

Social networks take off.

In 2009 the Conference Committee fully embraced social networking for the first time. For 2011 we have committed to engaging earlier, providing more content, more updates, and more avenues for you to connect with us and add your own comments.

We are regularly posting on our blog, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn and we are trying to make the content on each as unique as we can, although there are common themes such as conference promotions and conference updates.

Our new Facebook page is gaining momentum. You can join in discussions on privacy, career planning, eBooks, and internet filtering. Our links include recruitment agencies for information professionals, libraries, vendors, interesting articles, and more. To see what's new you can subscribe to our links via the Links Tab. Posts include news, views, conference updates, your comments, and the odd confession of not being able to spell.

This year we have started our very own Twitter and we are getting new followers all the time. Our tweets cover the conference, things of interest, ponderings, and more.

LinkedIn is by far our biggest network to date and you can follow our tweets from here as well. Regular posts include news items and of course the conference.

Our blog is our longest running network and consists mainly of professional items of interest and conference updates. The blog really takes off during the conference.

Follow us via:

Our blog from our website <http://www.information-online.com.au>

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/ALIA-Information-Online-Group/107887822586150>

Twitter <http://www.twitter.com/iogau> The conference hashtag is #aliaioc

LinkedIn <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=1697997&trk=anet-ug-hm>



The simple points system remains the same. The number of points required to attain Certified Practitioner status AALIA(CP) and ALIA Tec(CP) and remain compliant are:

- minimum 30 points per PD year
- 120 points per triennium

The range of activities you can undertake, the points accrued and yearly point limits also remain the same. For more information: <http://www.alia.org.au/education/pd/scheme/>

By Word of Mouth: A Practical Introduction to Oral History

ALIA has negotiated a new face-to-face training opportunity for members. By Word of Mouth is a practical half-day workshop presented by Richard Sayers, a practising historian. It provides a no-nonsense introduction to the primary tools and techniques of oral history, and a framework for libraries and other community organisations to commence oral history projects.

With appropriate training and access to the right tools, oral history can be collected by virtually anyone in the community. Libraries are ideally positioned to facilitate local oral history projects and add value by organising, preserving, and providing access to the outputs on behalf of their communities.

This model for providing professional development allows professional library training to be cross-subsidised by inviting the participation of community organisation members to the training session. This allows for the offering of lower workshop fees and viable registration numbers for a course to proceed.

In June we successfully ran our first training session using this model with the valued and effective support of Toowoomba City Library. The Manager, Roslyn Cousins, and the Special Collections Librarian, Jayne Fitzpatrick, promoted the course extensively, negotiated participation with their local community, and organised an excellent venue and provision of laptops. Twelve enthusiastic registrants, a mixture of library staff and members of the community, undertook the training. This was a win-win model with hands-on knowledge gained and valuable community links fostered.

Please contact Judy Brooker, the Professional Development and Careers Manager, judy.brooker@alia.org.au if you would like to have this course offered in your locality. Libraries are encouraged to use this workshop as a means to gain valuable training for their own staff while supporting and engaging with community groups embarking on history projects – for example, local schools, community museums, churches, chambers of commerce, and councils.

Judy Brooker ALIA PD and Careers Manager

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ALIA PD scheme: gaining Certified Practitioner status

The ALIA PD Scheme is a mechanism for professional Associate and Library Technician members to record their participation in continual professional development. ALIA Certified Practitioners are library and information professionals who have made an audited commitment to professional excellence. Members of this scheme are employees of choice.

You now have more PD recording choices:

- Use the new ALIA PD recording system
- Your employer based record
- A professional portfolio, for example an e-portfolio or excel spreadsheet

Recording your PD is now much easier with the new ALIA recording system. Many ALIA training courses and workshops will be automatically uploaded for you. Additionally, you now have the opportunity to record your own PD in more detail in the ALIA online system. Check out the new recording system at: <http://www.alia.org.au/education/pd/signup.html>

If you already record your PD in another system, you do not need to duplicate your information.

