## Call for papers

Your chance to contribute to the most important library conference in the year 2000

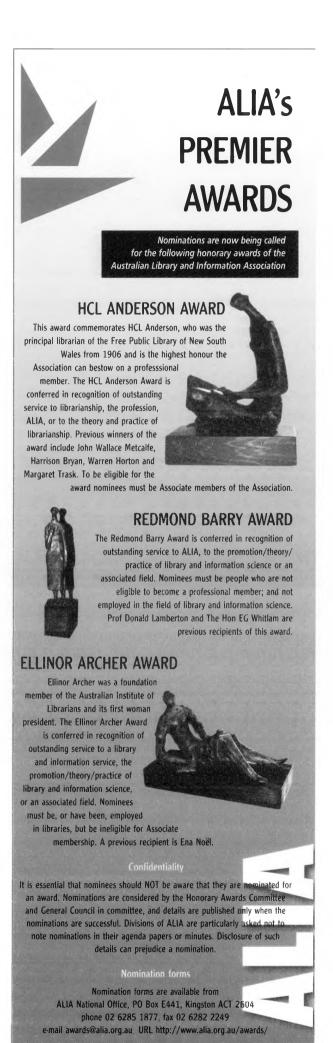


apers are invited on topics relevant to the theme *Capitalising on knowledge* — the information profession in the 21st century for presentation at the ALIA2000 conference. The conference will examine the nature of the provision of information in society in the 21st century. Who will provide information and on what basis in the 'information century'? Day 1 of the conference will focus on the environment of the world of information in the 21st century, including a scan of the future developments in the social, legal, business and technological environment. Day 2 will focus on the information needs of the consumer. Day 3 will focus on the information creator and provider, including discussion of the roles of a range of information professions.

Some of the important issues will be:

- How will the new global economy, characterised by an almost instantaneous flow and exchange of information, capital and cultural communication, affect our lives?
- Will commercial providers, for example online book stores, fill the gaps left by libraries as budget cuts occur?
- Will several large virtual universities dominate the global education market?
- What will be the core of information competency skills for the 21st century?
- The continued presence of libraries and library services is now turning on the economic and social value they provide to their stakeholders: how is their value measured and by whom?
- What services will citizens expect libraries to provide and with what balance between digital and traditional services?
- What responsibilities do libraries have toward citizens across all their life spans?
- Should libraries act as change agents, especially social and technological interpreters?
- Will information providers by-pass libraries and deal directly with users?
- What changes to the regulatory framework will effect the flow of information access: to regulate the internet or not, 'net TV, issues of intellectual property and censorship.
- What will be the impact of these changes on all types of libraries and the services they provide?
- Will the web become a virtual library and what is a publisher in the 'net environment?
- Globalisation or niche markets how can library and information professionals capitalise on their skills in the knowledge environment?

These topics and many others will be addressed by a host of expert speakers from government, national associations, lobbyists and information professionals. Individual or joint papers, panel papers or poster session papers may be proposed. The proposed topics together with an 100-word abstract are to be provided by Friday 10 December 1999. Successful authors to be advised by 31 January 2000. Submissions should be sent to Conference Solutions, PO Box 238, Deakin West ACT 2600 alia2000.conference @alia.org.au.



Nominations close 1 February 2000