

ALIA General Council: working for you

General Council met at the ALIA National Office in Canberra on 13 and 14 March 1997. Branch Presidents were invited to attend the meeting and were warmly welcomed. It was noted that the Annual General Meeting will be held at 5.30 pm on Thursday, 10 July at ALIA House.

Corporate services

General Council noted its approval of recent maintenance work carried out to ALIA House.

Strategic planning

General Council approved adoption of the *ALIA Strategic Plan 1997-2001* noting that the Strategic Plan had been developed following input from General Council and an extensive consultative process with ALIA Divisions. Divisions will be able to adopt their own program and activities in line with the concise national strategic approach.

Strategic review

General Council discussed the 'Strategic review of library co-ordination and representation' and resolved to submit formal comment to the Review, noting the desirability of having a single peak representational body in the library and information sector. As ALIA already undertakes much of this role, its capacity for it would be further enhanced should there be a single peak body. The consultant undertaking the Review, Mr Bob Gardini, provided a report to the meeting on the Review process.

Education and training

An extension of recognition until December 1998 was granted for the Information Management Strand, the Library Science Strand and the Hong Kong Program of the Graduate Diploma of Arts (Library and Information Science) offered by Charles Sturt University. The Graduate Diploma of

Education (School Librarianship) offered by Monash University was granted an extension of recognition until December 1997. A transitional arrangement was approved for recognition of courses in the TAFE-based Diploma of Library and Information Studies based upon the National Curriculum.

Workplace

General Council considered a discussion paper on the *Workplace Relations Act* and endorsed the publication of a booklet on the new legislation and the commissioning of a research project to assess changes in the library and information labour market, including the impact of industrial relations reforms.

A report was received on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander recruitment and career development strategy which included issues relating to marketing and evaluation.

Membership

Implementation of the new membership database is continuing. The enhanced reporting facilities available through the system will ensure that Divisions remain well informed on membership trends. General Council endorsed the collection of a 'certificate fee' from members rejoining the Association as Associate or Library Technician members and from members who upgrade to Associate or Library Technician membership.

ALIA policy statements

General Council agreed to finalise its review of ALIA policy statements including: *Statement on freedom to read*, *National information policy statement*, *Statement of professional ethics*, and the *ALIA/ASLA joint statement on library and information services in schools*, with a revised version/report on each to be presented to July General Council.

The following policy statements under development were referred to the Information Technology and Telecommunications Committee for consideration: Cen-

sorship and the Internet, *Co-operative networks and improved library service*, *Electronic publishing*, *Libraries and access to networked information*, *Networked community information*, and *Surveillance and electronic networks*.

A report on the following policy statements under development will be brought to July 1997 General Council: *Statement on intellectual property and copyright in a networked information environment*, and the *Statement on open learning*.

The draft policy statement on *ALIA and international relations* with comments from Divisions will be referred to the International Relations Committee.

Awards, promotions and lobbying

The HCL Anderson Award was offered to and accepted by Mr Eric Wainwright. The Redmond Barry Award was offered to and accepted by Professor Stuart Macintyre. A Fellowship of the Association was awarded to Dr Brian Desmond Cook, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Information Services), Griffith University. The Board of Education reported that the 1996 Metcalfe Medallion has been awarded to Ms Susan Mouer for her essay *The Australian library industry competency standards: present perspectives and future prospects*. The Australian Library Week oration will be hosted by the WA Branch.

ALIA committees

Reports were received from the International Relations Committee, Information Technology and Telecommunications Committee, By-Laws and Regulations Committee, Literacy Task Force, Information Literacy Task Force, ALIA Publishing Policy Committee and Copyright Committee.

Relations with other associations — IFLA
Warren Horton, director-general of the National Library, reported on the IFLA election cycle. ■

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