TAFE, and researcher in prison education. Marty focussed on challenging the delegates to advocate for prisoners' rights to access to library service and education. In response to his challenge ALIA is to be approached to update its guidelines on prison library services.

Federal and state government information and communications policies have not yet overcome the access problems for far-flung students. Innovative activities within the tertiary education sector include Curtin Learning Link and LISWeb which includes information literacy modules for students. Planning is currently underway to develop and supply specific web-based interactive information literacy products for students.

Lynne Vautier of the Curtin Business School spoke of the support for distance education business students at Curtin and provided some new approaches based on research at

Curtin which found a wide disparity in the level of access across different subject areas.

Kay Steel, customer services librarian from Monash focused on the restructuring of Monash Library. Absorbing a staff loss of ten per cent, the distance education service evaluated their activities and streamlined activities, and must consider possible changes to services and structures in 1998.

Margaret Macpherson, executive director of Charles Sturt University Library wrapped up the conference with thanks to all participants for their enthusiasm and generosity in sharing their experiences.

The conference was notable for the warm and enthusiastic spirit operating at all conference sessions and social functions.

Marion Bannister, Jennifer Vaughan, Beverley Broad, and Carol Mills

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Ameritech acquires Dynix Australia

On 7 March 1998 Ameritech Library Services announced its acquisition of Dynix Australia, formerly a licensed distributor of ALS products. The more than 500 Dynix Australia libraries in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, Thailand, Guam, Saipan, Macau, Korea, China, Japan and Indonesia will now be part of the Ameritech Library Services global system.

The new company, Ameritech Library Services Pty Ltd, will be based in Adelaide, South Australia and will be the sixth international office for Ameritech Library Services. Ross Welch, former director of finance in the Ameritech Provo, Utah office, has been named Australia's general manager. John Driscoll, Dynix Australia sales and marketing manager, said, 'We all feel this change will herald a new level of service and support for our customers as well as a new and more powerful voice for our well-organised and highly-valued user groups'. Chris Taylor, head of development says that this development will improve communication and input from the product development team in the United States of America, which will ensure a stronger product line.

Ameritech Library Services (www.amlibs.com) is the world leader in library automation systems with installations in more than 7000 client libraries worldwide. ALS recognises the library as the community information hub and its state-of-the-art systems connect libraries with users, other libraries, the worldwide web, productivity tools, support services and learning facilities. It is a subsidiary of Ameritech Corporation, one of the world's largest telecommunications companies serving millions of customers in forty countries. ∎