

Renewal time – ALIA membership really does have its advantages



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Local Liaison Officers

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

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ALIA's 70th year is an exciting time to be a member of the Australian Library and Information Association. Your support drives your Association. Renewal time is a great moment to reflect on the activities of your professional Association and the benefits it offers you.

Look after your career by checking out the options available to you through the ALIA Professional Development Scheme. Your Association offers you a comprehensive range of professional development services and activities. Find out what is happening in your area and around Australia at <http://alia.org.au/events/> or look at the events listings in inCite each month. You can attend any of ALIA's numerous conferences, seminars and workshops, and we also have special member rates for the workshops and training courses delivered to you through ALIA's partnerships with professional training providers.

ALIA also offers opportunities to get together with your colleagues. If you can't be at your local group's meetings and events (find your local group at <http://alia.org.au/groups.html>), then join an e-list or two (<http://alia.org.au/alinet/e-lists/>) and contribute to the discussions going on there. Tap into the expertise of the ALIA community and broaden your career prospects at the same time.

If you're looking to move on in your career, you can subscribe to recruitLIS, our members-only vacancies e-list, to keep up with the latest positions vacant. Or visit our employment pages at any time for a list of the latest vacancies or other key employment

resources. You can also call on the expert advice of your industrial relations advisor.

Nominate a deserving professional for an award – or put in for one yourself. ALIA offers a range of awards, scholarships and research grants, to honour outstanding contributions to the profession and recognise and celebrate the achievements of individuals and organisations – check the options at <http://alia.org.au/awards/>.

ALIA offers a range of benefits to our members through Member Advantage. You can get great discounts on products such as insurance, car hire and purchase, electrical goods, home loans, or airline lounge membership. <http://alia.org.au/membership/benefits/affinity.html>. ALIA also partners with the HotelClub for generous discounts on hotel accommodation.

And don't forget, it is through your support that the Association has the opportunity to influence the development and quality of the profession. The Association is constantly advocating and lobbying for our profession and for library and information services in Australia (<http://alia.org.au/advocacy/>).

If you want ALIA to represent you the best way possible, consider investing your time and expertise in creating the professional Association you want. Nominate for a committee or for the Board. The experience will be well worth the commitment.

Being a member of ALIA puts you at the forefront of our profession.

Review of ALIA Committees and Representatives

The Board has decided to review ALIA's committees and representatives in 2007 to establish:

- whether existing committees and representatives should continue, cease or change;
- whether there are any areas that ALIA does not currently have committees and representatives but should, in order to progress any policy areas;
- any other issues identified by members or existing committees or representatives that should be addressed.

The Board's Standing Committee on Governance is undertaking the review and aims to provide a report to the Board by mid-2007. We are keen to hear the views of current committees and representatives. While we will undertake a survey, we are also keen to receive the views of all members and encourage any member to contact us via e-mail (governance@alia.org.au) or by phone to me on 02 6277 7102.

To assist ALIA in seeking advice on and addressing the wide range of issues in

the library and information sector our consultation structure includes:

- members;
- Groups (such as geographic groups and library technicians-established under By-law 2);
- a Board of Directors with five Standing Committees;
- committees and representatives on other bodies (primarily established under By-law 8).

Information on current committees and representatives is available on the web at <http://alia.org.au/governance/committees/>.

ALIA committees and representatives are appointed to ensure that ALIA's voice is heard in many organisations and on many issues. Members have benefited through events run by committees, such as the Purchasing Forums, the development of policy on important issues and communication on issues such as submissions to inquiries.

Roxanne Missingham
(Member Governance Standing Committee, ALIA President)