



# LIS RESEARCH SCAN BEGINS

**A**LIA has set a priority on establishing a recognised research agenda in 2014. The three-year agenda will inform the development of the ALIA Strategic Plan for the period 2016–2020 and subsequently the practice of library and information studies in Australia.

Work towards achieving this objective has already begun with an environmental scan of current research activity to produce an overview of library and information research in Australia now. This project is being led by Dr Annemaree Lloyd (Charles Sturt University) supported by the ALIA Research Advisory Committee, and is being undertaken by experienced researcher and consultant, Dr Michael Middleton.

The project will have a broad scope, including identifying research priorities, topics of research and types of research being undertaken, sources of funding, and the use and application of research findings.

The scan will also cover factors which may enable and/or inhibit research in the library and information studies field. While the scan will focus primarily on Australia, it will also consider Australian research in the context of the international field, identifying potential gaps.

ALIA is strongly committed to supporting research being undertaken by academic researchers, library practitioners, consultants, service planners, advocates and government institutions. The results of this study will inform ALIA's decisions in relation to the future research agenda, support and advocacy, and future funding for research.

The study is being conducted from January to August 2014 and the findings will be reported at the ALIA 2014 National Conference in Melbourne in September.

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## THE ALIA RESEARCH AGENDA AIMS TO:

- Provide guidance for applications for ALIA research grants about areas of particular interest to the Association and the sector
- Support content planning for our scholarly journals
- Help encourage donations to our ALIA Research Fund, creating more funding for important LIS research
- Assist LIS researchers to apply for grants from governments and other organisations