

# Packed meeting in November

## Summary of the November General Council meeting

The election of new members on the Board of Education was declared, members for the term 1997–2000 are Colette McCool and Jenny McCarthy. The General Council appointment to the board is Julie Dow. The General Council appointee representing General Council for 1997 is John Shipp. 1997 General Council meeting dates were also agreed to at this meeting, these are 13–14 March, 10–11 July and 20–21 November. Resolutions passed at the Association's AGM in October were ratified and the date for the 1996 AGM was confirmed as Thursday 10 July 1997 in Canberra.

### Corporate services

The 1997 Budget for the Association was approved at this meeting. General Council noted that the predicted slow down of the Inter-Library Loan Voucher Scheme is now being reflected in the purchase and redemption of vouchers.

### Strategic planning

Comments from Divisions on the 'Strategic focus' areas of the draft Strategic Plan were noted. It was agreed that this process was best moved forward by a small taskforce, which will be made up of the 1997 President, Vice-President and Immediate Past President, this group will coopt assistance where necessary.

### Education and training

Revisions to Education Statement Number 1 *Recognition of entry-level courses* and Education Statement Number 2 *Continuing Professional Development* were approved at this meeting. Copies of these revised statements are available from the National Office. General Council also endorsed the proposed outline of a new edition of the *Worklevel guidelines* and these will be available in 1997. An alteration to the conditions for application for the ALIA Study Grant were approved, from 1997 all applicants must have been personal financial members of the Association for a minimum of two years at the time of application.

Course recognition was granted to the Graduate Diploma of Applied Sciences (Library and Information Management) and the Master of Applied Sciences (Library and Information Management) from Charles Sturt University for the period 1 January 1997 to December 2003, the Graduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies from Queensland Institute of Technology from 1 January 1997 to December 2003. An extension for the Bachelor of Management (Information Management/Librarianship) and Graduate Diploma of Arts (Information Management/Librarianship) from the University of Ballarat was granted from

1 January 1997 to December 1998 to allow current students to complete their courses.

### Workplace

The Manager Personnel and Industrial Relations reported on the new Workplace Relations Act. General Council asked that a paper outlining the implications and possible ALIA activities be prepared for the March 1997 meeting. It was noted that an information package on the new legislation is currently being prepared by the National Office.

### Membership

General Council noted the report on membership numbers, particularly the continued decrease in Associate membership. There was a great deal of discussion about recruitment and retention of members.

The Executive Director noted that an amount of \$10 000 had been identified in the 1997 budget for branch recruitment and retention projects, funded on a bid basis. General Council agreed that each site/office of an Institution is required to hold a separate membership of the Association. The NSW and ACT General Councillors provided a report on activity to date with the Marketing Plan for the profession.

### ALIA policy statements

The amended *Statement on the role of librarians and library technicians* was endorsed at this meeting. The *Draft policy statement on alia and international relations* was approved for circulation to Divisions for comment and the *Statement on the South-West Pacific* deleted. General Council agreed that the *Statement on the national bibliographic organisation of nonbook materials in Australia* be deleted and that the need for a statement on this area be revisited at the November 1997 meeting. Following consultation with Divisions it was also agreed that the *draft policy statement on workplace reform* be deleted. The *Proposed policy statement on work experience for library school students* was also deleted at this meeting.

### Awards and lobbying

There were a number of awards announced at this meeting, these included the ALIA Study Grant Award to Ms Heather Fisher from Gosford City Library for her application to study American and Canadian children's and young adult reading programs. A Fellowship of the Association has been awarded to Assoc. Professor Joyce Kirk from the University of Technology, Sydney. The Redmond Barry Award was presented to the Hon Barry Jones during this meeting.

### Divisions

The Education for Library and Information

Services Section (NSW Group) was dissolved at this meeting. The Executive Director reported on the successful reinvigoration of the Public Libraries Section (National Group).

### Conferences

General Council agreed that the biennial conference to be held in Canberra in the Year 2001 be moved back into line with the ALIA conference program and will therefore be held in the Year 2000.

The President's paper 'Why Biennial Conferences' was discussed. It was agreed that comment on the issues raised should be sought from Members and Divisions, through the Branch mechanism.

### Committees

Several positions on committees were filled at this meeting. From January 1997 Jillian Beswick has been appointed as the chair of the By-Laws and Regulations Committee (and as the General Councillor with the portfolio for Constitutional matters), and Alex Byrne and Amelia McKenzie have been appointed to the International Relations Committee. Assoc Professor Joyce Kirk has been reappointed and Carolyne Cohn appointed to the ALIA Publishing Policy Committee in 1997, and Ian McCallum has been appointed to the National Awards Committee. Helen Hoffman was reappointed as ALIA's representative on the Australian Committee on Cataloguing (ACOC) for a further two-year term.

### Relations with other Associations

There was some discussion on the Strategic Review of the representational needs of the profession into the next Century being undertaken by ALIA/ACLIS and NLA. General Council endorsed the Terms of Reference for the Review, it was noted that the steering committee for the Review is Helen Hayes (ACLIS), Helen Tait (ALIA) and Warren Horton (NLA).

The Director-General of the National Library provided a report on IFLA to the meeting. He noted that Jamie Wodetski (formally the Copyright Officer for ACLIS) has been invited to be part of the three person IFLA delegation attending the World Intellectual Property Organisation conference in Geneva later this year. Mr Wodetski's work on copyright is well known internationally and this prompted the invitation from IFLA. Mr Wodetski's attendance at the conference is being supported by ALIA, ACLIS, the NLA and CAUL. It was noted that having an Australian in this forum would be extremely valuable. ■