

## Major sponsor confirmed for conference



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The sole major sponsor of the ALIA2000 *Capitalising on knowledge* conference to be held in Canberra from 23–26 October this year, has been confirmed. epixtech, formerly Ameritech Library Services, specialises in the provision of advanced library management systems and information access solutions to libraries of all types including school, university, public and special/corporate libraries. The premier focus of the company is library automation.

With an installed base of more than 7000 public, academic, school and special libraries, epixtech is the world's largest provider of library software. Products and support services are provided to 34 countries through eighteen international offices.

epixtech offers both Horizon and Dynix automated library products which are fully-integrated systems with software modules distinctive for their design, flexibility, and ease of use. In addition to the core products a major focus of the company has been the development and provision of internet access products to extend the functional spectrum of client libraries, their services and their clients' access to information. epixtech provides a full range of access products that include Z39.50 servers and WebPAC clients for Horizon and Dynix.

epixtech in Adelaide undertakes significant product development so that the multilingual and regional needs of the Asia-Pacific region are available in Horizon, Dynix and WebPAC. Approximately sixteen per cent of the annual turnover of the Australian-based company is expended on research and development.

The conference committee would like to welcome epixtech as the major sponsor of the conference and thanks epixtech for its support of the profession.

### Program taking shape

The conference program is taking shape and many of the keynote speakers have confirmed their involvement in the conference. Two of note are Dr José-Marie Griffiths, and Dr Brian L Hawkins.

#### Dr José-Marie Griffiths

Dr José-Marie Griffiths is the University of Michigan's chief information officer, executive director of the information technology division and a full professor in the school of information. She has overall responsibility for all aspects of information technology at the University of Michigan, including tel-

ecomunications, networking, computing and infrastructure. Dr Griffiths will deliver the plenary address on Thursday 26 October on the theme for the day — *Provider roles: the information creator and the roles of a range of information professions*.

Dr Griffiths is responsible for leading the development and implementation of strategic information technology for the University to enhance the University's distinction in teaching, research, administration, and public service. She is also responsible for the University's relationships with external organisations, including government and business and industry, on issues related to information technology.

Dr Griffiths has extensive experience in information systems and networking. She has appointment to the National commission of Libraries and Information Science, the National Research Council Computer Science and Telecommunications Board's project on the Information Technology Strategy for the Library of Congress, and the Michigan Information Technology Commission. Her degrees include a PhD in information science and a BSc, with honours, in physics. Both degrees are from the University College of London.

#### Dr Brian L Hawkins

Dr Brian Hawkins is currently president of EDUCAUSE, a professional association of more than 1600 colleges and universities, dedicated to transforming higher education through information technologies. He is a management professor by training, and is the author of one book and many articles in the area of organisational behaviour. He received his Bachelors and Masters degrees from Michigan State University, and his PhD from Purdue University. His organisational work has focused on organisational structure, conflict management, communication, and performance appraisal.

Dr Hawkins will be delivering the plenary address to the conference on Wednesday 25 October on the theme for the day — *Understanding and providing for consumer needs*.

More details about the conference program will be released soon. The conference registration brochure will be circulated in May. Check the conference website [<http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/alia2000>] for all the news as it happens about the conference, or e-mail [alia2000@con-sol.com](mailto:alia2000@con-sol.com) for details. ■