

Upgrade your ICT skills online

A new professional development initiative

ALIA and Monash Learningfast (MLF) are working together to develop a partnership which will result in ALIA members receiving significant discounts for the MLF ICT Skills Benchmark and TeachMe online learning courses for a three-month period.

Monash Learningfast, a company of Monash University, offers access via the internet to their range of information, communication and technology training courses appropriate to all levels of library and information workers. All members, whether they have recently qualified and are new to the profession, or those who want to update their skills, will benefit equally from access to the training. The courses offered are all self-paced, interactive tutorials, complete with full-text manuals, to assist members to upgrade their skills in this area.

ICT Skills Benchmark (Information, Communication and Technology) is a competency-based package, which provides a foundation for the effective use information, communication and technology products and services. The package includes:

- pre- and post-tests to enable of training needs to be identified and learning outcomes;
- interactive learning over the internet;
- online manuals; and
- post-test certification (ICT Skills Benchmark).

TeachMe single courses include:

- interactive tutorials which enable the user to work through a simulated software environment which includes the options of 'learn', 'show' and 'test' modes;
- online workbooks; and
- popular task tutorials which teach the user how to complete commonly required tasks.

To find out more about Monash Learningfast go to <http://www.learningfast.com.au/>.

Full details about the partnership will be published in the June issue of *inCite* so watch this space...

If you have any questions please contact Georgina Dale, ALIA manager, professional development and groups liaison, on 02 6215 8229 or georgina.dale@alia.org.au. ■

LISEKA update

The LISEKA framework has two core components — ALIA as a standards body for recognition of qualifications, and continuing professional development. The ALIA Board of Directors is committed to these two aspects of LISEKA, and is working on strategies to achieve useful and meaningful outcomes.

While the Board of Education is no more, course recognition continues to be an essential role carried out by ALIA. Universities and other academic institutions are assessed on a regular basis regarding their library and information courses. However, as with all things, ways of doing this can change, and ALIA has had preliminary discussions with various academic institutions about reviewing the course recognition process. Issues discussed include university and Australian Universities Quality Agency requirements, the amount and type of documentation ALIA requires and how graduate qualities relate to ALIA's core knowledge statement. Feedback about courses from students, recent graduates and employers is important and a mechanism for continuing this is needed. University staff have expressed a wish to forge closer links between educators, employers and practitioners and believe that this is a role that ALIA can and should fulfil. There is no intention that current standards should be compromised, but there may be ways to streamline the process, and that is what is currently being discussed.

More on CPD next *inCite*. ■

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