

Who's where...

Recent movements in the library and information services sector

Public libraries consultant

Mylee Joseph has been appointed to the position of consultant in the Public Library Services division of the State Library of New South Wales.

Mylee's previous experience in the Riverina, Liverpool, Willoughby and Hurstville libraries as well as her association with the country and metropolitan Public Libraries Associations have provided her with an excellent knowledge and understanding of the New South Wales public library network.

Literature Board appointee

The Minister for the Arts and Sport, Senator Rod Kemp, has announced the appointment of author **Jack Hibberd** to the Australia Council's Literature Board.

Highly regarded as a playwright, novelist and poet, Dr Hibberd has written over thirty plays, three novels and two anthologies of poetry. His acclaimed play *A Stretch of the Imagination* has been performed in the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany and China.

Training manager for CAVAL

CAVAL Collaborative Solutions has appointed **Richard Sayers** as its training manager. Based in Brisbane, Richard will manage the operational aspects of the development and delivery of CAVAL's training program.

Previously Richard was manager of Library Services at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Queensland, and more recently the team leader of Reference Services at the State Library of Queensland.

Sue Henczel will continue to oversee the strategic direction of CAVAL's training program.

Changes at Blackwells

Heather Crosbie, previously with Swets Information Services, has been appointed as business development manager of journal sales at Blackwell Publishing, with a brief to increase the reach of Synergy, Blackwell's online delivery platform, to consortia in the region.

Also new to Blackwell Publishing is **David Fisher** who takes up the position of

sales and marketing director, Asia. David has relocated from Singapore where he worked for Jane's, the defence and security publisher, as regional director for the Asia-Pacific region.

New sales manager for Swets Australia

Swets Information Services has announced the appointment of **Michael McLennan** as sales manager for Australia and New Zealand. A qualified librarian, Michael worked for library system vendors in Europe for over fifteen years before returning to Australia five years ago to establish an office for Ex Libris. More recently he has worked with DA Information Services as area manager for subscriptions, covering Queensland, New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and New Zealand.

CILIP president for 2005-2006

University librarian at the University of Sussex, **Debby Shorley** has been invested as president of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals for 2005-2006. ■

Cuban librarians convicted of being 'dangerous'

Sensitive to growing international concern over reports of human rights violations, in late April the government of President Fidel Castro conducted a secret trial of two Cuban librarians, Elio Enrique Chávez and Luis Elio de la Paz, and sentenced them to prison on a charge of 'dangerousness'.

The two librarians are registered delegates to the Assembly to Promote a Civil Society, a conference of more than 300 non-governmental organisations scheduled to convene in Havana on 20 May. If the civil assembly takes place, it will be the first nationwide public meeting of non-governmental organisations held in Cuba since the establishment of the Castro regime in 1959. Alarmed by the prospect of this unprecedented challenge to its authority, the government is using threats and arrests to prevent the assembly from taking place and is pressuring member organisations to revoke their support for the gathering.

The hundreds of organisations planning to meet in Havana for the assembly are regarded as illegal by the Cuban regime, which refuses to recognise the existence of civic groups outside its control. Among the associations planning to attend the conference are several networks of independent libraries, organised since 1998 in an innovative project to offer public access to uncensored books.

Elio Enrique Chávez is the director of the 20th of May Library, and his cousin Luis Elio de la Paz is the director of the 10th of October Library. After being convicted of 'dangerousness', Chávez and de la Paz were sentenced, respectively, to two and three years in prison.

Cuba's independent librarians are being persecuted, and more than a dozen librarians arrested in a massive round-up in 2003 have been adopted as 'prisoners of conscience' by Amnesty International, which is demanding their immediate release. ■

ALIAappointments

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