

• **18/11 SA UCRLS section.** AGM presentation of student award and Garry Benson on Communication. Details to be advised. Contact: Carol Dungey, ph 08 8302 3413, fx 08 8302 3382, carol.dungey@unisa.edu.au.

• **24/11 SA Branch.** AGM. Contact: Janine Tan, ph 08 8303 5225, fx 08 8303 4369, jtan@library.adelaide.edu.au.

• **25/11 SA Information Sciences section.** AGM. Contact: Janine Tan, ph 08 8333 8443, fx 08 8331 9211, sarah@ncver.edu.au.

• **2/12 SA Special Libraries section.** AGM. Contact: Clare Aitken, ph 08 8303 8859, clarea@cobweb.com.au.

• **3/12 SA Cataloguers section.** AGM. Details to be advised.

### Vic

• **12/9 Vic School Libraries section.** *Versatility in Victorian School Libraries* (preview of ALIA conference talks) 10am at Statewide School Support Centre, 217-235 Church Street, Richmond. Contact: Maelor Himbury, ph 03 9366 2555 (w), 03 9374 1902 (h), fx 03 9367 9361, maelor@melbpc.org.au.

• **12/9-28/11 Vic School Libraries section.** *Committee meetings.* 9:30am at Statewide School Support Centre, 217-235 Church Street, Richmond. All members welcome. Dates: 12/9, 17/10, AGM — 28/11. Contact: Anne Girolami, ph 03 9267 0228.

• **14/9-14/12 Vic Special Libraries section.** *Committee meeting dates for 1998.* Venue: Heart Foundation, 411 King Street, West Melbourne at 5:30pm (unless advised otherwise). 14/9; 12/10; 9/11; 14/12. Contact: June Hooper, ph 03 9329 8511, fx 03 9321 1574, heartvic@vicnet.net.au.

• **17/9 Geelong Regional group.** *Outer Edge Adventures:* Margaret Camerson speaking about her travels in Irian Jaya. Deakin Uni Woolstores Campus, Level 3, Library Meeting room, 1 Gheringhap Street, Geelong. 5:30pm. Contact: Litsa Ellis, ph 03 5227 8233, fx 03 5227 8000, litsa@deakin.edu.au.

• **21/9 Vic Special Libraries section.** *Information Audits.* Venue: CSIRO Molecular Science, 343 Royal Parade, Parkville. Time: 5:30 for 6pm. Cost: \$5. Contact: Danila Durante, ph 03 9662 7246, fx 03 9662 7220, danila.durante@molsi.csiro.au.

• **3/10 Vic Library Technicians section.** *State Library of Victoria tour.* Come and see the latest renovations, a behind the scenes tour to see the work of library technicians. 2-4:30pm, preceded by a buffet lunch at 12:30pm, \$8

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## The Australian MetaWeb project

Many searchers using the World Wide Web have been concerned about two significant problems — firstly, how to avoid huge lists of results for a single keyword search; and secondly how to find quality resources. The MetaWeb Project, based in Australia, set out to provide tools and techniques which will help to overcome these problems.

One technique which has been espoused for the last three years is the application of a standard set of metadata, such as the Dublin Core. The Dublin Core consists of fifteen metadata elements able to be provided in a HTML document, or in a database with links to HTML documents. The elements appear similar to a scaled-down version of USMARC. A description of their semantics is available [http://purl.oclc.org/metadata/dublin\\_core](http://purl.oclc.org/metadata/dublin_core)

The MetaWeb Project, which was completed in July 1998, makes available the following set of software, free of charge, from its Website at <http://purl.nla.gov.au/metaweb/home>:

- a gatherer, which collects metadata from previously identified sites;
- a broker which indexes the metadata and makes it available for querying;
- an application programming interface for many different metadata repositories;
- a query interface, which allows refined searching based on any or all of the Dub-

lin Core metadata elements.

These tools may be supported by the repository database software you already have at your site. Dublin Core metadata may be created for use by the software using two Australian tools: a metadata editor called 'Reggie' available <http://metadata.net/dstc>; and a site generator which automatically generates six of the fifteen elements in a pre-specified Web directory. See the documentation at the MetaWeb Project's web site at <http://purl.nla.gov.au/metaweb/home> for details.

The project has also established an Australian metadata discussion list, where international developments in metadata standards are discussed. You can join the metadata community to influence the future directions of standards as they are used in Australia. To subscribe, send an email message to [majordomo@dstc.edu.au](mailto:majordomo@dstc.edu.au) with the single line: `subscribe metadata`.

Although the MetaWeb Project is formally over, the project's partners — the Australian Defence Force Academy, Charles Sturt University, the Distributed Systems Technology Centre, and the National Library of Australia — are assisting Australian subject gateway projects to adapt the tools for their own quality resources. For information on the project please Debbie Campbell, National Library of Australia at [dcampbel@nla.gov.au](mailto:dcampbel@nla.gov.au), telephone 02 6262 1673. ■

## CSIRO becomes the first Australian site for Web of Science

CSIRO has recently purchased the ISI on-line database, Web of Science.

CSIRO's agreement with ISI covers the provision of Science Citation Index Expanded, for 1998 onwards plus a five year back-file. The licence provides desktop access for all staff across Australia.

Through such features as related records, forward and backward navigation, and the indexing of all cited authors, the Web of Science's powerful search interface mimics the researcher's natural

thought processes, increasing the number of relevant hits, as well as introducing serendipity into the search results.

Philip Kent, assistant general manager, Information Management at CSIRO IT Services says 'We are committed to the provision of quality electronic resources at the scientists' desktop. Web of Science is a significant investment. Our researchers and our research outcomes will benefit from the ease and speed of web access to this valuable research tool.'

Mark Garlinghouse, director, Sales-Asia for ISI says 'ISI

has been creating innovative information tools for the scientific community for over forty years. We are proud to offer Web of Science, linking powerful content with powerful technology, as an information tool worthy of today's researcher'.

CSIRO's introduction to Web of Science and subsequent subscription was facilitated by DA Information Services, Melbourne. For further information please contact DA Information Services, phone 03 9210 7777, fax 03 9210 7788 e-mail [emedia@dadirect.com.au](mailto:emedia@dadirect.com.au) ■