

FEEDBACK

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE LIBRARIES SECTION NSW GROUP

The UCLS meeting on 8 August proved extremely popular with over 50 attending to hear Professor Michael Buckland give a talk entitled 'Co-ordinated Planning of Academic Libraries: experience at the University of California'. We were privileged to hear this case study which is so relevant to the situation Australian university and college libraries are facing following the publication of the 'White Paper' and the amalgamation of institutions it will demand. Professor Buckland, presently visiting the University of NSW is Professor of Library and Information Studies at the University of California but was appointed library planner in 1983, which entailed taking over the co-ordinated, cost-effective plan for that large multi-campus university which had been devised by Stephen Salmon in the 1970s.

The experience at California proved to be on a different scale from that which could be expected in Australian universities. The University of California has nine research-oriented campuses, 100 libraries, 130,000 students and an annual budget of \$130 million. In the early 1970s, the state of California declared a vote of no confidence and demanded one plan for one university. Stephen Salmon was appointed library planner in 1976 and his comprehensive, coherent and cost-effective plan, which was approved by administrators in all quarters, was implemented and has dominated since. His slogan 'one university, one library' was symbolised by the introduction of the public access online catalogue which trans-

formed the meaning of available items and made possible other co-operative measures.

The allocation of book funds and volumes was systematically calculated by graduate programs and student numbers with inflation considered. However, 16 percent increase per annum required 12 miles of extra shelving each year which could not be accommodated in the present buildings, and for which no allowance had been made.

The solution proved to be the syphoning off of lesser used materials away from easy public access into co-operative storage and regional deposit facilities, one each in the north and south. Within each region items can be provided within two working days through a network of buses and shuttles allowing for a much more effective and faster interlibrary loan service than had previously existed.

Although the original 10-year plan expired last year, the obvious success of this coherent and far-reaching plan has meant its ultimate continuation.

Julie Sweeten
Committee member

TASMANIAN BRANCH

Lobbying campaign

The Branch is launching a lobbying campaign to reverse the downward trend in funding for public library services. In 1987/88, the State Library budget represented 0.99 percent of the total State budget, compared to 1.13 percent in 1986/87. The State Library Service is therefore receiving a decreasing percentage of the reduced State budget.

Because of budget restrictions in recent years, the State Library Service has been unable to develop the new services being offered in the other states. Indeed, it has had difficulty maintaining traditional services. For example it has:

- Been forced to close the film library.
- Been unable to establish a video library.
- Had to reduce hours of opening outside office hours. The State Library now opens for two hours on the weekend, compared with 16 in Sydney and Melbourne, 10.5 in Brisbane and 11.5 in Adelaide.
- Had to offer a bookstock for lending and reference purposes which is increasingly out of date. The library's ability to buy books has been cut by 40 percent between 1983/84 and 1986, and another 40 percent between 1986

and 1987/88. • Had to allow the standard of children's services to steadily decline since the early seventies when it was one of the best in the country. This is a critical area of service — the recent ABS survey of the State Library Service indicated that 67.3 percent of persons aged 12 to 14 visit the library, the highest percentage in any age group.

- A lack of capital funding for essential computer technology.

We are focusing on two areas in our campaign: improvement of the bookstock for lending and reference purposes, and an increase in the hours of opening. To this end we are lobbying politicians to support the provision of public libraries as an essential community service and make a public commitment to:

- Reverse the downward trend in funding by committing themselves to fight for the restoration of 1986 funding levels (not a peak funding level). This would mean the allocation of an extra \$550,000 to the works and services allocation.
- Increase funding to allow an extension of weekend and after 5.00 pm opening hours. We are asking for a commitment to providing an extra \$500,000 which would allow an extra six hours opening on Saturdays (eight in total) and four hours on Sundays. This would bring Tasmania closer to the situation in mainland states.

We have spoken to the Minister responsible for education and libraries, Peter Rae; the Shadow Minister, Greg Peart; and Bob Brown. Their responses are summarised below:

The Minister gave his support for the provision of free public libraries as an essential community service; said that hours of opening were being investigated; and stated that the selection of reference material was being given a priority with available funds. He said we must do the best we can with reduced funding; assured us that the percentage of the State budget allocated to libraries would not be reduced.

