

# Undergoing a seachange

## The national cataloguing conference

On Friday 9 November, the 14th National Cataloguing Conference closed on a note of optimism about the future of cataloguing, and its transformation into a myriad of other forms.

The pre-conference seminars on website management and education and careers set the tone and the theme of 'seachange' which was taken up, over and over again, throughout the conference.

We heard about innovative web projects, metadata and how to deal with electronic formats. Joan Moncrieff raised a number of questions as to whether our current standards can deal with the changing nature of our digital universe. Ann Huthwaite outlined how the current cataloguing standard, the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules*, are being revised. Our keynote speaker, Geoff Payne, exhorted us to get out

there and take over the metadata scene, and other inspiring speakers such as Mary-Louise Ayres, Lloyd Sokvitne, Henric Beiers and Cheryl Schauder, pointed the way — albeit pointing out the potential pitfalls. Bound copies of the conference papers are available for a small fee from Ebe Kartus [kartus@deakin.edu.au].

But a conference is more than just listening to inspiring speakers, and our conference setting on the Waterfront in Geelong, with the sun shining on the sparkling 'Bay of Pearls', did a great deal to enhance networking and socialising. The dinner too was a huge success, also undergoing a seachange, by abandoning the traditional songs, in favour of a hilarious, but thought-provoking after-dinner speech from Helen Livingston and incorporating wandering minstrels, the Hip Cats, who had everyone dancing in the aisles.

The greatest seachange is that this could well be the last cataloguing conference — indeed the last sectional conference — as Alan Bundy, the ALIA president, foreshadowed in our AGM. Different options for ALIA conferences will be discussed at the upcoming National Policy Congress.

And finally our thanks to all of our speakers — there was not a dud paper amongst them, to all of you who attended and made it such a fun occasion, and to our wonderful conference organiser, Lynne Lucas, and her assistant Peter Oates. I defy anyone to run a conference without a wonderful team such as this.

*Rosemary Dearman, 14th National Cataloguing Conference committee*



## Election of ALIA vice-president and three directors

### Call for nominations

Nominations are called for ALIA vice-president [president-elect] and three positions on the Board of Directors of ALIA as incorporated under *Corporations Law*.

The vice-president [president-elect] will be elected by the membership at large. One director is to be elected by the membership at large, one director is to be elected by institutional members, and one director elected by the nominated group representative to the National Policy Congress.

Nominees should be personal members of the Association and will represent the interests of the organisation as a whole rather than those of a particular constituency.

The vice-president [president-elect] will assume the presidency at the Annual General Meeting of the Association in 2003. The term of office of directors will be until the Annual General Meeting in 2004.

Nominations must be in writing and must be signed by two financial members of the Association and include the consent in writing of the nominee. Nomination forms must be accompanied by a 100-word current *curriculum vitae* which provides full details of academic and professional qualifications and a 100-word statement of professional concerns. The curriculum vitae should be arranged under headings of present positions, previous positions and professional activities. A standard colour portrait photograph *must* be included.

Nomination forms are available from ALIA National Office, or via ALIANet.

Nominations close at 5:00pm ESST on 4 February 2002 and should be sent to the ALIA executive director, PO Box E441, Kingston ACT 2604, e-mail enquiry@alia.org.au, or fax 02 6282 2249.

Forms and information available from <http://www.alia.org.au/governance/elections/2002/>