

ALIA award: Letter of Recognition

ALIA has re-instated this award, last issued at national level in 1993. From 1994 until 2002, when the organisation was restructured, the award was granted at Branch level. ALIA members proposed its revival to the Board, who approved the award at their September 2005 meeting.

The ALIA Letter of Recognition may be presented to any person or organisation for a significant, special or specific service to:

- librarianship, libraries or information management; or
- the promotion and development of libraries or library services; or
- the Australian Library and Information Association or for demonstrating such service over a period time.

Nominations for an ALIA Letter of Recognition may be submitted at any time and will be considered by the National Awards Panel. A nomination must be supported by at least two financial members (personal or institutional representatives) of ALIA. It must be confidential, and the nominee must be unaware of the nomination. For full details of nomination and eligibility, see <http://alia.org.au/awards/letter.of.recognition/>. ■

From the global to the local: ALIA NSW networking event

Global issues that concern the library and information sector were highlighted at the ALIA NSW October networking event. It was held at the City of Sydney Library Network's sparkling new Customs House Library and our draw-card speaker was Alex Byrne. Alex is the UTS university librarian, the newly appointed Pro-vice-chancellor (Teaching and Learning) and incoming IFLA president for 2005-07.

The difficulty, yet necessity, of ensuring that cultural and community resources are included in the rescue and recovery phase following disasters is a priority for local and international bodies including IFLA. Alex outlined IFLA's response to the destruction of libraries and other memory/heritage institutions in the recent Southeast Asian tsunami, Pakistan earthquake and New Orleans floods.

IFLA has also had significant involvement in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and has played a key role in placing information literacy on

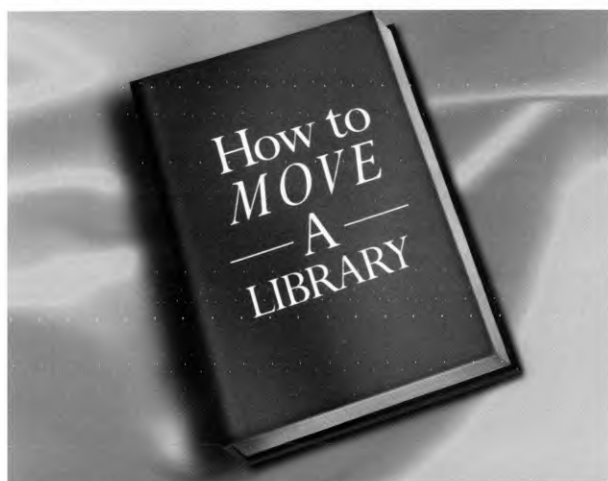


(l-r) Christine Miller, Ann Doherty and Matthew Griffiths at the final ALIA NSW networking event for 2005

the WSIS agenda. The significance of information literacy in community empowerment and sustainability will be an issue at the WSIS session to be held in Tunis in November 2005.

Alex's succinct overview prompted several searching questions. The evening concluded the ALIA NSW Group program for 2005. We would like to hear from any NSW ALIA members who wish to be a part of the continuing reinvigoration of the group into 2006. Please contact Maggie on mmcelhill@sl.nsw.gov.au or Anne on adoherty@sl.nsw.gov.au.

Anne Doherty and Maggie McElhill



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The 2006 Round of Churchill Fellowships is open

This year, 2005, is the 40th anniversary of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. By the end of the 2006 round, over 3000 fellowships will have been awarded under the Churchill Fellows program. Is there something you want to do that a Fellowship could fund? Merit, benefit to Australia, and a strong desire to share the results of the Fellowship with the community are the most important criteria for a Churchill Fellowship, there are no prescribed qualifications.

Janice Nitschke was awarded the 2005 Professor Jean Primrose Whyte Churchill Fellowship to study the evolving role of the public library in the community in the USA,

the UK, Norway, Finland, Denmark and Canada. The Whyte Churchill Fellowship for the study of an aspect of library and information science is only open to South Australian residents, but 100 Fellowships are awarded each year. A Fellowship has an average value of \$25 000 and includes return airfare and an overseas living allowance.

Application forms can be downloaded from <http://www.churchilltrust.com.au>, printed forms are available from the Trust's national office: e-mail churchilltrust@bigpond.com.au, ph 1 800 777 231 or 02 6247 8333.

Applications opened on 1 November 2005 and will close on **28 February 2006**. ■