

# ALIA2000

## Capitalising on knowledge – the information professional in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

24–26 October 2000



Sponsored by



An ambitious program of stimulating speakers covering issues of critical importance to all information professionals is taking shape under the guidance of the ALIA2000 conference committee in Canberra, Australia. This is one conference you must not miss.

The umbrella theme of *Capitalising on knowledge — the information profession in the 21<sup>st</sup> century* will provide national and international speakers with the scope to examine who will be the information providers as this new century unfolds, and on what basis. While the program themes are of critical importance to librarians, the issues will also attract the attention of information technology professionals and knowledge workers as well as authors, writers and publishers.

Each day of the conference carries a different focus. Day 1 will concentrate on the changing information environment and the way in which major social, political, economic, legal and technology influences will affect how information is accessed and disseminated over the next few years. How will information be delivered? What will be the impact of media convergence? Will libraries still be relevant? These questions will also embrace discussion about intellectual property, information ownership, privacy and censorship.

On day 2 the focus changes to understanding the needs of the information consumer. Different streams will cover knowledge management, content and content providers, accessibility of services and the technology that will drive this access. Topics for presentation and discussion will include the knowledge-aware organisation, the nature of the online community, information services in rural and remote communities, the information market and different models for online bookshops.

Throughout day 3 speakers will turn their attention to the creators of information, authors and publishers, and the changing roles of the information professions. The keynote speaker on this day, Dr Jose-Marie Griffiths, will give an overview of the information professions and the challenges they face in serving information creators and users in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Confirmed key speakers include: Mr Brewster Kahle — co-founder and president of Alexa Internet and inventor of the Wide Area Information Server (United States); Dr Brian Hawkins, chief executive officer of EDUCAUSE (United States); Dr Jose-Marie Griffiths, chief information officer and executive director of Information Technology, University of Michigan (United States); Ms Jan Fullerton, director general of the National Library of Australia; Mr Jerry Everard, author of *Virtual states: the internet and the boundaries of the nation-state* (Australia); Ms Susan Blackwell, executive director of the Australian Publishers Association (Australia); Mr Chris Batt, chief network adviser of the Library and Information Commission (United Kingdom); Ms Ann Symons, past president of the American Library Association (United States); Mr Phillip Blackwell, chief executive officer of Blackwells (United Kingdom); Mr Jay Jordan, OCLC (United States); and Ms Sophie Masson, author (Australia).

Many booths in the trade exhibition have already been snapped up ensuring that delegates will be able to view, and discuss with vendors, leading-edge products and technology. The trade hall will also be an ideal place to catch up with other delegates and speakers over coffee.

The social program is also taking shape. The social activities will provide delegates with opportunities to network with colleagues and enjoy Canberra's national landmarks and hospitality. A highlight will be the conference dinner in the Great Hall, Parliament House. The conference venue, the National Convention Centre, is centrally located in Canberra's business district close to restaurants, theatres, galleries and exhibitions.

ALIA2000 plus spring in Canberra — don't miss it. For more information about the ALIA2000 conference contact the conference secretariat, Conference Solutions, PO Box 238, Deakin West, ACT Australia 2600, e-mail [alia2000@con-sol.com](mailto:alia2000@con-sol.com). The latest conference news can be found on the conference webpage at <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/2000html>.

The registration brochure will be mailed in the July edition of *inCite*. ■