

EdNA Online in 1999

Jillian Dellit, Education.Au Limited

EdNA Online [<http://www.edna.com.au>] services have been enhanced over the last year.

EdNA Online now has almost 9000 prime resources — those identified and selected by 'authorised' educators. Complementing this collection are over 255 000 linked sites.

A recent technical enhancement has been the integration of the search and the browse functions so users will be able to search within predetermined sets or to browse easily within a limited range. Future developments will take this function further to create pathways for specific groups of

users. Users will also find improvements in noticeboards and, in the near future, in the look of static pages.

Major development work has gone into a harvesting facility. This software uses EdNA-compliant metadata to harvest sites from organisations that enter into service agreements with Education.Au Limited (the company managing EdNA Online on behalf of the network).

A number of new services are being offered. Our weekly *What's new* e-mail alert service now has 1158 subscribers. To this has been added

News and views, a weekly service targeted at educational administrators and containing items of education news from the media in Australia and overseas, commentary by educators, summaries of education-relevant press releases and information about online reports. A third regular e-mail alert service, *New in early childhood*, goes out monthly and targets early childhood educators.

Info alerts are documents in PDF format which summarise major reports impacting on education and training. Additionally, the *Child safety and the internet* pages provide summaries of policies of all schooling systems in Australia in relation to internet access, along with government legislation, responses to that legislation and information from other interested agencies and organisations.

During August EdNA Online ran special activities to mark education month in Online Australia Year. The EdNA Challenge, a scavenger hunt for schools attracted 1500 school teams. The last week of August has seen EdNA Online running an online forum with both synchronous and asynchronous components to encourage students and teachers to participate in online discussion.

EdNA Classifieds were launched on 19 July at <http://www.edna.com.au>. This is a partnership venture with Commercial Dynamics. It provides online classifieds for courses, education, commodities and job vacancies. Revenue from EdNA Classifieds will go towards the development of EdNA Online.

In September EdNA launched a website to showcase student work. Anyone interested in submitting student's work can find information on the EdNA Online frontpage. The website will be available at <http://students.edna.edu.au>.

Another round of discussions to further develop the EdNA metadata standard are underway. These are critical given the dependence of EdNA on metadata for both harvesting and searching as well as the interest in all sectors of education and in sharing content. EdNA continues to participate in national and international metadata discussions including the IMS (Instructional Management System) initiative. ■

Ramsay and Reid Scholarship winners announced

State Library of Victoria awards

The Margery C Ramsay and Barrett Reid Scholarships were established to promote management training in public libraries to benefit local government and the library profession. The scholarships were originally awarded to senior public library managers to undertake an advanced management course at the Australian Centre for Local Government Studies at the University of Canberra.

In 1996 the scope and value of the scholarships increased to include study tours, internships or secondments and management education.

The winners of the 1998/99 Margery C Ramsay and Barrett Reid Scholarships were announced at a function at the State Library of Victoria in August.

Kerri Pleydell, youth services librarian at the Hume Moonee Valley Regional Library Corporation was awarded the Ramsay Scholarship. The scholarship will enable Kerri to undertake a tour of American public libraries to study marketing and promotions and attend the American Public Librarians conference. Kerri will also monitor the impact of the American Library Association's marketing and promotion of library services during National Library Week in the United States.

Anne-Marie Otley, community relations co-ordinator at the Yarra-Melbourne Regional Library Corporation was presented with the 1998/99 Barrett Reid Scholarship. Anne-Marie will undertake an internship at the City of Melbourne's marketing and communications division. She will work in the Departments of Media, Customer Relations and Marketing and will use the experience in her work as community relations co-ordinator at the library and on the librariesvictoria marketing committee. ■