



News Update

of selected secondary schools relating to Internet access by students at the schools;

- a detailed qualitative analysis of a number of selected Internet sites, accessed through secondary schools or at home, using functional semiotics;
- interviews with a selection of young people aged between 8 and 17 years who accessed the Internet frequently. Interviews were also conducted with the parents of the children interviewed; and
- interviews with selected Internet service providers, content providers and Government regulatory bodies to ascertain views about the regulation of commercial strategies aimed at children and teenagers.

This was the third project by University of New South Wales research students the ABA has supported. It continues a cooperative relationship with the School of Social Science and Policy at the University.



Meeting to discuss issues of common concern between the ABA and the Federal Communications Authority of the USA. L-R: Bob Greeney, ABA Director Planning; Phyllis Fong, ABA Manager Policy; Giles Tanner, ABA General Manager Policy and Programs; Jonathan Levy, FCC; and Pat Manser, ABA Director Policy and Communications.

ABA to co-supervise on-line services doctoral research

SYDNEY: Doctoral research into the regulation of on-line services is set to proceed following approval of funding by the Australian Research Council (ARC). The ABA will co-supervise the research as an industry partner with the Australian Key Centre for Cultural and Media Policy.

The research is being funded under the Strategic Partnerships with Industry — Research and Training (SPIRT) Scheme.

A primary focus will be a detailed examination of industry practices and user patterns related to regulatory initiatives for on-line services. The research will provide a greater understanding of the impact of regulation of on-line service providers, and of users' experiences with regulatory systems. The research is expected to contribute to policy development in this area and to the provision of a stable regulatory framework for a rapidly growing industry.

The researcher will spend time working from the ABA's offices in Sydney under the co-supervision arrangements.

This is the second industry partnership that the ABA has entered into with the Key Centre. The other involves a study, *Cultural Diversity and Children's Television Industry Development*, being undertaken by Ms Wendy Keys of Griffith University in Brisbane. Ms Keys is undertaking the study as part of a three year doctoral program focusing on the children's television industry.

Programs granted C or P classification

Programs granted C or P classification between 18 November 1997 and 15 January 1998. Producers interested in submitting programs for classification should contact Liz Gilchrist, Manager ABA Children's Television.

Program	Origin	Class.	New/ Renewal	Decision Date	Applicant
DRIVEN CRAZY	Australia	PRC	new	10-12-97	Barron Television Ltd
FRANCESCO'S FRIENDLY WORLD	USA	C	new	5-1-98	Southern Star Sales
GIZMO	Australia	PRC	new	23-12-97	Barron Entertainment Limited
LASSIE - 1996 SERIES	UK	C	new	25-11-97	Network TEN - Brisbane
MY WORLD	New Zealand	C	new	19-11-97	Sunshine Productions Ltd
OSCAR AND FRIENDS	New Zealand	C	new	25-11-97	Southern Star Sales
SEARCH FOR TREASURE					
ISLAND; THE	Australia	CAD	new	23-12-97	The Producers Group
THUNDERSTONE	Australia	CAD	new	15-12-97	Jonathan M Shiff Productions Pty Ltd
WHERE ON EARTH IS CARMEN					
SAN DIEGO (SERIES 3 AND 4)	USA	C	new	25-11-97	Network TEN - Brisbane

C - children's program, CAD - C Australian drama, P - preschool, PRC - provisional C