by Dr Sheila Offman Gersch, a visiting lecturer from New York. Sheila's area of expertise is *Teaching and learning with the internet* and her insights into practice were greatly appreciated.

The School Libraries Day Dinner in October was another successful joint venture with SLAV.

Intranetting was the title of the final ALIA Schools seminar for 2001. This was held in October and focused on digital copyright issues, the commercial software applications available for intranets and three models showing how library staff had contributed to the development of intranets within their schools. Participants' evaluation comments were very positive.

The 2001 committee has made a substantial contribution to the professional development of teacher librarians in Victoria and looks forward to another successful year in 2002.

Sandra Ryan, convenor, ALIA School Libraries Victoria

Intranetting

Intranets are becoming an indispensable part of information management in modern-day schools. So it is important that school librarians, the information specialists, become involved. Because of this,

ALIA Schools Victoria conducted a one-day seminar, at Star of the Sea College Gardenvale, to introduce some issues and practicalities involved with managing intranets.

The day started with a talk from Ann Grieve, manager of copyright services for the Victorian Education Department, who discussed in particular the implications of the new *Copyright Amendment (Digital Agenda) Act 2000* for loading information on intranets. As usual with copyright there are dangers and protections and its important to know just how far you can safely go and still provide an useful service.

This was followed by two product demonstrations: Masterfile and Impaq. Both systems can provide a great service but it is important to carefully assess the school's needs before committing to major outlays.

After lunch, we had demonstrations of how intranets work at three different schools: Star of the Sea College, Santa Maria College Northcote and St Joseph's College Mildura. Participants rated the day as very good to excellent and said that it had inspired them to take a more prominent role in the functioning of their school's intranet.

Maelor Himbury, St Albans Secondary College

Roundup 2001 — WA...

Ensuring services continue...

WA Forum [http://groups.alia.org.au/forumwa/]

The WA Forum recognised that there were several services which were once provided by the WA Branch that were too important to be lost with the demise of the old branch structure. Those services are: the FA Sharr Medal, Library and Information Week, the monthly newsletter *Biblia*, and continuing professional development activities. The WA Forum was established to ensure that these services continue to be delivered, and also to provide a forum for discussion and debate on issues affecting or of interest to all ALIA members in Western Australia.

Each service has a small team that operates under the guidance of the WA Forum. The *Biblia* team publishes a monthly newsletter in electronic and hardcopy formats. All ALIA groups in Western Australia are welcome to report and promote their activities in *Biblia*. The FA Sharr Medal team manages the selection of the library student

with the potential to have a positive impact on the profession. The Library and Information Week team arranges events and co-ordinates publicity for Library and Information Week in Western Australia.

The continuing professional development team provides opportunities for professional development for ALIA members in Western Australia. Projects undertaken in the last six months include: the establishment of a professional reading group with regular monthly meetings; collaborative projects with CAVAL to bring knowledgeable presenters to Perth; 'Where do we go from here? Librarians moving out of the library' for careers beyond the library; and 'Managers do things right: Leaders do the right things' leadership seminar.

The WA Forum has achieved much in a short time since 1 July 2001. The services it provides will continue to benefit all ALIA members in Western Australia.

Bobby Bruce, convenor, WA Forum ▶

► Stepping out in style!

WA Library Technicians Group
[http://www.groups.alia.org.au/libtwa/]
The change to the structure of ALIA and the new group submission process was an opportunity for the WA Library Technicians Group to re-evaluate our goals and objectives and to put in place some new initiatives. It also led to a very busy program of events!

Highlights of this year include a 'Stepping out' seminar held in February which showcased the talents and careers of library technicians here in Western Australia. This was followed by a 'skills audit' workshop which covered career planning and personal skills assessment.

During Library and Information Week the Library Technicians Group held a dinner at which Marilyn Boydell spoke about her experiences in the Antarctic. Very inspiring stuff!

