

Busy meeting in May

The Board of Education met for its second meeting of the year on 29–30 May. A summary of issues discussed at the meeting is outlined below.

Role of the Board of Education in the future

With the planned reorganisation of ALIA, all organisational and committee structures will be reviewed, including the Board of Education. It was agreed that this be an item for discussion at the next meeting and that time be set aside at this meeting for discussions.

University of New South Wales

Representatives from the University of New South Wales joined the meeting to discuss proposed developments in their courses program. The School of Information, Library and Archive Studies has recently moved from the Faculty of Professional Studies to the Faculty of Commerce and Economics.

Recognition of qualification practices

The Board's working party will continue working on developing models of best practice. This will include a review of existing documentation.

Continuing professional development

The Board has two working parties examining various issues regarding continuing professional development. The first working party is examining issues such as continuing professional development as a member benefit, mechanisms for recording continuing professional development and how continuing professional development reflects on the image of a profession. The second working party is reviewing the guidelines for partnerships for delivery of continuing professional development courses.

Review of Work level guidelines

The Board's working party is continuing its work on reviewing the guidelines, due for publication in October.

Education forum

The Education forum is being held in Canberra on 7–8 October 1997. Invitations to delegates will be sent in July. The four themes for discussion are: current and forecast changes in work practices; developments and initiatives in education and training, in Australia and overseas; government education, training, employment and information policy directions and education; and the linking of knowledge and skills to changing work practices.

Awards

The selection committee was impressed by the quality, relevance and presentation of the proposals for the Dunn and Wilson Scholarship. The scholarship has been awarded to Ms Lorraine Denny for her project 'to examine job descriptions within Australian libraries by focussing on library technician job descriptions. A great deal of time and resources is devoted to developing library job descriptions, but are they current, relevant and useful both to the library technician and the relevant organisation.'

Mentoring manual

At the annual teleconference of continuing professional development officers in April, it was agreed that it would be useful if there was a mentoring manual available to members and it was agreed that ALIA national office would be primarily responsible for producing the manual. A committee has been established comprising Trudy Parker (Western Australian mentoring officer) and Jess Burke (Queensland mentoring officer) and Jenny McCarthy and Marion Nicolson from the Board of Education to oversee production of the manual.

Local government traineeship

Donna Reid is working with the Local Government Training Company to develop the training packages for the Library Certificate III traineeship. ■



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