

# Meet the new ALIA vice-president

Christine Mackenzie, BA GDipLib, GDipMgt AALIA, elected unopposed



**Christine Mackenzie**

ALIA incoming vice-president

Nominations for the position of ALIA vice-president/president elect closed on 6 February 2002. Christine Mackenzie was the only nomination for the position and has been declared elected. Christine will assume the vice-presidency at the Annual General Meeting on 20 May 2002.

Christine is currently the manager of library services at the Brisbane City Council. Previously she was manager of library and information services at Mornington Peninsula Shire Council; regional librarian, Peninsula Library Service; deputy regional librarian, Mordialloc Chelsea Library Service; and reference and information services librarian at Dandenong Valley Regional Library Service.

Christine's professional activities are wide ranging. She is currently chair of the Public Libraries Advisory Committee of the Library Board of Queensland, and a member of the Bertelsmann Foundation, an international network of public libraries. Her involvement in ALIA dates back to the late 1980s — she was newsletter editor for the ALIA Reference and Information Services Section and the ALIA Public Libraries Section (Victorian group) from 1989 to 1992; the secretary of the ALIA Public Libraries Section (Victorian Group) from 1993 to 1995, and president of that section in 1996–1997; and vice-president of the ALIA Victorian Branch in 1997. When she moved to Queensland, her dedication to the Association continued: she was treasurer of the ALIA Queensland Branch in 1998 and was elected president of the branch in 1999. Her involvement on other committees has also been impressive. She was secretary of VICLINK in 1994–1996, and president from 1996 to 1998. During the same period she was involved on the Library Board of Victoria's Public Libraries Advisory Committee (1996), and the Networking Committee (1997–1998). She was on the course development advisory committee of the department of Librarianship, Archives and Records at Monash University in 1997–1998; a board member of ALMA Training and Consultancy Services from 1995 to 1997, and vice-president of the same body from 1997 to 1998.

Christine's campaign statement reads:

*'Great organisations are characterised by having consistent core values, a core purpose and "audacious goals"' (Harvard Business Review,*

*1996). Values are determined by the beliefs we hold and we express our values in the way we think and act. Librarians' particular values are based on accessibility of information and inclusiveness in the provision of that information. These are included in the first object of the Association: to promote the free flow of information and ideas in the interest of all Australians and a thriving culture, economy and democracy.*

*Most librarians I know are passionate about libraries — they believe in them, they promote them and they advocate for them. There have been some wonderful personalities in our profession who have lived that passion — we can all think of people in our working lives that have touched us with their enthusiasm, their tireless energy and their achievements.*

*Our profession is entering a demanding and exciting time. Digitisation has fundamentally changed the way we think about our collections, our services and our users. How do we remain relevant when everyone who wants access to the internet has it and when search engines work the way they should?*

*Our profession needs to nurture its emerging leaders. We need to ensure that the dynamic, visionary leadership of previous generations that had audacious goals — the ones that built great university and research libraries, provided public libraries in almost every local government area, developed centres of excellence in special libraries and ensured children would develop a love of reading through school libraries — will be continued. Creating libraries that are vibrant and essential places for communities, whether this be for academic, local or business communities, is one goal we can pursue. Ensuring equality of access to online resources for all Australians through sufficient and affordable bandwidth is another.*

*I will work with you to articulate our values, develop some audacious goals and nurture leaders for the future.* ■

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