ACICS expands information services

ACI COMPUTER Services has recently expanded its services in information retrieval and library management. ACICS is already well known for its AUSINET service, offering access to some 30 Australian databases. In addition to AUSINET and its private database service, QUE, ACICS will now offer a major new product in the library management field — DOBIS/LIBIS.

DOBIS (Dortmund Bibliographic System) is an IBM-supplied online software package designed to assist library managers to improve the productivity of their current operations. DOBIS contains separate program modules for core library functions, including searching, public access, acquisitions, circulation, cataloguing and periodicals control. DOBIS will run on ACICS IBM 3081 and will be accessible through the ACICS telecommunications network. ACICS's DOBIS business is already off to a flying start with a contract to supply cataloguing information from a central file to Australia's 10,000 school libraries.

With the expansion of ACICS Information Management Group, Diana Killen has been appointed as Product Manager, Library Systems. Diana's career includes experience in computer based systems, gained at the

Diana Killen

National Library, and a posting as the National Library's European liaison officer in London. More recently she has been Manager of Infoquest, Myer's Melbourne based information brokerage company. Diana is well known within the library profession and has been an active member of the LAA and other professional groups for more than 10 years.

THESE PEOPLE BELONG TO YOU!

Pictured above are Anne Hazell (left) and Eve Ahearn, General Councillors-at-large and elected by the membership of the LAA. Anne and Eve are concerned that members are not taking full advantage of their representatives on General Council and would like to encourage any member who wishes to raise an issue at General Council or discuss an issue, to contact them.

At the March meeting of General Council the value of having General Councillors-at-large was questioned and it was felt that the membership was not fully aware of the role of General Councillors-at-large and the use that can be made of them. A statement on the role of General Council and General Councillors-at-large was adopted at the March meeting and is printed below for your information.

Don't forget to catch Anne or Eve. Their contact details are: *Anne Hazell*, 62 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood SA 5051 (08) 227 3209; *Eve Ahearn*, 5B/294 Liverpool Road, Enfield NSW 2136 (02) 747 2642.

The role of General Councillors-at-large

The role of General Councillors-at-large is not well understood and their activities appear to relate to matters raised by office bearers and others within the Association who are reasonably well informed and may be seeking an al-

ternative to the Executive Committee. Their role could be described as follows:
* To monitor developments within the Association and may raise any problems requiring redress at meetings of council.
* To initiate policy proposals relevant to the objects of the Association.
* To reflect Association development and experience in Council debates.
* To accept responsibility for the co-ordination of activities in one area of national importance to the Association.
* To act as a vehicle when appropriate for input to General Council on matters relating to the Sections and Special Interest Groups of the Association.
* To monitor, on behalf of members, the administration of the Association's affairs as managed by the Executive Committee and staff to ensure that LAA policies are put into effect and that the affairs of the Association are managed efficiently and effectively.

Inserts can be sent out with all mailings of InCite and the Australian Library Journal. As this is a popular service it is advisable to book early. Ring Jenny Menzies on (02) 692 9233.

National Library Fellowships

APPLICATIONS are invited for National Library Fellowships for 1985.

In 1983 the Council of the National Library of Australia instituted a scheme of National Library Fellowships for established scholars and librarians to work for periods of between three and six months on the materials in the Library's collections with a view to the publication of original research based on them or a description or listing of them, or of a study of the methods and techniques used in acquiring, listing, cataloguing, arranging or using them. The first three fellowships were awarded in 1984.

The National Library has outstanding collections of primary materials relating to Australia and the Australian people. These include printed materials, manuscripts, pictures, maps and music. Areas of especial strength include artists of Captain Cook's voyages, convict artists, artists of the gold fields, Australian flora and fauna, early maps and atlases recording European discoveries in the southern hemisphere, early maps and charts of Australia. There are strong collections of literary, political, legal and theatrical manuscripts.

Non Australian fields of interest where the Library's collections have strengths include Indonesian publications, eighteenth century English literature, the French Revolution, eighteenth century French popular drama, British social, political and economic history, English philology, and United States history and politics. The collections of Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Thai publications are the largest in the country.

The Council intends to award three Fellowships to be taken up during 1985. Fellows will be expected to work at the National Library during their Fellowship. The Fellowship will cover the Fellow's travel costs to Canberra and include a grant-in-aid towards living expenses in Canberra. Fellowships will not normally be awarded to candidates who are working towards a higher degree.

Prospective applicants should write to the:
     Director-General
     National Library of Australia
     Canberra ACT 2600
for application forms and further particulars before submitting applications, which close on 31 August 1984.