



# News Update

## Communications Research Forum—conference report

Representatives from the ABA recently participated in the Communications Research Forum held in Canberra on 24–25 September 1998. ABA staff made presentations and contributed to roundtable discussions on a range of broadcasting and online issues. The Forum was organised by the Communications Research Unit (CRU) of the Department of Communications and the Arts with assistance from the Faculty of Communications at the University of Canberra.

Giles Tanner, General Manager—*Digital Broadcasting*

Rosalie O’Neale, Assistant Manager of Codes and Conditions—*Freedom of Expression and Community Standards in the Online World (A Regulator’s Perspective)*

Margaret Cupitt, Senior Researcher and Stephen Atkins, Manager of Codes and Conditions—*Monitoring Community Standards about Television Content: 1994–97*  
Gillian Ramsay, Senior Researcher—*Youth, Music and the Media*

Ms Kaaren Koomen, Online Manager facilitated the Online Research Round Table.

The ABA also co-sponsored the Award for Best Student Research Paper with the Centre for Telecommunications Information Networking. Josephine Previte, of the

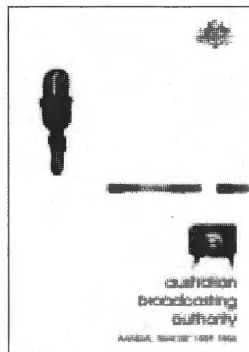
Communications Centre at the Queensland University of Technology was awarded the \$1000 prize for her paper, *Internet Advertising: An Assessment of Consumer Attitudes to Advertising on the Internet*.

## Investigations into program matters

There were 84 breaches of codes of practice or licence conditions by broadcasters in 1997–98, according to the ABA’s Annual Report. Of the 84 breaches, 59 related to codes of practice, 24 were breaches of licence conditions, and one a breach of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*.

There were 35 more breaches found in 1997–98 than in the previous reporting period. The increase partly reflects a more vigorous compliance regime practised by the ABA but

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Copies of the *Annual Report 1997–98* are available free from the ABA, tel. (02) 9334 7700. The report is also on the ABA web site, [www.aba.gov.au](http://www.aba.gov.au).

## Programs granted C or P classification

Programs granted C or P classification between 4 September 1998 and 6 October 1998. Producers interested in submitting programs for classification should contact Liz Gilchrist, Manager, ABA Children’s Television.

Program title	Origin	Class.	New/renewal	Decision date	Applicant
SKIPPY – ADVENTURES IN BUSHTOWN: episodes 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26	Australia	CAD	new	4–9–98	Yoram Gross – Village Roadshow Pty Ltd
SKIPPY – ADVENTURES IN BUSHTOWN: episodes 1, 4, 7, 8, 15	Australia	CAD	new	5–9–98	Yoram Gross – Village Roadshow Pty Ltd
SKIPPY – ADVENTURES IN BUSHTOWN: episode 14	Australia	CAD	new	30–9–98	Yoram Gross – Village Roadshow Pty Ltd
Y?	Australia	C	new	5–9–98	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd
IN THE BOX	Australia	P	new	5–9–98	Network Ten Pty Ltd
KETCHUP (SERIES 3)	Australia	CAD	new	18–9–98	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd
JIM’S GIFT	UK	C	new	22–9–98	Channel 9 South Australia Pty Ltd
WITCH’S DAUGHTER; THE	Scotland	C	new	6–10–98	Channel 9 South Australia Pty Ltd
JIRIMPIMBIRA, AN AFRICAN FOLK TALE	USA	C	new	6–10–98	Channel 9 South Australia Pty Ltd
PRINCE OF THE NILE –					
THE STORY OF MOSES	Australia	CAD	new	6–10–98	Burbank Animation Studios Pty Ltd
SMOKESCREEN	UK	C	new	6–10–98	Channel 9 South Australia Pty Ltd

C – children’s program, CAD – C Australian drama, P – preschool, PRC – provisional C



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also indicates a trend against compliance by licensees,' the report says.

Much of the increase in the number of breaches can be attributed to three matters, the broadcast of the program 'Pacific Drive' in an afternoon timeslot resulting in two breaches by seven licensees which broadcast the program (a total of 14 breaches), and two breaches of

the Australian content standard relating to children's C drama by six Seven network licensees (a total of 12 breaches). The relevant licensees will broadcast additional first release Australian C drama and repeat C drama to compensate for the shortfall.



## 1998 Carl Bertelsmann Prize

After the Award ceremony for the 1998 Carl Bertelsmann Prize: (l) Laura Talbot-Allan, Secretary General and Chief Operating Officer Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission; Gareth Grainger, ABA Deputy Chairman; (r) Dr Thomas Künstner, Booz Allen and Hamilton, Düsseldorf.

For more information on the Bertelsmann Foundation and Prize, see *ABA Update* nos. 68 and 70.

## Temporary community broadcasting licences

Issued to aspirant community radio broadcasters in the period 31 August to 30 September, in order of area served.

Licensee	Area served	Freq.	Period	Issue date
<b>New South Wales</b>				
Albury-Wodonga Christian Broadcasters Inc.	Albury	101.7	1-9-98 to 31-10-98	31-8-98
Bathurst & District Community Radio Broadcasters Inc..	Bathurst	100.1	11-9-98 to 30-9-98	11-9-98
Bay FM Community Radio Incorporated	Byron Bay	91.3	16-9-98 to 31-12-98	16-9-98
Central Hunter Community Broadcasters Inc	Cessnock	96.5	28-9-98 to 27-3-99	21-9-98
Coffs Harbour Christian Broadcasters Inc	Coffs Harbour	106.3	1-10-98 to 28-2-99	30-9-98
Community Radio Coraki Association Inc	Coraki	88.9	12-9-98 to 11-3-99	10-9-98
Lake Waves FM Community Radio Inc.	Morisset	97.3	28-9-98 to 27-3-99	25-9-98
Narrabri Shire Community Radio Inc.	Narrabri	91.1	30-9-98 to 29-9-98	28-9-98
Port Stephens FM Radio Inc.	Nelson Bay	100.9	28-9-98 to 27-3-99	25-9-98
Newcastle Christian Broadcasters Ltd	Newcastle	99.7	28-9-98 to 31-1-99	25-9-98
Spanish Broadcasting Association Inc.	Sydney	100.9	1-9-98 to 28-2-99	31-8-98
<b>Victoria</b>				
High Country Christian Broadcasters	Corryong	94.9	7-9-98 to 6-3-99	4-9-98
Southern Victoria Cmty Radio Inc	Geelong	94.7	7-9-98 to 6-3-99	31-8-98
Horsham & District Community Radio	Horsham	96.5	30-9-98 to 29-9-99	22-9-98
JOY Melbourne Independent Community Broadcasters	Melbourne	90.7	21-9-98 to 13-12-98	18-9-98
Melbourne Pulse Radio Inc	Melbourne	94.9	5-9-98 to 11-10-98	4-9-98
New Gen Radio Inc	Melbourne	91.5	13-9-98 to 24-10-98	10-9-98
Victorian Muslim Community Information Service	Melbourne	90.7	23-9-98 to 29-1-99	21-9-98
<b>Queensland</b>				
Sunshine Coast Christian Broadcast Assoc. Inc.	Sunshine Coast	106.5	1-9-98 to 28-2-99	31-8-98