LETTERS

DEAR EDITOR

Dear Editor

Great to see Heather Wellard's ALIA News article 'Government – hear our call' (*INCITE* July/August 2016), highlighting ALIA's manifesto for lobbying during the recent federal election.

In the Key Agenda Items in the box on page 13, Policy item number 2 is 'improved access to data and scholarly information through the development and trial of open-access models for government-funded research'.

Given that a significant portion of our sector and its funding comes from government (local, state and federal), which in turn generates the content for ALIA's two scholarly publications – Australian Library Journal (ALJ) and Australian Academic and Research Libraries (AARL), which I understand will be merged into one publication in the near future – has ALIA considered making these publications available through an openaccess publishing model?

Annette Mills, ALIA Member

From Ed:

Yes, there will be a new journal in 2017 – The Journal of the Australian Library and Information Association (JALIA). The aim of the new journal is to combine the strengths of ALJ and AARL in one title. JALIA will provide a balance of content from LIS researchers and practitioners. The journal will be available in print and online versions, with articles, book reviews and further online content, such as video abstracts and blogs. Most articles will be double-blind and peer-reviewed.

Through Taylor & Francis and its partners, the journal will be available in more than 20,000 libraries around the world. We will continue to benefit from the Taylor & Franics LIS green open-access model, and back issues of *ALJ*, *AARL* and *JALIA* will continue to be digitised and made available free of charge three years after the date of publication.

The ALIA Board also recognises the desire of many Members for the new journal to be fully open access. This was not possible in the current environment but it will continue to be reviewed.

ALIA has developed READ ALIA, a new openaccess information hub for ALIA reports, research and documentation. The hub has just been built, new information is being added daily, and Members will soon be able to access it once the development phase is complete. Read more on page 8.

BRIGHT IDEAS

The November/December issue of INCITE looks at the themes of education and employment, and how you can stay at the top of your game with ALIA PD.

In an ever-changing market and world, it's more important than ever to stay current, competitive and up to date. The pursuit of knowledge is easier than it has ever been before as technological advances move learning outside the traditional classrooms and lecture halls. Librarians have always been lifelong learners and the ALIA Professional Development Scheme helps Members to formalise that ongoing education into a practice which, after a year's compliance, allows eligibility to upgrade to ALIA Certified Professional Membership and use the special postnominals AALIA (CP) or ALIATec (CP). After three years' compliance, you can apply for a certificate and listing on the ALIA website.

So tell us what you are doing to stay on track. The deadline for submissions is 20 September 2016. Check our guidelines for writers on the ALIA website and email your stories and images to incite@alia.org.au. Please note that images sent must be high resolution (1Mb or larger) and be sent separately as jpg files. Images may be reproduced in print or online.

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Australian Library and Information

When you make a bequest to ALIA in your will, you will make a difference and leave a powerful legacy.

By making a bequest, you can leave an enduring gift that will help advance knowledge in the library and information sector, improve a student's educational prospects and reward important contributions to the sector.

Contact ALIA's Director of Corporate Services, David Pattrick, for a confidential discussion about your bequest on 02 6215 8228.

