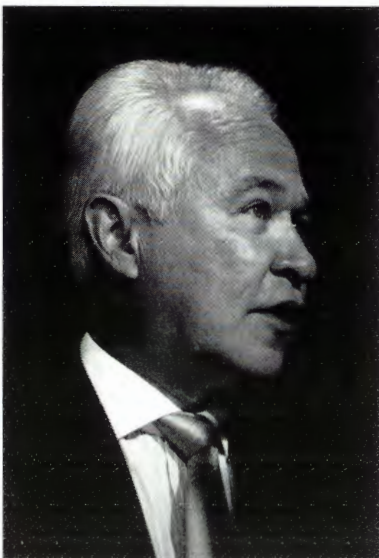




At the ABA Conference: Radio Television and the New Media

The first annual ABA conference was held at the Hyatt Hotel Canberra on 3 and 4 May. Combining the technical streams of the ABA's former Annual Planning Conference with policy streams on Australian content, new media and pay TV, the conference attracted a broad cross section of speakers and delegates from free to air and pay TV, commercial and community radio, the academic sector, hardware manufacturers, government and the media. Papers can be viewed at www.aba.gov.au/conference/index.htm. All photos by Andrew Campbell.



(L) ABA Chairman, Professor David Flint opened the conference with some personal conclusions about the results of the 'Sources of News and Current Affairs' research study.



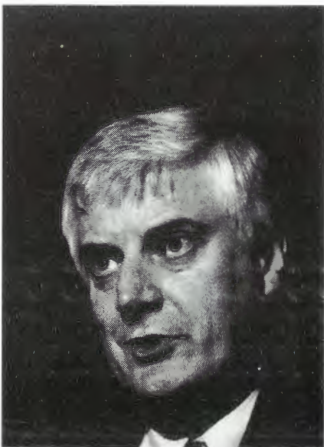
(R) ABA General Manager Giles Tanner welcoming delegates.



ABA Deputy Chair Lyn Maddock and Dr Jonathan Levy of the US Federal Communications Commission on the panel that discussed the issue of converting Australians to digital television



(above L-R) Dr Ben Goldsmith (Key Centre for Cultural and Media Policy) Dr Julian Thomas (Swinburne University) and Professor Stuart Cunningham (Queensland University of Technology) on the panel that discussed content issues for Australian audiences.



Geoff Luther from the Australian Communications Authority spoke about spectrum planning for the post-analog era.



(above L-R) Bob Peters (Global Media Analysis), Jock Given (Swinburne University) and Clive Morton (NTL) in the session on turning off analog television.



John Arnold, Sun Microsystems spoke about set top boxes and digital television receiver issues and choices for Australia



Stephen Edwards from Rogers Broadcasting Limited, Canada spoke about issues and options for digital radio.



Lesley Osborne, ABA Manager Standards and Tony Pollitt, The Premium Movie Partnership in the session on issues and challenges for pay TV



(L) ABA member Ian Robertson moderated the session on content issues for Australian audiences.



(L) Fred Gengaroli, ABA Director Engineering spoke in the session on issues and options for digital radio.



Alastair Gellatly one of the ABA's senior engineers, provided a snapshot of the post-analog spectrum environment for television in the session on turning off analog television.

At the ABA conference



Ron Nicholls from Gilbert and Tobin spoke on digital terrestrial television challenges for Australia.



Paul Mason from the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia spoke about Australian music on community radio.



Kim Anderson, Nine network was on the panel that discussed digital television receiver issues and choices for Australia



Des Clark, Director Office of Film and Literature Classification spoke on the classification challenges presented by media convergence.