statements are available from National Office.

The following policy statements will be circulated to divisions for comment, before being brought back to General Council in July: *Statement on the role of librarians and library technicians*; *Statement on part-time work*; and *Information as a commodity and its importance to economic development*.

1996 GC portfolios

councillor	policy portfolios	communication portfolios
Helen Tait* (President)	Inter-Association relations	Image of the profession
Kerry Smith* (Vice-president)	Constitutional matters	Publications
Jan Gaebler* (Past president)	Cross-sectoral issues	Special libraries Reference and information science
Kay Poustie* (Chair, B of Ed)	Education and training	
Jane King (Vic)*	Finance	Public libraries
Jenny McCarthy (Qld)*	Membership	School libraries
Joye Volker (ACT)	International relations	Rural and isolated libraries One-person Australian libraries
Craig Grimison (NSW)	Copyright	University, college and research libraries
Kaye Bartlett (NT)	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander affairs	Library technicians Acquisitions
Di Booker (SA)	Information literacy	TAFE
Andy Smithies (TAS)	Competency standards	Health libraries
Jillian Beswick (WA)	Information technology	Industrial relations and workplace issues Children's and youth services

* members of executive committee

Guidelines

General Council endorsed the revised guidelines for TAFE libraries *Focus on learning: a framework for the provision of learning services, library and information services in vocational education and training* prepared by the National TAFE chief executives committee.

Awards, promotions and lobbying

The Redmond Barry Award was offered and accepted by Barry Jones. Arrangements are to be made to present the award later in the year. A Fellowship of the Association was awarded to Eugenie Grieg (NSW). The Board of Education reported that the 1995 Metcalfe Medallion has been awarded to Mr Michael Cooper for his essay *Total quality management in libraries and information services*. The inaugural Australian Library Week oration will be hosted by the NSW Branch and held on 1 May in Sydney and be given by Sir Anthony Mason.

ALIA committees

A copyright committee of General Council was established with responsibility to monitor public policy and legislative developments, draft discussion papers and submissions to inquiries as required and to liaise with other related organisations on copyright matters.

Relations with other associations — ACLIS

The president reported on the joint meeting of the executive committees of ALIA and ACLIS held on 2 February. A paper was presented to this meeting, prepared by the ACLIS and ALIA presidents proposing a strategic review of the future



General Councillors Jane King, Craig Grimison, and Jenny McCarthy

coordination and representation needs of the library and information industry and that this review be undertaken by an outside consultant. It was proposed that this review would be funded by ALIA and ACLIS with assistance from the National Library of Australia.

There was a great deal of debate about the proposal and general agreement was reached on the need for a review. In the first instance the executive director was asked to prepare a paper on strategic directions for the library and information sector and for the Association. The need for further reviews such as that proposed earlier would be considered in the context of that paper. ■



Australian
Library and
Information
Association

Ray Choate RAISS Biennial Travelling Scholarships

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Aim

To provide a member of RAISS with the opportunity to investigate and research a particular aspect of reference or information service provision, which will increase his/her professional experience and contribute to the knowledge of other RAISS members.

Objectives

The Ray Choate RAISS Biennial Travelling Scholarship will provide financial assistance for the undertaking of selected research projects designed to:

- explore the potential for further development of existing Australian reference or information services; and/or
- investigate the use of emerging technologies in the provision of reference or information services; and/or
- increase the knowledge and skills of practicing reference librarians.

Conditions

The Scholarship is granted every two years, in the non-RAISS conference year. In 1996 the Scholarship is valued at between \$2500 and \$3000. The successful candidate will bear any costs above the amount awarded. The winner will be able to draw upon the funds one month after the Scholarship has been granted.

Applicants must be financial members of the Reference and Information Services Section of ALIA.

The project is to culminate in a substantial written report which must be presented to the National Committee of RAISS by June of the year following the granting of the Scholarship.

Scholarship recipients may be required to present a paper at the biennial RAISS Conference which immediately follows the culmination of the research project.

RAISS has first option to publish the results of any research that might arise from the Scholarship.

Under normal circumstances, the Scholarship **will not** be granted in conjunction with any other award.

Applications

The closing date for applications is 30 June 1996. Application forms are available from:

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