

Silver pin presentation



State Librarian and CEO Regina Sutton presents Mylee with her silver pin

On Thursday 3 May Mylee Joseph was awarded ALIA's silver pin for service as an office bearer in the ALIA CYS (NSW) group. Mylee is the Consultant for Young People and Older Persons with the Public Library Services, at the State Library of NSW.

Mylee, who comes originally from Wagga Wagga, was appointed Children's Librarian Liverpool Council in 1993 and then joined the ALIA CYSS NSW Committee to find 'a community of interest'. She has been an active member of the ALIA CYS NSW community of interest ever since, contributing great ideas and being willing to take on any tasks—even organising pizzas for hungry librarians! Mylee has served in many positions including Publicity officer, Secretary, President (later Convenor, when ALIA restructured), Committee member, National CYS Awards coordinator for the Bess Thomas and the Marjorie Cotton Awards and is currently the national e-list owner. Mylee's work on the e-list, which has 308 subscribers, not only

keeps children's librarians and other library staff in touch with each other and with the latest news, reviews and developments in the profession, it has also earned Mylee the title of 'e-mail queen'.

The pin was presented to Mylee at the ALIA CYS (NSW) 'Young Adult Focus' seminar by State Librarian and CEO Regina Sutton. Regina spoke about Mylee's many roles and activities through ALIA CYS (NSW), paying tribute to the work Mylee has done through ALIA CYS to provide continuing professional development for children's library staff and in convening the national awards, which give an opportunity to publicly recognise the excellent work done by children's library staff across the country. Mylee's enthusiasm, good humour and broad knowledge of children's and young adult library services have enriched the ALIA CYS NSW committee, ALIA itself, children's and young adult library services and of course, the thousands of young people who benefit from those services.

Congratulations to Mylee and thank you for all your work over many years.

Carolyn Bourke
On behalf of the ALIACYS (NSW) committee

UnConference

One hundred Melbourne librarians gathered at Thomastown library in March 2007 for the Yarra Plenty Regional Library's inaugural 'UnConference'—an event that was part think-tank, part workshop, part brainstorming session.

The UnConference concept comes from open source technology, and proposes that:

- Whoever comes are the right people.
- Whenever it starts is the right time.
- Whatever happens is the only thing that could happen.
- When it's over, it's over.

The theme of the UnConference was Library 2.0, an exploration of cyber technologies in libraries which aimed to:

- Embrace change
- Empower users
- Unblock information.

Christine MacKenzie, YPRL's CEO, initiated the UnConference. 'I'd seen mention of the Library Boot-Camps in the US in a couple of library blogs, and it seemed like a good idea, and something that might work here. The theme of Library 2.0 seemed fairly obvious, given that it was the first one. It was very interesting to watch the agenda develop over 12 minutes!'

The aim of the UnConference was to

provide participants, or 'unconferencers' with a personal learning experience whereby they could network, share knowledge and explore areas of interest, particularly Web 2.0 technologies, and how they might use them in their libraries.

There were no formal lectures or Powerpoint presentations, rather a range of discussions and interactive tutorials, with participants free to move from one session to another at will. Professional facilitator, Anne Hartigan, helped unconferencers to develop their own agendas for the day, in a relaxed, participatory environment.


Sessions included 'A Guided Tour of Second Life', 'Does Web 2.0 = Library 2.0?' and 'Using Social Networking Tools to Promote Reading'. There has been a great deal of enthusiasm among participants for further UnConferences. The YPRL is considering running another UnConference on the issue of community engagement. Other library services are also interested in conducting similar events. For the time being, discussion continues on the blog (<http://l2unconferencemelbourne.blogspot.com/>) set up for unconferencers to continue the exchange of ideas among fellow professionals.

Mary Costello

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