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My congratulations to Christine Mackenzie as the incoming vice-president, whose term commences immediately following the ALIA AGM on 20 May. Chris is a leader in the public libraries sector and highly regarded across the wider library and information services sector. I look forward to working with her [read more about Christine on p6].

Elections for three directors are also being held. The membership at large will elect one director — exercise your right to vote now! Your ballot papers are included with this issue of *inCite*. Candidate profiles appear on pages 8–9 of this issue as well as in the ballot pack. Institutional members will elect one director, and ballot papers will be sent separately to each institutional representative. Delegates to the National Policy Congress will also elect one director, and will also receive their ballot papers separately. Members with joint membership will receive an additional set of ballot papers by mail.

Thinking of going to the IFLA conference in Glasgow (17–23 August 2002)?

We are exploring with our travel agent the possibilities for cheap group fares for any of our members planning to go to Glasgow. We require a minimum of ten people travelling to Glasgow on or near the same date. It does not need to be the same flight, for example Perth delegates could fly straight out from Perth rather than having to come to Sydney on a connecting flight. You would then be able to plan your own itinerary with our travel agent for return, or any additional travel. Please let me know soon if you are interested. If there is enough interest we can move to the next stage of finding the best deals. [Information on the IFLA conference is at <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/index.htm>.

Update on some projects and activities

• **Books Alive!** is a program to promote the intrinsic value of books, reading and literacy (particularly for children) and the books of Australian writers. It is managed by the Australia Council and sponsored by the Federal government. I represent the Association on the Reference Group, which includes representation from the writing, publishing, booksellers and library sectors.

We have been looking at successful reading and book promotion programs currently running in the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States to see what can be learned from these and how they may be adapted to suit the Australian publishing, bookselling and libraries environments and Australian culture. Over the next few months the reference group will be firming up its business plan for a sustainable program to encourage participation, appreciation, value and enjoyment of reading and to develop new readership.

- **LISEKA** Following a productive Ideas Forum with representatives from across our sector the Library and Information Science Education for the Knowledge Age (LISEKA) project has developed three initial models. These will go to the March meeting of the Board of Directors prior to wider consultation being undertaken.
- **New privacy legislation** The National Scholarly Communications Forum is planning a one day Round Table in Canberra in June or August on *Privacy: Balancing the needs of researchers and the individual's right to privacy under the new privacy laws*. Adrian Cunningham is leading the planning on behalf of the Australian Society of Archivists. The main objective is to bring together various stakeholder interests to engage constructively on the issue of how the new privacy regimes in the various jurisdictions should accommodate the needs and concerns of researchers, archivists, records managers and librarians, and conversely how archivists, records managers, librarians and researchers need to accommodate the new privacy regimes. The program will include law and policy makers and business representatives. I have been asked to nominate a speaker from our sector so if you believe you have the expertise to be on the program please contact me.
- **Regional activities** The International Relations Policy Advisory Group is currently focussing on two activities. The group has asked the ALIA Asia Pacific Special Interest Group to prepare draft guidelines for assistance to library and information personnel from developing countries to attend conferences and other professional development activities. The Advisory Group is also looking at a number of ways to support issues for library and information services during the reconstruction period in East Timor. These include possibilities of working with UNESCO and co-operating with other organisations to broaden the experience of East Timorese library staff. ■

**Feedback to your
Board of Directors**

Do you have an idea, compliment or concern about your Association? Contact any director below on personal issues and ideas will be reviewed at each meeting of the Board.

E-mail to feedback@alia.org.au will be automatically forwarded to all Board members.

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