August saw several of our members heading off to the 11th National Library Techicians Conference in Hobart, including our inaugural WALTs student conference grant winner, Mason Clarke. Those who could not attend had the chance to get an overview of the conference from the 'post conference confab' held in September.

Metadata was on the agenda for October in the form of an information evening presenting a broad overview of metadata, and some first hand experience of applying metadata to a library website.

November was our wrap up month we held a fun end of year event — a debate entitled 'Hand me my whip — can you discipline your library users and still remain friends?' The debating team was made up of members of various libraries and included librarians and library technicians. We also worked in partnership with South West Library Link (SWeLL) to present a 'Job application and interview skills' workshop in Bunbury.

Activities presented by the group are advertised on our website and in the WA Forum newsletter, *Biblia*. We also post notices to the aliaLIBTEC list.

We always manage to have a fun time whilst keeping abreast of current issues, so please come along and try us out!

Bonnie Rae Bruce, convenor, WA Library Technicians Group

All about mentoring...

ALIA WA Mentoring Program
htp://groups.alia.org.au/mentoringwa/
ALIA WA members have had the opportunity to participate in three mentoring programmes this year. A group mentoring program (GUMP 2001) was run for new graduates to help them make the transition into the workplace and to assist them to develop into a peer networking group. A small group mentoring program was made available for all ALIA Western Australian librarians and library technicians to join. Three successful training sessions were run, one for mentors, one for mentees and a workshop on career planning. Individual mentors have been organised by request. These events have been organised by a very active and social committee that had lots of good times together to develop and implement the activities.

Carol Newton-Smith, convenor, ALIA WA Mentoring Program

ANON

ALIA National Office news
ALIA's industrial relations and employment adviser, Phil Teece, has accepted an invitation to join the American Library Association [ALA]'s Task Force on Better Salaries and Pay Equity.

The Task Force was set up recently by ALA president-elect, Mitch Freedman, as a vehicle for pursuit of pay equity for American librarians, his declared primary objective during his forthcoming period of office. Dr Freedman has expressed strong admiration for, and interest in, Phil's extensive work on pay equity over the past four years.

Membership of the Task Force should provide ALIA with enhanced opportunities to take part in international initiatives to improve the lot of librarians vis a vis other professional workers.

Revelling in Reference

At the close of *Revelling in Reference* a very happy RAISS 2001 committee accepted thanks, appreciation, praise and comments ranging from 'inspirational', 'that work shop was so relevant', to 'reinvigorated' and 'fun'. The symposium promoted discussion and debate, interaction, participation and gave participants renewed energy to follow up the outcomes. ALIA RAISS is alive and well with plans for 2002.

More than 280 delegates attended. All states and territories were represented, and there was a lively bunch of colleagues from New Zealand. Our keynote speakers, Carol Tenopir, Veronica Brady, John Levett and Sara Weissman (who did not attend due to personal circumstances but was there in spirit) challenged and inspired with their experience and knowledge. Rod Quantock attracted an excellent Sunday morning audience ('never been out of bed on a Sunday for librarians!') with side-splitting humour, quick wit and a perceptive understanding of issues facing librarians. The social events ensured much revelling took place — dinners arranged for groups following the wonderful reception at the State Library of Victoria: dinner at the Arts Centre — music, wine, amazing entertainment by illusionist Raymond Crowe and fine food, and a delicious Sunday morning tea before the symposium closed.

Praise and recognition is due to all our speakers and presenters, panellists, session chairs, and workshop facilitators for such an outstanding program. The program provided all participants with the opportunity to engage and participate. The committee acknowledges ALIA's support: Amanda Jacobsen, Jennefer Nicholson and president Alan Bundy (a strong RAISS advocate).

Finally, we received generous support from the following sponsors, Altarama Systems and Services, Cisco Systems, Swets Blackwell, DA Information Services, Kinetica, McMillan Publishers Australia, National Library of Australia, Oxford University Press and Taltarni Wines.

A special thank you to Monash University Library for support with the *Revelling in Reference* web page.

Margaret Smith, convenor, Revelling in Reference conference committee