Directline

Gongs

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Congratulations to Ian McCallum on being awarded the HCL Anderson, the Association's highest award for professional members, and to Kerry Smith on her Fellowship. Both awards will be conferred at the 2002 Annual General Meeting.

Boyd Rayward has accepted Honorary membership of the Association in recognition of his ongoing contribution to the profession in Australia and overseas.

Recognising and celebrating achievement and excellence is so important to the promotion and status of our profession. Over the last year the Board has reviewed our awards program. There are a number of changes — please take some time to look at our new awards website [http://www.alia.org.au/awards/] and think who you could nominate for an award. It can take some effort, particularly securing all the information and details without the nominee being aware of the nomination, but the rewards are great for a successful nomination. The Excellence awards will not be offered until 2003, to allow time for their proper implementation. Awards that fund research or projects will now move into our Research program. If you do not have access to the website contact Sandra Reid at National Office.

Membership system
We are close to deciding on a new membership system with a web-based platform. Our aim has been to find a system that provides members with the facility to access their own record; password access to reports by group office bearers; e-shopping; e-payments; and member only access to much of the website. There will be considerable changes to the website and member-only information and resources will be added.

Communications strategy research report
The Board of Directors accepted the report on research undertaken by User Insite on an IT strategy for effective communication with members and growth of the organisation. The report is an informative and underpinning guiding document. It provides the Association with a level of qualitative data that we have not had before. It dissects how individuals and organisations engage or do not engage across the Association. The report outlines perceived values of current services and gives an indication of the values of possible new services. The data provides a benchmark for future measurements. The report is very long and so National Office is preparing a summary which will be available to members.

New policy statements
After much discussion and many contributions from members the new *ALIA Core Values Statement* (see below) has been endorsed. Also endorsed at the meeting was the *Statement on Joint Use libraries.*

ALIA core values statement
[http://www.alia.org.au/policies/core.values.html]
A thriving culture, economy, and democracy requires the free flow of information and ideas.

Fundamental to that free flow of information and ideas are Australia's library and information services. They are a legacy to each generation, conveying the knowledge of the past and the promise of the future.

Library and information services professionals therefore commit themselves to the following core values of their profession.

1 *Promotion of the free flow of information and ideas through open access to recorded knowledge, information, and creative works.*
We assert that this access across time and across cultures is fundamental to a thriving culture, economy and democracy.

2 *Connection of people to ideas.*
We guide, inform and educate the seeker in defining and refining the search, and foster intellectual freedom and all forms of communication.

3 *Commitment to literacy, information literacy and learning.*
We enable independent and formal lifelong learning by providing resources and expertise to meet the needs of learners, and of the human spirit.

4 *Respect for the diversity and individuality of all people.*
We accept each request without bias and in confidence, and strive to meet it with all our resources and expertise.

5 *Preservation of the human record.*
We seek to preserve the cultural memory, knowledge and evolved wisdom of humankind, to explain the past, illuminate the present and inform the future.

6 *Excellence in professional service to our communities.*
We strive for integrity, competence, personal growth, and service to our profession and to our communities.

7 *Partnerships to advance these values.*
We advocate co-operation between all library and information services, and with related agencies, for the private and public good.

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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ALIA Statement on joint use libraries

[http://www.alia.org.au/policies/joint-use.html]

Object

To promote and improve the services provided by all kinds of library and information agencies.

Principle

The Australian library and information profession is committed to excellence in the provision of services to best meet client needs.

Statement

The Australian Library and Information Association supports the establishment of joint use libraries if they equal or better the level of service which would be given in separate facilities. Joint use libraries may be established in a variety of locations and with a variety of partners, but are most frequently combinations of a school and public library in rural areas. Other combinations involve institutes of technical and further education, and universities. Experience in Australia and overseas has shown that joint use libraries are complex to manage and operate, are particularly demanding of staff, and are vulnerable to operational difficulties or failure. Successful joint use library development requires:

- the unequivocal commitment of all interested parties;

- full consultation involving all the parties concerned prior to any decision on establishment;

- professional advice at an early stage of consideration of a joint use library —

the Australian Library and Information Association can supply names of appropriate consultants;

- careful consideration of the site of the institution, and of the position and visibility of the library so that convenient access for all potential users is guaranteed;

- access by all users during the institution's operating hours, with adequate provision for use outside those hours and during vacations;

- signing of a formal agreement by each of the parties covering all areas relating to the development, funding and continued maintenance of the library;

- the size of the library and its staffing to meet the needs of the whole community served;

- formal agreement on the process to be followed for a new building or extensions if, after a period of operation, the size of the library proves to be inadequate;

- a Board of Management, representative of all parties and advisory to the library manager;

- an integrated staffing structure with a single library manager. Where a joint use library is to serve as the library for an educational institution and the public, the appointment of staff with education and public library expertise is desirable;

- A regular, preferably externally facilitated, evaluation of the library. ∎

Outstanding contributions recognised

Ian McCallum is the latest recipient of the HCL Anderson award. As a longstanding member, a Fellow, and past president of the Association, Ian's contribution to the sector and to the Association is considerable. Ian has served on many of the Association's committees, and represented the Association internationally. Ian has very strong professional values, and cares very much about leadership in the Australian library community and maximising opportunities for emerging professionals. His role in the development of the Aurora Leadership Institutes has been of particular importance and again demonstrates his continued professional contribution.

Kerry Smith is the Association's newest Fellow. Kerry has worked as a special librarian and in academia, teaching in the area of library and information science. Whilst employed at Curtin University of Technology, Kerry has been actively involved in academic forums and management and has contributed to the life of the university. Kerry's contribution to the work of the Association has been considerable. She was president in 1997, and has worked on many of the Association's committees, including the Copyright Committee, National Awards Committee, Publishing Policy Committee, and the Leadership Committee for the formation of a peak organisation for the library and information sector.

Congratulations to both Ian and Kerry. Their awards will be presented at the ALIA Annual General Meeting in Sydney. ∎