Library Technician of the Year Award, 1989

The inaugural Library Technician of the Year Award was conferred on Jean Bailey at the recent 5th National Library Technicians Conference.

The Award, sponsored by Auslib Press, aims to promote the role and profile of library technicians in library and information services and the wider community, and to encourage library technicians to join and support ALIA. It is open to any member of the Association's Library Technicians' Section who holds a recognised technician qualification. Nominations may be made by members or divisions of the Association or employers. They close on 1 June each year.

Jean Bailey — significant contribution , in a remarkably short period of time.

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Vikki Hopwood, President of ALIA National Library Technicians' Section, announced the recipient and the citation was read by ALIA Past-President Alan Bundy. It is reproduced here in full.

Jean Bailey, LibTechCert
Library Technician of the Year

Jean Bailey has, in a remarkably short period of time, made a significant contribution to the promotion of the role and image of library technicians and to the Library Technicians Section of the Australian Library and Information Association.

After a long and successful career in the nursing profession in the United Kingdom and Australia, Jean Bailey embarked upon full-time library technician studies in 1985, completed her qualifications, and entered the University of Sydney Library as a General Library Assistant in 1986. She gained both technical and reader services experience in two initial positions, and was in 1987 appointed to the newly established position of Collection Maintenance Officer in the Lending Services Department. As head of the Shelving Section, Jean Bailey inherited a staff of eighteen full-time and five part-time General Library Assistants, much staff dissatisfaction and absenteeism, and a backlog of approximately 33 000 volumes awaiting reshelving.

A difficult and onerous project, the re-organisation and development of Fisher Shelving Services according to a broad-based participatory management plan was indeed a challenge — a challenge that was multi-faceted, quantitative and qualitative, mechanical and human.

Jean Bailey met her tasks with outstanding work skill, acumen, integrity, creativity and indomitable spirit. After 2 years hard work and dedication, she left, in fully functional order, a reorganised and enlarged section of thirty-three staff, to join the Technical

3 Jean Bailey, LibTechCert, Library Technician of the Year

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Services Division.

The shelving Review Planning document and her final submission to senior management recommending future plans and actions for the efficient operation of the section have ensured continuing impact of her perceptions and recommendations.

Jean Bailey has had substancial practical involvement in promoting and encouraging professional development for library technicians, both within her institution and outside. She supported the extension/conversion of Library Assistant positions to Library Technician grades and encouraged staff to attend development activities. On a wider scale, she has participated on selection panels at the State Library of New South Wales and the New South Wales Department of TAFE Libraries.

As a tireless member of the ALIA Library Technicians' Section, NSW Group, Jean Bailey has been editor of LibTec (1986—1988), Vice-President (1988) and is currently President as well as convener of the 'Aims & Objectives' and 'Summit Review' subcommittees. In 1988 she was guest speaker on the 'Role of the Library Technician' at the School of Library and Information Studies, Kuring-gai CAE, and a speaker at the IFLA/LAA Conference.

Jean Bailey has had considerable success in ensuring a high profile for library technicians, and her contribution as a model for the actual and potential role of the library technician, both within a complex library and information environment, that specific workforce and in the wider community, highlight a remarkably effective style.

As such Jean Bailey is a worthy recipient of the Australian Library and Information Association's Library Technician of the Year Award for 1989.

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On the interests of bringing all relevant positions to the attention of ALIA members, *InCite* accepts all employment advertisments, However, the content of these advertisments is not necessarily endorsed. Please note that the ALIA contacts all employers who advertise librarian or librarian technician positions, without specifying that library qualifications are essential, to advise of the advantages of employing a qualified librarian or library technician.

BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF AUSTRALIAN LIBRARIANS
4th ed.

Amendments or filled in questionnaires for new entries are accepted until 1/11/89. Please request questionnaires from the editor. The price of the new edition will be $29.95 plus $3 postage. Pre-publication orders for personal copies will get a 30% discount and copies for institutions a 10% discount if ordered by 15/11/89, direct from the distributor, Academia Press. Direct orders will also avoid booksellers' mark-up.

All correspondence including orders to

Dr G. Kosa, editor,
PO Box 147, FOREST HILL,
VIC 3131.

RMIT

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Department of Information Services

LECTURER IN INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
(3 year contract)

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A position description may be obtained from Personnel Services Group: (03) 660 2337 (Reference No. 142–08–AT). Further information may be obtained from Ms Marianne Broadbent, Head of Department, on (03) 660 2562. **Applications close 21 October, 1989.**

***Incite* Deadline**

The copy deadline for *Incite* 18 is 23 October for the cover date of 13 November

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