

# Celebrating

ALIA Board of Directors meeting 15–16 May 2003

The directors joined with members and guests on the evening of 15 May to celebrate the launch of the new look ALIANet, the new membership system, and the REAP (Research Exchange and Partnership) program. A number of members received silver ALIA pins from President Joyce Kirk in recognition of their service to the Association. The 2002 annual general meeting followed the launch.

Directors' terms are linked to the AGM and so the May Board meeting, which is timed to coincide with the AGM, marks the transition of new and retiring directors. This meeting was the last for President Joyce Kirk and director Moyra McAllister both of whom have shown professional leadership as directors and throughout their longstanding membership of ALIA. Both will continue involvement through their participation on various ALIA advisory committees and other representative bodies. Incoming vice-president (president-elect) Imogen Garner and director Ann Ritchie joined the meeting on 15 May as observers. Imogen has taken over from Christine Mackenzie as company secretary.

## *ALIA 2003–2004 plan: making the difference*

The Board signed off milestones within initiatives for:

- the agreement with Monash learning-fast to make training materials available online to ALIA members (Initiatives C/D);
- the launch of the Research Exchange and Partnership (REAP) initiative (Initiative E);
- the launch of the new ALIA website which will increase member-only services (Initiative J);
- the implementation of a web-accessible membership database (Initiative O).

The Board also reviewed progress on its prioritised initiatives and continued its development of the 2010 Plan.

## **Conferences news**

The 2005 National Library and Information Technicians Conference bid was endorsed. The conference will be held in Sydney from 6 to 9 September 2005 with the theme *neXt*. The Board commended the bid committee, led by Meredith Martinelli, for the initiatives outlined for the conference and the aims 'to generate discussion and excitement; and to offer a challenge to delegates to explore current and next generation activities in all areas relating to library and information technicians.'

The 2004 ALIA Biennial conference is on track, on budget and has already received two registrations!

Following the success of the New Librarian's Symposium last December the Board has given in principle agreement to ALIA SA developing a formal proposal to host an ALIA New Librarians' Symposium in December 2004.

The ALIA Information Specialists group has been renamed the ALIA Information Online group and will include *Information Online 2005*.

## **Groups news**

ALIA NSW Cataloguers and ALIA ACT Specials have been dissolved. ALIA WA Forum and ALIA Knowledge and Information Specialists groups have been dissolved and will reform as ALIA West.

## **National Policy Congress**

Planning is underway for the regional meetings in July and NPC in Canberra in September. The agenda and program are being developed.

## **Review of ALIA advisory groups and representation on other bodies**

The Board reviews the terms of reference for its advisory groups and appointments to committees no more than every two years. At this meeting Joye Volker was appointed to the Copyright and Intellectual Property policy and advisory group from 2003 to 2005; Kerry Smith was appointed to the Research Committee from 2003 to 2005. The Board agreed that the following committees due for review be continued: By-laws; Copyright and Intellectual Property; Interlibrary lending/resource sharing; International relations; Online content and regulation.

The National Collections advisory forum has been established to provide advice to the Cultural Ministers Council on the feasibility of establishing a national industry forum to represent the collections sector. Joyce Kirk is the ALIA lead representative in the consultations promoting ALIA's view that professional associations need representation because of their focus on education and training. Consultations are continuing.

## **In with the new**

On the morning of 16 May the 'new' Board, chaired by President Christine Mackenzie, undertook a strategic governance workshop conducted by Enterprise Care, Australia's largest not-for-profit management consultancy. ALIA is rated by Enterprise Care as in the top ten percentile for governance (includes constitution and by-laws, structure of the Board's agenda and its planning and reporting processes) in associations/not-for-profits and the Board *Modus Operandi* is the best they have seen. The Board will work through the outcomes of the workshop more closely at the next meeting.

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