Conclusions

There was generally strong support for PD, but members agreed to disagree on the subject areas. The most popular topic polled only 51 responses. The number of people in agreement on the next most popular is only 29. The range of suggestions made is very wide indeed, with only a few supporters at best for each. How can a national program hope to satisfy such a diffuse pattern of demand?

The Board of Education's initiatives in the area of package development are endorsed but other approaches are also needed. A program which covers any of the most popular topics would be well received.

Perhaps more training streams are needed at conferences, so that ALIA members can benefit from the inspirational and social aspects of such occasions, while at the same time acquiring basic skills in online searching, or management or whatever.

Greater use of modern technology would overcome some problems; but this is costly. The respondents to this survey are committed to professional development. It is not clear whether the whole membership supports this area and whether it is seen as an area worthy of substantial subsidisation as some suggest. Another survey, using a randomised sample of the membership would help clarify this.

The next steps

All Divisions are invited to comment and work with the Training and Development Committee in producing a national program. A teleconference will be held with PD Officers and with regional groups to discuss the problems and solutions. Discussions will also be held with the library and information schools at the June ELISS conference. The T & D Committee should then be in a good position to form its strategy.

Members who would like to take part in this continuing dialogue are invited to contact the T & D Officer, Carol Kenchington at the ALIA National Office.

1990 Library Technician of the Year
Faye Gwendoline Pattinson
Cert.App.Soc.Sc. ALIATec

From left: Bev Kirby, Vice-President ALIA; Faye Pattinson, 1990 Library Technician of the Year; Jean Bailey, 1990 President, NSW Branch, Library Technicians Section

The 1990 Library Technician of the Year award was presented to Faye Pattinson at a joint function for the Victorian Branch AGM and the Victorian UCRLS AGM in the Queens Hall at the State Library of Victoria. The citation was read by Jean Bailey, representing the National Library Technicians Section and the citation and award were presented by the Vice President of ALIA, Bev Kirby.

Christine Crocker was the guest speaker after the award presentation. She spoke on challenges facing a new university librarian.

Faye Pattinson's citation is printed below.

(ALIA gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of AUSLIB Press for the 1990 award).

Faye Pattinson has, over a number of years, made a significant contribution to the advancement and recognition of library technicians within the Australian Library and Information Association and the wider community.

Faye completed the Certificate of Applied Social Science at Whitehorse Technical College in 1976 and began work at the Caulfield Institute of Technology. She later moved to her present position in the Cataloguing Department at the Holmesglen College of TAFE. As part of her work at Holmesglen, Faye's competence was acknowledged when she was requested to implement and put in place procedures for the maintenance of resource libraries for the St Kilda Community Health Centre and the Moorabbin based Southern Community Mental Health Service. She has also served as a member of the Victorian Colleges Staff Association Working Party on Library Salary Scales and on the Staff Development Committee at the Holmesglen College of TAFE.

In 1985 Faye undertook her first program in the international arena with the International Development Program of Australian Universities and Colleges when she was seconded to the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji to assist in the library as a

cataloguer. Greater challenge came with her next two assignments; to the Chiang Mai University and Maejo Agricultural Institute in Chiang Mai, Thailand and to the Universitas Sebelas Maret in Solo, Central Java, Indonesia. Both assignments involved implementing the Bibliofile software package in the respective libraries. The implementation procedure included teaching keyboard skills, basic cataloguing, MARC tags and the Bibliofile package to a number of staff, all of whom had varying levels of expertise and competency in English. Faye's contribution and enthusiasm were rewarded when by the end of her visits, the libraries involved produced their first computerised catalogue cards.

Faye Pattinson has served in many capacities within the Association and in all her positions she has ensured that the views of library technicians have been heard. She has been actively involved with the Victorian Branch from 1979 both as a Branch Councillor, Minutes Secretary and as the Library Technician Representative. From 1979-1983 Faye was President of the Library Technician Section, Victorian Group and has more recently served on the Executive Committee of the TAFE Section, National Group.

In 1987 Faye Pattinson was a guest speaker at the LAA 50th Celebration Conference in Canberra where she spoke on 'Major Achievements of the Library Technician.

Faye's continuous and enthusiastic involvement with the Association has ensured that library technicians are recognised as an integral part of the library and information industry. By example she has encouraged library technicians to explore new directions and areas of endeavour.

Faye Pattinson is a worthy recipient of the Australian Library and Information Association's Library Technician of the Year Award for 1990, awarded by General Council by a resolution passed at its meeting on 24 November 1990.