The Shadow Minister expressed the Labor Party's support for free public libraries as an essential community service; expressed the Party's concern at the decrease in the bookstock. The Labor Party would look to make significant increases in the works and services allocation; expressed concern at the decrease in opening hours and indicated that the Party would look at increasing access to library services.

Bob Brown gave us his support for our requests.

CATALOGUERS SECTION VIC GROUP

The Cataloguers Section, (Vic Group) and the Department of Information Services, RMIT, jointly conducted a continuing education course entitled 'Automated cataloguing: an introductory overview' from 4 May - 22 June. The course was devised and co-ordinated by Cheryl Schauder, lecturer, Department of Information Services and utilised the expertise of members of the Cataloguing Committee.

The course consisted of 8 two-hour sessions aimed at providing participants with an overview of automated cataloguing systems, standards and procedures used in libraries today. Its objectives were to enhance students' understanding of the terminology used in automated cataloguing, automated cataloguing standards such as AACR2 and AUSMARC, and cataloguing systems available such as turnkey, micro-computer and networking options, including ABN.

Twenty-one participants from a wide variety of libraries from urban and country Victo-

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ria attended. Venues varied in order to provide participants access to a wide range of systems. There was considerable interest in the course from librarians returning to the workforce or who were planning to introduce automated systems in their libraries. The course was extremely successful and demonstrated a need for continuing education courses of this kind in the future.

**SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION
NSW GROUP**

'Copyright and the School Library' was the theme of a half-day seminar held at the State Library on Saturday, 6 August, with over 100 participants.

Rob Brian, law librarian, University of NSW, discussed the background to copyright and stated how teacher-librarians are often the ham between the sandwich in trying to please users and owners of copyright. The problem here has been that technology has shot ahead of copyright laws. Licensing agreements between schools and the Copyright Agency Limited (CAL), and schools and the Australian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society (AMCOS) were explained.

The next speaker, John Wright, technologist, State Library of NSW, took us right into the future with a very interesting and informative brief on new technology and copyright - a Pandora's box for copyright legislation. Many issues were raised by John, the answers to which must soon be addressed.

Susan Bridge, executive officer of the Copyright Council, gave further explanation of the agreements between schools and CAL and schools and AMCOS. The problems of audio-visual taping brought much discussion. Susan indicated that an agreement for such taping, similar to those for print materials and music, is likely. The seminar concluded with tours of the State Library.

Denise Hoeflake

About the teacher-librarian

A survey to ascertain the image of teacher-librarians in the profession was undertaken in May by the School Libraries Section (NSW Group). Responses were received from 28 pub-

lic librarians and two special librarians. Respondents had been qualified librarians from time spans varying from one to 30 years, the mean being 12 years.

As 60 percent of the respondents had not read articles relating to teacher-librarianship in *InCite* or the *Australian Library Journal*, it appears that personal experience, observation and contact at meetings were the most prominent methods whereby public librarians formed impressions about teacher-librarians. Most had visited school libraries, and they related their impression of non-government and government primary and secondary school libraries across NSW. Several had worked with teacher-librarians, eg bulk loans, Book Week promotion. It was frequently stated that there should be closer contact between public and teacher-librarians, and that many teacher-librarians have little knowledge of public library service.

Respondents reported a wide variety of school libraries from inadequately resourced to well-equipped, from libraries with overworked and stressed teacher-librarians to well-staffed school libraries. Several public librarians had formerly worked in school libraries. It was perceived that the school administrators do not always support and understand the role of the teacher-librarian.

The general perception of the role of the teacher-librarians was to support the school curriculum by providing resources to students and teachers, and to instruct students in research and information retrieval skills. Some saw the role as co-operating with teachers in setting project work for students, and also fostering a love of literature. Several suggested that teacher-librarians should engage in networking, and that they should present a positive image and maintain a higher profile in the school. However, it was noted that there is still a problem of truly integrating the school library into the curriculum.

While 60 percent of respondents expressed their interest in the NSW School Libraries Section's professional development program, they saw common links between public and teacher-librarians as:

- both support the school curriculum by providing resources;
- both are concerned with service to their community;
- their clientele is the same;
- both are building library skills;
- both have limitations of time and money;
- both are hardworking.

