

# Easing the transition from student to active professional

## The ALIA New Graduates Group

Are you a new budding librarian or library technician? Have you recently completed your studies, and now find yourself in the big wide world of the library and information profession? Or are you a student just about to embark on your career? If you answer 'yes' to any of these questions, then the ALIA New Graduates Group (NGG) is for you!

The NGG is an initiative of the ALIA New Generation Policy and Advisory Group. It can be quite isolating and daunting being a new graduate in any profession. The diverse nature of the information profession and the different career paths are perhaps even more of a challenge for library and information graduates. As a new graduate how do you know what options are available to you? Who can you ask for advice? How do you meet others in the profession? And how do you develop your skills and experience? It is hoped that the NGG will assist in the transition from student to being an active member of the library and information profession. In a survey conducted at the *New Librarians Symposium* last year, delegates nominated the creation of a New Graduates Group as their number one priority.

NGG will provide a forum for new graduates to communicate and socialise with colleagues and build relationships and networks within the profession. The NGG is a national group with a strong virtual presence through the web and an e-list. Active regional groups will also be established which will participate in social and CPD activities that are particularly relevant to those new to the library and information sector.

Membership of the group is open to all ALIA members. The NGG is inclusive of li-

brarians, technicians and anyone interested in the support and development of new graduates. The group does not have any restrictions that prevent people becoming members based on their experience or age. The NGG hopes to support those at student level, graduate level and others in the early stages of their careers.

The NGG will:

- facilitate networking for the new generation of library professionals.
- provide a forum for the discussion of issues relevant to new professionals.
- organise meetings and training specifically relevant to students and new graduates: for example interview skills, resume writing, career development and planning, and meetings where guest speakers talk about various career opportunities.
- facilitate the introduction of new graduates into the wider ALIA community.
- support and assist with mentoring programs in each state.
- promote the profession to future generations of library professionals.
- work closely with other ALIA groups to encourage attendance at other ALIA meetings and events.
- publish a newsletter with stories of relevance to students and new graduates.

To find out more or to express interest at becoming involved just visit ALIA groups website <http://alia.org.au/groups/> or contact Alison O'Connor at [alison.oconnor@bdw.com.au](mailto:alison.oconnor@bdw.com.au).

**Alison O'Connor, national convenor,  
New Graduates Group**



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**12-13/9 Australian Society of Indexers, Sydney.** *Indexing the world of information: an international indexing conference.* Carlton Crest Hotel, Sydney. Cost: ASI members \$330, non-members \$380 (late registration after 13/7: \$380/\$430). Contact: Glenda Browne, ph 02 4739 8199, [webindexing@optusnet.com.au](mailto:webindexing@optusnet.com.au). More information <http://www.aussi.org>

• **1/10 Hunter Regional Group (NSW).** *Committee meeting.* Contact: Dianne Schofield, [diane.schofield@hunterlink.net.au](mailto:diane.schofield@hunterlink.net.au)

• **24/10 Children & Youth Services (NSW).** *Children's Librarian's management seminar.* Details to be advised. Burwood City Council Chambers, 9:00-4:30pm. Contact Mylee Joseph, ph 02 9777 7900, [mylee.joseph@willoughby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mylee.joseph@willoughby.nsw.gov.au)

• **2/12 Hunter Regional Group (NSW).** *General meeting and social activity.* Further details to be advised. Contact: Dianne Schofield, [diane.schofield@hunterlink.net.au](mailto:diane.schofield@hunterlink.net.au)

## NT

• **12-13/9 Top End Symposium.** *Power our Territory: Information literacy for development of the Northern Territory.* The Symposium will provide an opportunity for participants to learn about current activities, develop new ideas and explore future options with colleagues. Darwin, NT. Contact: Jayshree Mamtara, chair, Organising Committee, ph 08 8946 7881, [jayshree.mamtara@ntu.edu.au](mailto:jayshree.mamtara@ntu.edu.au).

## QLD

• **4/7 Qld Health Libraries.** *Breakfast featuring Ruth Sladek* who will discuss the NICS Evidence Researcher Service (CER) Study she recently undertook at the Daw Park Repatriation General Hospital, SA. University of Queensland, Conference Room, Level 1, The Library, Duhig Building, 7:30am. Cost: \$16.50 (includes GST). Contact Kathy Hibberd, ph 07 3840 8639, [k.hibberd@library.uq.edu.au](mailto:k.hibberd@library.uq.edu.au)

• **4/7 Qld Health Libraries.** *Health information symposium workshop: Mysteries of medicine revealed.* University of Queensland, eZone 3, Level 2, The Library, Duhig Building, 9:00am. Cost: \$55 ALIA members, \$77 non-members, \$25 students (includes GST, certificate and morning tea). Payment can be made on the day. Contact: Kathy Hibberd, ph 07 3840 8639, [k.hibberd@library.uq.edu.au](mailto:k.hibberd@library.uq.edu.au). Paid parking available on campus.

• **11/7 Children's Youth and Services QLD.** *Frameworking the future: guiding principles for cross-sectoral collaboration.* A seminar connecting information professionals to ideas, skills, networks and knowledge about

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