

## Associations working together

### Broadband for Seniors – collaboration and representation

ALIA recently coordinated a significant proposal for funding to the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) for \$15 million over the years 2008-2011 to deliver broadband and internet training for seniors in identified locations around the nation. This submission involved a collaborative volunteer effort from the ALIA Public Libraries Advisory Committee and a number of NSLA members. It also demonstrated the strength of the Memorandum of Collaboration between public library associations and ALIA. We were pleased to receive the support and comments from so many senior colleagues and public librarians across Australia as part of the process of formulating the proposal. This collaboration and combination of support has been an important one for Australian public libraries and the associations.

The submission focused on the existing use of the free public library network by seniors across the country, in urban, rural and remote areas. Seniors already to access a range of resources and services, and identify the library as a reliable and trusted point of contact for support in their community. Public libraries have long recognised and met the needs of the ageing population with a range of services including mobile libraries, home library services, and targeted materials such as large print and audio books. If successful, Australian public libraries will be able to enhance services to seniors.

Thanks also to Jane Hardy (Assistant Director, Strategy & Advocacy) and Judy Brooker (Research Officer) who worked on the documentation in a short timeframe.

Submissions closed 8 August 2008 and ALIA will be advised in the next few weeks as to whether we will be placed into a second round discussion with the Department. Members are advised to keep watch on the ALIA Latest News (via RSS feed) or in the next few editions of aliaPUBNEWS.

## Congratulations to new ALIA Fellows

The ALIA Board of Directors is delighted to announce that the distinction of ALIA Fellow has been conferred on Roxanne Missingham and Christine Mackenzie. The official presentations will take place at the ALIA 2008 Biennial Conference in Alice Springs from 2-5 September. We will include articles and photos about the conferrals in a future issue of *inCite*.

## IFLA – Quebec and beyond



I have just returned from IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Quebec. In just two years time, Brisbane will host the 2010 IFLA Congress. This conference, as with each one, was a unique experience including the Canadian influence and French speaking focus. IFLA is a large, expansive organisation with 1700 members in 150 countries around the world. If you are a financial member of ALIA, you are automatically a financial member of IFLA as ALIA pays an annual fee based on the number of our members. ALIA is currently allowed official representation on 10 of the 42 standing committees, with many other Australians representing other IFLA member institutions.

Many of the standing committees have begun discussing their programs for Brisbane in 2010 (yes, they are making arrangements and planning already). Australians on committees are giving their expertise, suggestions and volunteer hours to begin to plan and contribute to the program for Brisbane.

The National Committee for IFLA 2010 is also planning the broader social program, library tours and official ceremonies as well as government and sponsorship funding and other international relations matters. <http://www.alia.org.au/ifla2010>

At the last Board of Directors meeting, the establishment of a charitable fund to raise money for Asia-Oceania librarians to attend IFLA 2010 was also approved – more details later this year. Many volunteers, especially those with language skills, will be needed. We also look forward to a huge Australian delegate contingent for 2010 to make the most of this international experience, and for lots of Aussies to make other delegates feel welcome and to share their local stories.

IFLA conferences are different and I made the first of a number of comparisons on the ALIA Board Blog <http://www.alia.org.au/blog> recently. I encourage ALIA members to take a look through the IFLA website <http://www.ifla.org> and join some of the IFLA e-lists to get an idea of the vast array of IFLA work being done.

## ALIA course recognition

ALIA course recognition ensures Library and Information Science courses equip graduates with relevant and current knowledge, skills and capabilities to provide their clients with the right information at the right time. Page 16 of this issue of *inCite* explains ALIA course recognition, competency standards and what course recognition means to you as a graduate, employer or educator.



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## Local Liaison Officers

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