Respondents saw differences between public and teacher-librarians as being that teacher-librarians:

- have a more teaching-based role;
- are more active in building library skills;
- are more curriculum oriented;
- have a captive audience;
- are governed by an institutional role;
- in many cases are untrained or inadequately trained;
- have low self-esteem and need a more positive image;
- have their status undermined by the heavy use of casuals;
- often seem to be insular;
- are overworked.

The Section wishes to express its appreciation to the librarians who responded to the survey and so provided valuable feedback about the image of teacher-librarians.

*Sheila Hawkins
Alison Glasscock*

**UCLS/ACQUISITIONS
ACT GROUPS**

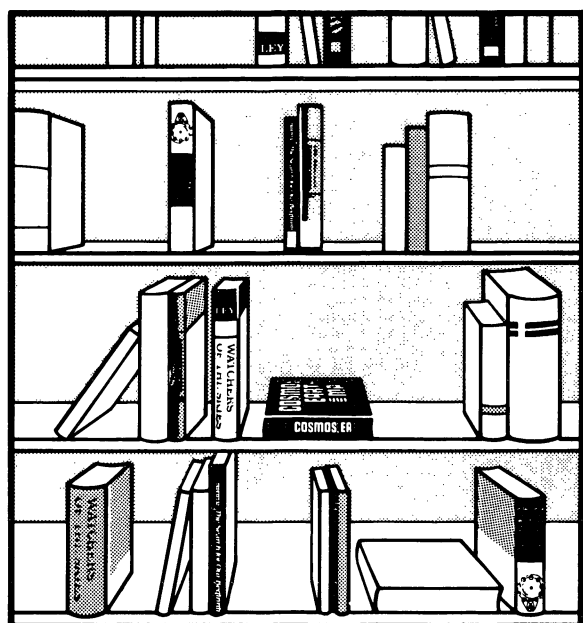
Taxation incentives for Arts

Ten years in existence, the Taxation Incentives for the Arts Scheme has contributed to the preservation of Australia's cultural resources by encouraging donations to public institutions. It has survived rumours that it would be discontinued and is being used by ever more donors and institutions.

Prompted by professional interest, the ACT Groups of the Acquisitions and University and College Libraries Sections jointly provided a forum for the views of all stakeholders. Representatives from the Committee on Taxation Incentives for the Arts, the Scheme's Secretariat, the Taxation Office, recipient institutions and valuers were invited to contribute their views at a one-day seminar on 1 July 1988. The papers were presented in three sessions, each followed by a brief discussion, and the day concluded with a general discussion. Many issues were identified and explored: demonstrating both the success of the Scheme and its potential for development.

F. J. Kendall, Chairman of the Committee, described the background of the Scheme and identified some of the Committee's major concerns. He was followed by Peter Clayton, Canberra CAE, who identified participant goal con-

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**Sydney Adventist High School, NSW.
Alwyn Campbell, Teacher/Librarian.**

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the continuing education activities. Attendances overall indicate the Regional and Sectional Groups are doing very well in terms of meeting members' needs. Some excellent co-operative functions have been held, eg a joint SLAQ-UCLS seminar called 'Making the Transition: user education in secondary and higher education libraries'.

What lies ahead for the Queensland Branch? In the short term, we have the careers market in Brisbane, Rockhampton and Townsville. Our program of talks to students of librarianship will continue, culminating in a transition-to-work seminar at the end of the year for those students about to enter the workforce. There will be more continuing education activities, eg a report-writing seminar in Brisbane, and a conservation and preservation seminar in Townsville. Further ahead, we hope to remain busy with work on a state information policy and education for librarianship, not to mention Information for the Nation.

Libraries are great in the Sunshine state!

Phil Roberts
President, LAA Queensland Branch

The LAA's *Salary Scales* booklets are now available. Free to LAA members and \$4 to non-members.

NOW IN STOCK

Establishing Partnership Teacher-Librarians and Teachers Working Together. Proceedings of the seminar, A Co-operative Venture: teachers and teacher-librarians (ISBN 086804 047 9).

