



GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK

Graham Black signs off as President with thanks and a timely reminder about the Association's future.

I don't know how many of you had a chance to listen to Radio National's *Life Matters* excellent program on Revisioning the Library (www.abc.net.au/rn/lifematters/stories/2011/3184970.htm) in which Ian McShane, Research Fellow Institute for Social Research Swinburne University, advised that approximately half the Australian population has a library card. The converse of this that we in the libraries provide support, assistance, books, journals, and database access to half the nation.

While I've been on the Board for the past couple of years I've been in discussions and listened to presentations about library services to the spectrum of Australian society – detainees, the homeless, indigenous Australians in Central Australia, the aged, babies, pre-schoolers, school, TAFE and university students, public services, corporate Australia, and to those in the more prosperous suburbs of our capital cities. Regardless of who is presenting and the client group they are serving, every library worker has spoken about their services, their roles and their responsibilities with interest and passion.

This came home to me when I was listening to Alana Read speak about her library at our local Library Lovers' Day gathering here in Rockhampton. I think one of the great things about ALIA is that we are an Association of professionals working towards ensuring that the libraries we love, and all they stand for, continue to have a bright future.

I know I may have said it before, but if we want our libraries to have that bright future we need to ensure our Association has an equally bright future.

The continued support of, and engagement with, ALIA of library technicians, librarians, library educators, and institutions is essential.

I not only love my job and my library but I've also loved being ALIA President. It's been interesting, challenging, demanding, it's stretched my boundaries, and it's been rewarding. History will tell whether the Board of 2010/11 did a good job.

I started my first Frontline column as follows, "One of the most daunting things for me when I found out that I was to become Vice President/President elect of ALIA was the realisation that I'd have to write Frontline almost every month for a year." Well, I guess I'm now past being daunted, having penned my final column. I've had a great (sometimes very interesting) time with a great bunch of people – members, National Office staff, and my Board colleagues.

So to all the members I've had the privilege to meet, National Office staff I've interacted and worked with, and my fellow Board members, thank you for your assistance, hard work, perseverance, and support. On the Board we bid adieu to Gillian Hallam and Kate Sinclair, we say bonjour to Vanessa Little, Kathryn Cass and Joseph Cullen, and we welcome Margaret Allen as President.

Being President can take you from your work and home quite a bit at times, so thanks to my colleagues at CQUniversity Library who at times must have wondered whether they really had a Director (at least the jokes about my never being on campus should subside a bit). Finally, a very special thanks to my lovely wife for putting up with our dog's company while I've been travelling or working on ALIA business. Minty is a nice dog but not a terribly good conversationalist.

In signing off for one last time I'll use the words of Edward R. Murrow, "Good night and good luck".

Graham Black

ALIA President

graham.black@alia.org.au

YOUR INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT

Lightning Source comes to Melbourne

Melbourne has been announced as the location for Ingham's forthcoming Lightning Source print-on-demand book manufacturing operation in Australia. The Lightning Source operation in Australia will be Ingram Content Group's fifth networked book manufacturing facility. The location was selected for its proximity to a large concentration of major publishers and book distributors and to key metropolitan regions in the country.

Aussie citation impact

The Asia Pacific region has become the dominant producer of research papers in chemistry, contributing 43% of papers published in the internationally influential journals indexed by Thomson Reuters. Australia has recorded a score of 12.44 citations per paper, ranking second overall and ahead of countries such as Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, India and China, and is placed 16th globally in terms of citation impact.

Copyright licensing: from national to global?

Francis Gurry, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization says we should go global. www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/dgo/speeches/dg_blueskyconf_11.html

OA world snapshot underway

UNESCO, with the support of Colombia, Norway and the United States of America, is developing a portal on Open Access (OA) to present a high-level snapshot of the state of OA around the world. Entitled Global Open Access Portal (GOAP), the tool is supposed to be the first destination for users seeking information on OA. UNESCO is soliciting the interest of individual experts and institutions working on Open Access to serve as short-term consultants to provide content from the five regions: Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=31316&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html