

Mark your diary: Information Online 2005

Information
ONLINE 2005

What to expect from the 12th exhibition and conference. Caroline Regan, organising committee

Please mark your diaries for the ALIA Information Online 2005 conference dates of 1–3 February 2005 at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre. The conference also has a new website [<http://online.alia.org.au>], so bookmark it and check it regularly for conference updates.

This twelfth conference promises to be our most dynamic yet. Peter Crowe, head of Search at Yahoo! Australia and NZ will open the conference and talk about the future of search. David Hawking from the CSIRO ICT Centre, who leads the team which is developing and supporting the Panoptic enterprise search engine, will take this discussion further into the much talked about realm of Metadata. This theme continues with Liesl Capper, the founder and CEO of MooterSeach, an artificial intelligence-backed search engine, launched in Australia in October 2003.

Joan Frye Williams is joining us from the United States to talk about the different cultures of library and technical personnel. Joan is known as an acute — and sometimes irreverent — observer of trends in what she calls ‘the cultural anthropology of libraries.’ She is an internationally-recognised library futurist and designer of innovative library services.

For our knowledge management delegates we have Mary Lee Kennedy, Angella Abell and Professor Kate Andrews joining us. As director of the Knowledge Network Group for Microsoft Corporation, Mary Lee led the effort to develop an enterprise knowledge and intranet strategy. Her role included partnering with the Microsoft product team in joint development of SharePoint 2003. Professor Andrews is the Partner, Intellectual Capital for BDO Kendalls, part of the global BDO network and is adjunct senior lecturer at Griffith University's Graduate School of Management. Angela Abell has been with TFPL since 1994. There she focuses on the impact of the knowledge economy on all organisations, the way organisations approach information and knowledge management, and

the implications that this has for the development of skills and competencies throughout the workforce. There will also be a content management system stream for the first time.

Professor Brian Fitzgerald will be introducing conference delegates to the Creative Commons concept. Brian is a project leader for Creative Commons in Australia and head of the School of Law at QUT in Brisbane.

One of the major issues facing us all is the concept of ‘off-shoring our reference and information services’. Whether you are in an academic setting or in a special or corporate setting, this affects us all. Hemant Manohar, chief knowledge officer, KPMG in India, and regional chief knowledge officer, KPMG Middle East and South Asia, is uniquely-placed to discuss this issue and we are sure that this will be one of the most-talked-about keynotes for many years.

The exhibition is also the largest ever, offering delegates the chance to view and try all of the exciting new products on display. Every important vendor in our industry will be there. Delegates can also book appointments with vendors via the conference website.

The conference is also offering delegates the chance to attend some very stimulating satellite workshops. For full details of all workshops, please check our conference website.

We are also offering a full social program giving delegates as many chances as possible to mingle and network. For the first time ever the conference dinner is included as part of a full registration. The guest speaker at the conference dinner will be Adam Spencer, the former presenter of Quantum on ABC television and presenter of the Breakfast Show on ABC radio Triple J.

Finally, do keep checking the conference website, as we will be updating our delegates with changes to the program and other activities via the site at: <http://online.alia.org.au>. ■

Cataloguing foreign language collections

Liverpool City Library project launched

Launched on Thursday 26 August 2004 at Liverpool City Library, the WESCOL Collection is funded by a \$400 000 grant received from the Library Council of NSW. The collection comprises a special group of Arabic, Chinese and Vietnamese material, which will be rotated through four libraries (Canterbury, Auburn, Liverpool and Bankstown). Zenith Information Management Services was employed to catalogue the materials which include books, DVDs, videos and CD-ROMs.

Paul Scully, library manager for Liverpool City Council expects the rotating collection to be extremely popular as the turnover of community language materials in the four libraries is 60 to 100 per cent higher than the collection as a whole.

For this reason, it was vital that the

WESCOL Collection be publicly-available as soon as possible. The Zenith team was called upon to process the project within a very short time to comply with the terms of the grant and the library's requirements.

Experienced in the fast-growing area of foreign languages cataloguing, Zenith brought to the project proven cataloguing and shelf-ready services to create cross-library cataloguing and processing standards, as well as to provide cataloguing records in the method requested for each of the libraries.

Of course, foreign language cataloguing services are just one of the many specialist services offered by Zenith Information Management Services. Zenith is a unique blend of two vital components of the information management industry.

Their recruitment division provides staff of all levels to information agencies, libraries in local, state and federal government, corporate sector, education and the arts.

Their cataloguing services division calls upon the skilled people that they discover through recruitment to provide original, editing and copy cataloguing on the National Database, delivers records to clients in a variety of ways, and can make any library items shelf ready. Zenith is dedicated to providing a service for local government and school libraries — in English and other languages — and can also offer training.

For more information call Laurence McDonnell, Zenith Management Services on 02 9413 2555, laurence@zenmgt.com, or see <http://www.zenmgt.com>. ■