

Not much interest in research

But **Gabrielle Butler** says La Trobe University Library now has a policy statement

DURING THE first half of 1991 a survey of library staff attitudes and interest in research was undertaken by La Trobe University Library Research Committee. There were 18 responses received out of a total of 135 staff surveyed. The poor response makes it difficult to generalise about the findings, however it did indicate to the Committee that a statement on the Library's policy regarding research was necessary.

A working party was formed, and drafted a policy based on the QUT Library's Policy on Library

Research and Development. This document was reported at on the UCRLS Workshop on Research held in November 1991.

Included in the La Trobe policy are sections on the Library's research goals, how the Library supports research, types of research supported, funding, quality and ethical standards, and appendices detailing both the procedures followed by the Committee and those to be followed by the applicant. Copies are available from G Butler, Secretary, La Trobe University Library Research Committee, Bundoora VIC 3083. ■

News for NSW Specials

Jackie Patrick edits *Specialities*

THE NSW SPECIAL Libraries Section has launched *Specialities*, a free newsletter for NSW members of the Special Libraries Section. *Specialities* gives reports on Specials' activities, news of future events, profiles of members' libraries, articles, views and lots more. This newsletter is published quarterly and is now up to its third issue. By popular demand it will be available in 1993 to librarians and information workers who are not members of the NSW Special Libraries Section at an annual cost of \$30.00. Inquiries and subscriptions to *Specialities*, PO Box R689, Royal Exchange, NSW 2000. ■

Chopping around the world

DICK SMITH'S FORAYS into publishing are widely publicised, with *Australian Geographic*, the *Australian Encyclopaedia* and his own adventures. His latest book has just been issued, brilliantly maintaining the high production qualities we are used to in the journal. *Solo Around the World* is the story of Dick's flight in the helicopter 'Delta India Kilo' round the world by both poles. Over 50 000 words and 450 superb pictures make this giant format book (36.5 x 26.5 cm) much more than just for the coffee table. An added bonus is the offer of the companion book, Dick's *Our Fantastic Planet*, at less than half price. Available from *Australian Geographic* shops in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide, or by mail order from Box 321, Terrey Hills, NSW 2084 (tel: (02) 450 2300). ■

AIDAB invites new projects

Women in Development Fund—Small Grants Scheme

THE AUSTRALIAN International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB) is inviting proposals for funding through the Women in Development Fund—Small Grants Scheme (WIDF—SGS) in 1992/93. \$1.5 million are available, of which \$170 000 has already been committed.

Detailed guidelines on eligibility for WIDF—SGS funding may be obtained from the address below. Essentially, the projects

supported by the Fund should have potential for wider application, and/or support efforts to increase women's participation in the development process. Preference is given to projects undertaken by indigenous female researchers.

The deadline for applications is 31 December 1992. Inquiries to Mr Ray Riches on tel (06) 276 4951 or fax (06) 276 4798. ■

Marcel Dekker simplifies prices

IN THEIR EFFORT to support local distributors, Marcel Dekker Publishers have undertaken the bold initiative of doing away with the differential between the US domestic price and the export price for new publications. As of 1 October 1992, all of Dekker's titles will convert to one world price. This means that Australasian customers will benefit

from a price reduction on all new Dekker publications, which will also mark the third year in a row of no price increase.

Marcel Dekker publishes scientific and research books. Their agent in Australasia is DA Books & Journals, who will continue to offer Dekker titles at country of origin prices converted to Australian dollars. ■

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