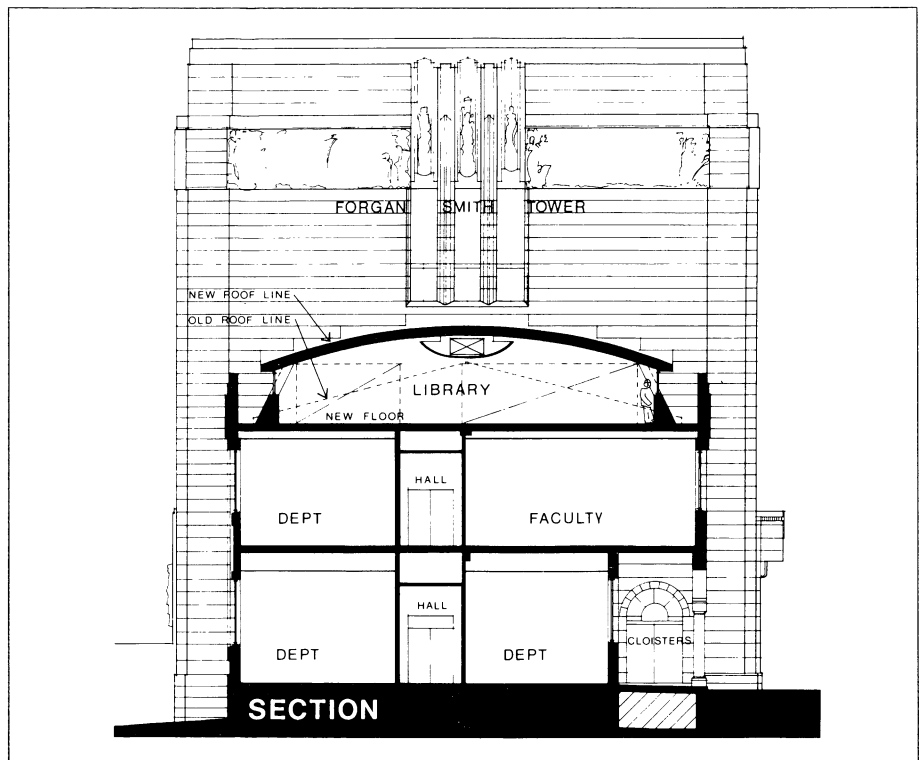


New look for Queensland University's Law Library

THE Forgan Smith Building, the imposing sandstone edifice that is Queensland University's face to the world, is to get a \$3.25 million upgrade, with the Law Library within the T.C. Beirne School of Law, the focus of the development.

The Commonwealth Government will provide \$1.5 million in a dollar-for-dollar subsidy. The balance of the money required will be raised by a brief but intensive public appeal. The patron of the appeal, former chief justice and Queensland Law School graduate, Sir Harry Gibbs, said: "This unique opportunity will make possible, after two decades of chronic space shortage, the provision of adequate accommodation for the Law School, and, in particular, suitable accommodation for the law library, the single most vital resource for teaching and research in the law."

The space, including the Walter Harrison Law Library, will be almost doubled. Fragmented seminar and office space will be consolidated, provisions made for computer-aided learning and computerised data retrieval, and the panelled Moot Court—removed from the



An architect's conception of the renovated Queensland Law School.

old Supreme Court—will be upgraded. The expansion will be achieved by raising the roof of the west wing and constructing an additional third level which will be screened by the existing parapet. The alterations will be achieved with little change to the existing roof line.

The appeal committee chairman, Mr Ken MacDonald, a Queensland Law School graduate, is preparing to contact his fellow graduates for donations and sees the appeal as an opportunity for

lawyers to repay the institution that gave them their start in life.

The Dean of Law, Professor Geoffrey de Q. Walker, said that with its expanded library providing capacity for 150,000 volumes, compared with the present 69,000, the collection would become the largest in Australia. He added that the upgraded facilities would help attract high-quality graduate and undergraduate students, academic staff and visiting professors and scholars.

ACLIS task force targets remote users

THE ACLIS task force on Library Services to Remote Users has now been established with a brief for a national plan to improve access to information for remote users. The plan is to include recommendations for action at four levels:

- Federal: including lobbying for Federal funds for special projects for remote users
- State: including identification of areas where State services might be improved
- Interstate: necessary because many off-campus students are in a different State from the host institution
- Professional: identify activities where professional bodies such as ALIA might undertake to improve access for remote users, and to support adequate staffing at professional and para-professional levels.

In line with the new ACLIS policy of placing working parties in regions, the task force has been established in

Queensland with Judith Edwards as convener. Members of the task force are from Queensland and it is hoped that teleconferencing will be used to maximise input from other States.

The task force has begun to collect information on the special problems of geographically remote users and want to receive as much feedback as possible from libraries and library users in remote areas. Ideas and suggestions will be welcomed by Judith Edwards, College Librarian, The Capricornia Institute, Rockhampton, Queensland 4702. Ph. (079) 360 777, fax (079) 361 361.

Information For The Nation ...US style

THE US Special Libraries Association, at its 101st Congress, has urged the administration of President Bush to 'review federal information policy alternatives with an ultimate goal of creating and implementing a national information policy.'

The Bush Administration has specifically requested to review 'Information For The Nation: Federal Information Dissemination in an Electronic Age'—a report issued by the US Office of Information Technology.

The Executive Director of the Special Libraries Association, David R. Bender, commented, 'A co-ordinated information policy as we approach the year 2000 becomes a highly critical issue if the US is to maintain and retain its position in the global marketplace. This co-ordinated approach can assure that lasting improvements to federal information services and systems will be made.'

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