



Sue Hutley

ALIA executive director
sue.hutley@alia.org.au

A month of conferences

The International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Conference in Seoul, Korea, in this August year was a unique experience. With 5000+ library-types from over 140 countries it is always a gathering of significance. The conference opening ceremony was a spectacular event and other grand social events took place through the week. The conference venue was vast and great time management was required just to get from one session to another. Thirty-six Australian delegates (and a few Aussie library ex-pats) and a number of trade representatives were taking active part in the conference – presenting papers, attending sectional and other meetings, catching up with other international delegates, taking tours of Seoul libraries and sampling the local culture. The Trade Show was big and colourful.



Alex Byrne (current IFLA President from Australia) led the conference with a hectic schedule of speeches, interviews and meetings. International speakers gave papers and workshops on diverse topics, ranging from the huge UNESCO open forum 'International Digital Library Initiatives' on Day 1 to much smaller workshops like the vigorous debate on freedom of access to information (FAIFE) and intellectual freedom. Many of the papers are now linked on the conference website. There was an excellent selection of poster presentations and trade demonstrations.

I attended IFLA General Council as the voting representative for ALIA and participated in the Management of Library Associations Standing Committee meetings. IFLA was a great experience, which I documented briefly in my blog – see the August entries at <http://blogs.alia.org.au>. I hope that many more Australian librarians and information professionals make it to future IFLA Conferences.

Future conferences

World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council, Durban, South Africa, August 2007
<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/>



World Library and Information Congress: 74th IFLA General Conference and Council, Québec, Canada, August 2008
<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/>



2006 National Advisory Congress – Perth

After 11 regional meetings the National Meeting was held in conjunction with the ALIA Biennial Conference – the first time that this model was trialled. Representatives from nearly all the regional meetings attended and gave short presentations of ALIA Success Stories in their regions. The five areas of priority for ALIA for 2007 were again discussed:

- 1 Membership growth through retaining existing members and attracting new members
- 2 Empower and support ALIA groups
- 3 Provide leadership in professional education and workforce planning
- 4 Ensure good governance and management of the Association
- 5 Financial sustainability, including a financial plan for ALIA

At the Congress, table groupings discussed the three main focus areas: Membership growth, Empowerment of Groups, and Education and Workforce Planning. Members worked through the suggestions from all the regional meetings and priorities within these were identified. All the comments received will now be considered by both the Board and National Office staff in the final analysis and documentation of our Plan for 2007. The final plan will be released to members on the website and in *inCite*.

The 'Proposal to change governance arrangements issues' paper, released to members for comment in July 2006, was freely discussed by members attending the Congress. Further questions were asked about the specific items proposed and Board members responded. The Board followed the NAC meeting with a specially reconvened Board meeting to finalise the proposed changes, taking into account all of the feedback. The specific proposed changes to the ALIA Constitution will now be put to all ALIA members for voting at a General Meeting to be held on Thursday 30 November 2006 at 5:30pm at the University of New South Wales in Sydney. Further information about this meeting will be sent to members soon – please read it! All the details will be available even sooner on the website at <http://alia.org.au/governance/>.

Thank you to all those members who were involved and contributed their feedback and comments during the last few months leading up to this year's NAC Regional and National Meetings. You can continue to comment at anytime by e-mailing planning@alia.org.au. Final documents and summaries of the 2006 NAC are being put up now on the ALIA website at <http://alia.org.au/governance/nac/2006/>.



Sue Hutley and Andrew Daddo, author of this year's book *Good Night Me*, at Manly Library

Local liaison officers

LLOs are ALIA representatives in each state/territory. Their duties include being a point of contact for members and non-members and ALIA groups.

ACT: Georgina Dale, ALIA,
ph 02 6215 8229,
georgina.dale@alia.org.au

NSW: Niki Kallenberger,
niki.kallenberger@alia.org.au

NT: position vacant

QLD: Claudia Davies, 90 Cracknell Road, Annerley 4103,
ph 0407 964 967,
claudia.davies@alia.org.au

SA: Fiona Butcher,
ph 0414 060 056,
fiona.butcher@alia.org.au

TAS: Jane Jeppson, GPO Box 1287, Hobart 7001, ph 03 6231 9511, fx 03 6233 7506,
jane.jeppson@alia.org.au

VIC: Margie Anderson, 105 Anderson Street, Yarraville 3013,
ph 03 9315 1090,
margie.anderson@alia.org.au

WA: Natarsha Larment,
mb 0448 881 630,
natarsha.larment@alia.org.au