

GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

Meeting of 16-17 April 1982

IN THE LAST *InCite* (v3 no8) the TIP OFF column outlined very briefly some of the items discussed at the recent meeting of General Council. This report will cover the business of the meeting in more detail. However as is always the case with a summary much of the content of a fairly onerous meeting is likely to be lost. If you would like further information on any item please contact your General Councillor or the LAA office.

AUSINET

Council spent considerable time discussing the decision by ACI Computer Services to ask suppliers to defray some of the costs of file retention for a number of data bases.

Concern was expressed about the effect of this decision on the availability of information to the Australian citizen.

It was resolved that the LAA express its regret to the Minister for Home Affairs at developments relating to AUSINET data bases, with copies of the letter to go to the National Library and ACI.

Standards for libraries

The subject of standards for libraries is one which has been discussed many times, however mostly due to the tedious task involved the impetus does not enjoy a very long life.

With problems such as declining budgets and possible declining services, the whole area of standards comes to the fore.

The Executive Director is to prepare a paper for the next meeting of the Executive Committee, with the item to be fully discussed at the August meeting of General Council.

ACTU campaign

The Executive Committee was criticised by some members of Council for not taking a more active stance in relation to the ACTU campaign for more public servants, and cuts in public funding. Some members of the LAA who had informed the Executive of the cam-

paign felt that the Association should 'tag along'.

The subject was discussed by the Executive, where it was decided that the campaign should be monitored. It was felt that it was not desirable to support a campaign with political overtones with no guidance from the membership, and that sectors of our membership other than public librarians were also suffering severe funding problems.

The LAA has already taken separate action relating to cuts as a result of the Review of Commonwealth Functions. Council felt that where possible the LAA should capitalise on campaigns which would help promote the objectives of the Association.

Copyright

Mr Allan Horton has once again represented the LAA in meetings with the Attorney-General's Department to discuss the copyright legislation. A full report of issues discussed appeared in *InCite* no6.

Following a recommendation from Mr Horton, the Executive Committee has asked Mr Rob Brian to convene a sub-committee to establish a library view on systematic copying. This sub-committee will report to the next meeting of General Council.

Concern has been expressed at the possibility of different rules being made for different types of libraries. Council resolved that 'the LAA strive for uniformity in the application of copyright legislation wherever possible'.

Manpower study

Mr Barrie Mitcheson tabled an unedited version of the final report. The full report is to be published by the Association and should be available before LAA22.

Survey of tasks in school libraries

Mr John Ward tabled a draft statement of tasks to be performed by library technicians and librarians in school libraries. The draft will be available for discussion for a period of twelve months before it becomes a policy statement. Distribution for comment will take place through *InCite*.

Uniform censorship laws

Information relating to the plan by the Commonwealth and State Attorneys-General appeared in *InCite* no3. Council discussed the subject and resolved that the LAA express itself in favour of uniform censorship laws.

Some members were not in favour of this resolution. Each Branch is being asked to familiarise itself with present state legislation, so that when the model legislation appears informed comment can be made.

Futures Committee

The work of the Futures Committee and whether it should remain in existence, was a subject of considerable discussion. A full report of a recent meeting of the Committee will appear in the next issue of *InCite*.

Council resolved that the value of the Futures Committee be reviewed at the last meeting of General Council in 1982, and that it be funded for one meeting not held in conjunction with the Biennial Conference.

Australian Committee on Cataloguing

Council reappointed Mr Warwick Cathro to be one of the LAA's representatives on this committee until the end of 1982.

Fellowships

Mr James Dwyer, Past President, has had the distinction of Fellow of the LAA conferred upon him by the General Council. Congratulations!

Information Technology Week

The Executive Director is sending to all Branches a list of contacts for state committees of ITN, so that the LAA might be involved in the state programs. The Futures Committee is preparing an item for inclusion in the 6-8 page supplement which will appear in the national press.

Funding of visits by Executive Director, Industrial Officer and Continuing Education Officer

Concern has been caused from time to time when divisions invite the Executive Director, Industrial Officer or Continuing Education Officer to be a guest speaker at a meeting and offer to pay all expenses. There has been no definite policy relating to this, but generally the LAA office pays.

Council resolved that:

the Head Office account for the purposes of public relations/recruitment may fund one visit by each of the Executive Director, Industrial Officer and Continuing Education Officer to each state and territory of the Commonwealth each year. Notification of visits funded by Head Office shall be given the state or territory branch concerned 30 days prior to the visit. Subsequent visits to states or territories by the Executive Director, Industrial Officer or Continuing Education Officer shall be at the expense of the division issuing the invitation. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, the General Treasurer may approve further visits to a state or territory . . . on a needs basis.

Board of Education

A full report of the recent Board meeting will appear in *InCite*.

IFLA Conference 1988

An interim committee has been established to further investigate the viability of the LAA hosting the 1988 IFLA Conference.

Advertising in ALJ/*InCite*

Concern has been expressed by some members of the LAA at the number of organisations that use the Happenings column for advertising. Council discussed this and resolved that 'all notices of activities appearing in Happenings and relating to LAA divisions be free of charge. Charges for other notices be subject to the discretion of the Executive Director'. A list of charges will be drawn up and the organisations concerned informed of this decision.

Office location

Even though General Council resolved in March 1981 that the Association's headquarters remain in Sydney, the subject is never far from the minds of some members. A motion was put at the Council meeting that General Council consider moving the headquarters of the Association to Canberra. This was defeated by a significant margin.

The next meeting of Council will commence at approximately 1.30 pm in Adelaide on Friday, 20 August to continue on Saturday, 21 August. Any persons in Adelaide are welcome to attend as observers. *Susan Acutt*
Executive Director

THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW SOUTH WALES

SENIOR LIBRARIAN GRADE 1

(Ref 165)

The person appointed will be responsible for a section of the Cataloguing Department and for assisting in the management of the Department. AACR2, DC19 and Moyes' (Law) classifications are used. The University Library is a member of the Australian Bibliographic Network.

Degree and diploma in librarianship or their equivalent are essential. Substantial experience in cataloguing and demonstrated management ability are desirable.

Further information from: Ms K. Tal-macs (02) 662 2046.

Salary range: \$20,313-\$20,890. Commencing salary according to experience.

Application forms from the General Staff Office, (02) 663 0351, PO Box 1, Kensington, NSW 2033.

Applications close: 31 May 1982.