IFLA IN YOUR SIGHTS

ugust is the month when 4,000 library and information professionals from across the globe will descend on Lyon in France for IFLA's World Library and Information Congress (WLIC). A number of Australians will be making the trip. For some, it is an annual pilgrimage, for others it is a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet colleagues from around the world.

ALIA will be represented by our President Damian Lodge and by our Director of Learning Judy Brooker. We will be flying the flag and showcasing our ALIA Future of the LIS Profession outcomes, both as a poster in the exhibition hall and as a lightning talk during the prestigious President elect's session at the conference.

For a relatively small nation in terms of population, Australia is very well represented at WLIC and through IFLA. You will often find Australian representatives on Standing Committee; some have stood for election as individual members, others are there on behalf of ALIA.

We currently have six ALIA representatives on Standing Committees: Information Technology, Edmund Balnaves; Education & Training, Gillian Hallam; Library Theory & Research, Helen Partridge; Public Libraries, Jan Richards; Continuing PD & Workplace Learning, Linden Fairbarn, and Asia and Oceania, Jayshree Mamtora.

In November this year we will receive the call for nominations for representatives on Standing Committees for the 2015–2019 term of office. In order to nominate someone, you will need to be a member of the Section.

ALIA NATIONAL 2014 CONFERENCE

In September you will find us not in Lyon, but in Melbourne. We are looking forward to an outstanding ALIA National Conference, taking place over five days from 15 to 19 September, at the Pullman, Albert Park, with up to 700 colleagues participating.

The week begins with an exciting program of preconference workshops including sessions on developing your research skills, boosting your career and designing awesome customer services. The conference proper runs from Tuesday through to Thursday, concluding on Friday with library tours that were booked solid within just a few weeks of registrations opening. If you missed out on the tours, make time anyway to visit the new Docklands Public Library. It's on three floors, with the very latest facilities, and has fabulous views across the water.

There are satellite events for libraries in the emergency management sector, public libraries and health information professionals, and the program also includes our first Education, Skills and Employability Summit.

You will have seen our terrific keynote speakers Marianne Broadbent, Susan Benton profiled in *INCITE* magazine (Roly Keating will be featured in our September issue) and during the conference we will be revealing the title of the book for the next National Simultaneous Storytime. In 2014, more than 460,000 children at over 3,000 locations took part in this campaign. Be there to find out which author and illustrator will be heading into the limelight in May 2015.

FOR A RELATIVELY SMALL NATION IN TERMS OF POPULATION, AUSTRALIA IS VERY WELL REPRESENTED.

If you are thinking of putting your name forward for one of the Standing Committees, and would like to stand for election as an ALIA representative, let us know now (email ALIABoard@alia.org.au) and we will set the wheels in motion. We can't help with financial support (ALIA representatives are self-funded) but being part of the Association can be a vote-winning asset.

Find out more about IFLA Sections and Special Interest Groups at bit.ly/1rcAhnr.

We will be broadcasting from the conference on social media, but it's impossible to capture the flavour of the event in 140 characters

or less, so if you haven't already booked your place, register now at www.nationalconference2014. alia.org.au. I look forward to seeing you there.



SUE MCKERRACHER ALIA CEO