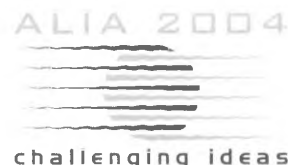


Hurry, register now!

ALIA 2004 Biennial Conference



21–24 September 2004, Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland

Finally, ALIA 2004 is upon us!
The conference committee listened...
They think they are doing what you asked...

So come along and check it out...

Speakers who will challenge our perspectives

- Dr Martin Nakata will enrich your knowledge of the issues and the future for libraries and Indigenous peoples.
- Professor Glyn Davis is leaping from the leadership 'frypan' at Griffith University to the 'fire' of Monash — what is his prescription for such leaps and bounds?
- Philip Blackwell thinks that we have not heard all that there is to hear about e-books! What else can he tell us?
- Barbara Lison will tell us how the German public libraries do it — and will do it well into the future.
- Kay Raseroka and Alex Byrne — president and president-elect of IFLA — will both be presenting. This is a rare opportunity for Australian information professionals to meet their international leaders!
- Bob Hayward from Gartner will tell us what information technology folk think that we will do with their goods and services.
- Jay Jordan, head of OCLC, will be speaking for the first time at an Australian conference on the hot topic of the OCLC environmental scan.

Participation ... in a big way

- You will need to read *The Thompson Gunner* in transit so that you are prepared to join Nick Earls for our 'big read' in the 'One Book, One Conference' session!
- Poster sessions will share the good, the bad, and the ugly of other people's experiences in architectural forays, educational partnerships, staff exchanges and more.

- Join the new generation librarians in a challenge session, and have your say when you vote on debate topics.
- Munch your way around the huge trade exhibition every lunchtime — and morning tea, afternoon tea, happy-hour and any other opportunity that you can!

Local colour and flavours to experience

- An opening ceremony where you can have a smoke without endangering your health.
- Thrills and spills at CarnivALIA, the official conference dinner at Dreamworld — a guaranteed highlight!
- Brush shoulders with local library staff while visiting key libraries in Brisbane and on the coast.
- Take the chance to experience all that the beautiful Gold Coast has to offer — stay before or after the conference and enjoy a well-deserved holiday! (<http://www.goldcoasttourism.com.au> has some ideas.)

But wait, there's more!

- Queensland Premier, Peter Beattie, will officially open the conference in the 'Smart State'.
- A number of ALIA awards will be presented.
- Recognition of ALIA members through the 'Our leaders: anointed and appointed' session — an opportunity for delegates to reflect on both our achievements and aspirations.
- Concurrent sessions with a diverse mix of papers from all sectors (public, academic, special, publishing, information technology, research).

If you have not already registered for this amazing and challenging conference, there is not much time left — go to the conference website <http://conferences.alia.org.au/alia2004/> for all of the information that you need!

For those who have already registered — ALIA looks forward to welcoming you to a stimulating program set amidst the sun, sand and surf of the Gold Coast! ■

neXt 2005: ALIA National Library and Information Technicians' Conference



From the trade exhibition committee

National Library Technician conferences have always been well-supported through sponsorship and by trade exhibitors. *neXt 2005* is shaping up to be a highly-desirable venue for the trade.

With the aim of presenting an exhibition and sponsorship program that offers broader representation, the *neXt 2005* trade committee and Conference Action will strive to create an environment where delegates will be drawn to, and interact with, the trade representatives, along with an opportunity for an expanded 'retail' format to enhance the experience.

Trade shows are a huge commitment of resources and time. *neXt 2005* is committed to the growth of the trade support through the growth of the concept as a

whole. With the costs associated with attending conferences and trade shows, the *neXt 2005* committee understands that attendees would enjoy a fuller experience during breaks and in-between sessions. Exhibitors will have a forum where they can communicate, display products, and interact in a diverse environment. This new environment creates an opportunity to build relationships in a business-like, but relaxed, atmosphere.

In a recent survey conducted by the Centre for Exhibition Industry Research, the results showed that more than ninety per cent of attendees rated exhibitions as the most useful source for gathering pertinent information, as they can examine and evaluate competing products all in the one location. As a result, more than

seventy-five per cent of the attendees find new suppliers and obtain quotes, and twenty-six per cent of attendees purchase products whilst at exhibitions.

We look forward to the presence of both the trade and delegates from the library and information industry at this ALIA conference being held in Sydney on 6–9 September 2005 at Darling Harbour. It will explore the themes of experiences, excellence, and expectations.

Reminder: The call for papers for the *neXt 2005* conference is now open. The committee will accept proposals until 31 October 2004. For details see *inCite* (July, p15), or check the conference website at <http://conferences.alia.org.au/libtech2005/callforpapers.html>. ■