

In the know

Information Online and On Disc 99, 9th ALIA Information Science Section conference

When more than 1200 information professionals gather together in January 1999 in Sydney, they will not lament the changing role of the traditional librarian, but rather focus on how to remain at the cutting edge as providers of quality information as the knowledge age gains momentum.

One of the Association's most successful conferences, driven by a dedicated conference committee, *Information Online and On Disc 99*, the 9th ALIA Information Science Section conference and exhibition runs from 19–21 January 1999 at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre. It is here that information professionals from industry, education, government, law, health and the corporate sector will focus on the global challenges and future trends for their profession.

Keynote speakers include: Lynne Brindley, pro-vice-chancellor and university librarian, University of Leeds;

Tony Barry, director, Ningau Pty Ltd, a library and internet consulting company; Warwick Cathro, assistant director general, National Library of Australia; Anne G Lipow, director, Library Solutions Institute and Press; Peter Lyman, professor, School of Information Management and Systems, University of California, Berkeley; Marydee Ojala, editor, *DATABASE: The magazine of electronic research and resources*; Dan Wagner, Dialog Corporation; and the locknote speaker is Neil McLean, university librarian, Macquarie University.

Over three days of *Information online and on disc 99* delegates can attend a number of different conference streams including: globalisation and electronic communities; search engines; standards; strategic alliance; knowledge management; document delivery; future trends; consortia; disk technology; education; social and cultural impacts; academic libraries; and subject focus sessions on business/

competitive intelligence, business, and gateways or interfaces.

An internet lounge will be open from 8:00am to 6:00pm daily, featuring celebrity surfers at midday and 'hints and tips' sessions.

The conference exhibition will comprise more than 100 companies showing the latest in technology and other products to assist information professionals. A new feature in 1999 is 'The millennium web challenge — building sustainable web-based services'. This special, by invitation only, section of the exhibition, will showcase projects addressing this challenge, including resource creations, description, discovery and archiving; user interface and support issues; underlying tools and architectures.

For more information contact ACMS on 02 9332 4622 or e-mail whfoda@acms.com.au, or visit the conference web page at <http://www.csu.edu.au/special/online>. ■

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