If you are one of the lucky 10% of members randomly selected to undergo a PD audit, a completed ALIA online record, a copy of your employer recorded scheme, or an e-portfolio should be submitted. An audit will still require documentary proof of attendance, completion, or participation with your chosen recording method.

PD Tip for the Month

When doing your tax, keep your self-education documents for your PD record.

Professional development

RDA Basics

RDA stands for Resource Description and Access. Many will be familiar with AACR the Anglo American Cataloguing Rules (AACR). These cataloguing standards have supported cataloguing for many years guiding libraries of all sizes by providing rules to describe and access library materials. New editions of AACR have been developed and implemented. However, it became obvious over time that more was needed. The last update for AACR2 was February 2005. Instead of continuing with updates and revisions, it was decided by the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR, responsible of maintaining AACR, that a new code was needed. To reflect this change the committee also changed its name to the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA (JSC).

The organisations represented on the Joint Steering Committee are:

- The American Library Association
- The Australian Committee on Cataloguing
- The British Library
- The Canadian Committee on Cataloguing
- CLIP: Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals
- The Library of Congress

The Australian Committee on Cataloguing (ACOC) is a joint Australian Library and Information Association–National Library of Australia committee charged with monitoring and influencing developments in national and international cataloguing and classification

The JSC is now working on a new code, “RDA: Resource Description and Access”

RDA is a response to the changes in libraries brought about by the digital age. AACR was designed in the era of card catalogues, RDA has been developed to address the collection access and description needs of the future. To find out more

about RDA, I suggest you look at the FAQ page: <http://www.nla.gov.au/lis/stndrds/grps/acoc/rda.html#FAQs>

Much preparation, both nationally and internationally, for the introduction of RDA has already been undertaken. ACOC has been hard at work preparing for the change.

Keep reading your *inCite* as Deirdre Kiorgaard, the National Library of Australia representative on the Australian Committee on Cataloguing will be writing a regular update column on RDA. Her first column is below.

Judy Brooker

ALIA PD and Careers Manager
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Resource Description and Access training needs

During March/April ACOC conducted a survey to gain a better understanding of needs and preferences with regard to RDA training in Australia. Thanks to the generous comments of all those who participated, we now have a much clearer understanding of your needs and concerns. ACOC will take all of these comments into account when planning RDA training in Australia.

Survey responses were received from a broad range of library types (National, State, university, college, school, public, and special libraries) from all of the states and territories. In addition responses were received from archives, cataloguing agencies, book suppliers, library educators, and training agencies.

The full survey results as well as ACOC responses to the issues it raised are available from the ACOC website <http://www.nla.gov.au/lis/stndrds/grps/acoc/rda.html>. A similar survey was also conducted in New Zealand. The results of that survey are available from <http://nznuc-cataloguing.pbworks.com/RDA-page> (click on the link: RDA Training Needs Survey Results).

ACOC's next step will be to issue an EOI seeking interest in providing training, and we hope that both library educators and training agents will respond. Trainers will be selected from those responses. The National Library of Australia also plans to provide face-to-face train-the-trainer courses to the selected trainers at cost. These trainers will then offer training courses throughout Australia in the lead up to the implementation of RDA in 2011.

Training materials have already been developed as part of the US National Libraries test, see <http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/trainthetrainer.html>. ACOC will support training agents and library educators by adapting and adding Australian content to these training materials. This adapted material will be made freely available on the ACOC website within a few months.

Training in the RDA Toolkit <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/> is the responsibility of the Co-Publishers. The RDA Toolkit is being made available for free during an open access period <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/openaccess> that finishes at the end of August 2010. ALA Publishing held several “Making the most of the open access period” themed webinars in June. The webinars have been recorded and archived on the RDA Toolkit website for anyone unable to attend a live event.

Deirdre Kiorgaard

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