Edited by Hazel Vickers, School Libraries Section (NSW Group). Including Educational Rationales for Resource-based Learning by Noelene Hall; *Establishing Partnership* by Merran Dawson; *The Transition to Co-operative Program Planning and Teaching* — case studies by Margaret Roche, Niki Kallenberger and Jenny Chapman; and *Co-operative Program Planning and Teaching Strategies for Meeting Challenges* by Jennifer Peasley. Available from LAA Head Office, 376 Jones Street, Ultimo 2007. Price \$10 LAA members; \$15 others (\$1.50 postage).

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flict in relation to the Scheme, concluding that all participants had an interest in the continuation of the Scheme but that there were ways in which it could be improved. Moira Newman, Griffith University and library representative on the Committee, considered the achievements of the Scheme particularly in relation to libraries.

The wider national interest was canvassed by Justice Else-Mitchell, President of the ACT Library Service. Against that background, the specific value of the National Library was discussed by John Thompson who also identified some of the difficulties currently experienced, particularly in regard to valuations. This theme was also taken up by Laurie Fitzhardinge, a registered valuer, who was concerned at the variety of ways in which materials could be valued.

The taxpayers' interests were forcibly expressed by John Lamerton, Taxation Office, who emphasised that the Scheme was intended to provide tax relief in return for a genuine donation to a public institution. Non-library aspects were brought out by John McPhee, Australian National Gallery, who considered the issue of whether to accept or refuse donations. Lynn Hard, Australian Defence Force Academy, noted that the purpose of the Scheme was being lost in the mechanics: the Scheme was intended to be an incentive to support the arts, not simply a means of obtaining taxation relief.

Since the Scheme is of national significance and the seminar attracted considerable interest, the papers will be published in the near future.

Alex Byrne
President

LOCAL STUDIES SECTION NSW GROUP

Call for nominations

The Local Studies Section (NSW Group) is calling for nominations for its 1989 Committee. The following positions are to be filled: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and four committee members.

Nominations should be sent to Judy Washington, Lane Cove Public Library, 139A Longueville Road, Lane Cove NSW 2066; phone (02) 427 5194. The deadline is 3.00 pm, Friday, 28 October, when a general meeting will be held to consider the nominations.

FAR NORTH COAST (NSW) REGIONAL GROUP

Confirmation of Executive

The 1988 Executive of the Far North Coast (NSW) Regional Group are as follows: President, Des Stewart, North Coast Agricultural Research Institute; Secretary, Chris Taylor, Regional Library, Health Education Services; Treasurer, Dallas Curry, Divisional Librarian TAFE, Lismore; Elder, Ed Parr. Contact numbers for these people are in *Vital Link*.

NSW BRANCH

Pre-Summit discussion

The State Library of NSW and the NSW Branch Council are together hosting a final pre-Australian Libraries Summit discussion on 13 and 15 October (see 'Happenings' for details) to review the Summit agenda papers distributed to many NSW libraries. All NSW attendees at the Summit must have been invited to attend. So that they can take with them any further input from NSW members, you are welcome to attend the sessions which will be carried out in a similar manner to the Summit discussions earlier in the year. A summary of the Summit submissions available at each State Library can be obtained by contacting John Wright, on (02) 230 1644.

The NSW Branch social committee has arranged a theatre party to see *Blood Brothers*, a musical about a pair of twin boys on 19 October (see *Happenings*). All members are invited to attend for a chance to meet fellow librarians in a rather different setting and enjoy a social evening together.

Rosemary McLaughlan
Vice-President

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE LIBRARIES SECTION NSW GROUP

Tertiary library statistics

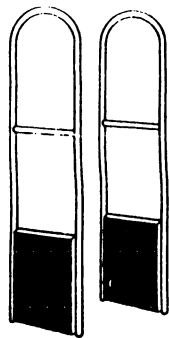
The University and College Libraries Section is continuing its 1988 seminar program with a one-day seminar on 'tertiary library statistics' in November. The last seminar on 'Co-operative Borrowing' was very well attended and provided an opportunity for participants to examine their approaches to resource sharing.

Another area of resource sharing is the publication of statistics. This important work is carried out by staff at Curtin University Library and the statistics are published annually in *Australian Academic and Research Libraries (AARL)*.

The statistics seminar will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss the current collection and publication process and to contribute to the ongoing review of the system. The seminar is timely given the government's policy statement on higher education and its emphasis on organisational effectiveness, resource allocation, institutional profiles and performance indicators.

Kevin Stapleton
President

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