

More on THAT Conference!

Peter Murdoch has news of its progress

Registrations are already being received for the 7th National Library Technicians Conference at the Terrace Inter-Continental in Adelaide, 22-24 September.

The *Provisional Program and Registration Brochure* was posted out in the week following Easter, and with additional requests for copies following the article in *inCite 3* we have already had a second print run.

Vicki Williamson, University Librarian at Curtin University of Technology, gives the keynote address, *Our Working Environment*, followed by Riina Sciacca's paper on *Management and staff environment issues relating to Library Technicians*.

The day will also include participation in a work environment workshop from a choice of eight work focus areas. During the afternoon visual-based applications of computer technologies will be demonstrated followed by a visit to another academic, special or public library similar to day 1 (see *inCite 3* for details).

The Conference Dinner, in Paxton's Conservatory at historic Ayers House, sets the scene for the presentation of the 1993 *Dunn and Wilson Scholarship*. The Library Technician of the Year for 1993 will also be announced.

Act now if you are thinking of attending in September—remember Early Bird registration closes on 30 June. If you require a registration brochure or would like further information contact the Conference Secretariat, Plevin & Associates Pty Ltd, tel (08) 379 8222, fax (08) 379 8177. ■



Members of the Conference Committee working on the final editing of the Registration Brochure. Left to right Peter Murdoch, Elizabeth Collins (Convener), Adele Green, Alison Potts and Margaret Wallace.

An AIMA special institute for library technicians

Jilleen Chambers describes a great T&D event in Queensland

What do a number of enthusiastic Queensland library technicians have in common? They were the first participants in the Australian Information Management Association (AIMA) Training Institute for Library Technicians.

AIMA has recognised a need for library technicians to participate in continuing education and have access to staff development programs and has introduced a training and development course for library technicians. This first course, held in Queensland, was in two parts with each two-day section designed to meet the training needs of library technicians at different levels of responsibility.

The presenter of the course was Christine Crocker, formerly Chief Librarian at the University of Tasmania.

Christine made the sessions very informative, practical and stimulating.

The initial two-day course was directed at all library technicians irrespective of their level of responsibility. The areas covered included personal development, time management, communicating with staff and clients, setting goals, and problem solving. Participants needed to complete the initial two day program or equivalent before undertaking the next section.

The second two-day program was designed for library technicians who were in, or who were likely to be in, supervisory positions. It covered such topics as organising work, setting goals and priorities for the work unit, organising and controlling staff, and assessing performance. The course was presented in a practical fashion using experiential learning and was not de-

signed to be academic. Participants were encouraged to relate topics covered back to the workplace and to develop a personal action plan to implement when they returned to their library.

All the participants enjoyed the course and gained hands-on skills that they were enthusiastic to put into practice in their work situation. A further benefit was the chance to meet other library technicians who previously may have been only a voice at the other end of the phone.

All the library technicians who attended the AIMA course are grateful to Christine for her enthusiasm and to AIMA for recognising the library technicians' need for training. And a special thank you to AIMA for holding their first library technicians' course in Queensland! ■