



Q & A with Kate Sinclair, Program Coordinator

Q: What are you most looking forward to at the conference?

A: Hmm, it's so hard to choose just one thing! Beautiful Brisbane in September... The chance to catch up with friends and colleagues that I often only see at conferences...

The opportunity to take a 'time-out' from day-to-day work and spend a few days listening, discussing, and thinking about our profession – what we are doing now, what are the big challenges, what are we excited about and where are we going in the future.

And on a less serious note, I always enjoy catching up on all the library gossip, getting some fun toys and gadgets from the trade exhibition, and noting the latest conference "buzz words" (and placing bets on which terms will still be around at Information Online in 2011...)

I'm also excited about the ways we are using technology at ALIA Access. After the success of the Twitter back channel at VALA 2010, we want ALIA Access to be a "Twitter-friendly" event, both for those who tweet already and those who don't see the point! ALIA Access registration includes free wireless access at the venue for all your tweeting and blogging needs and you can follow @ALIAAccess and the hashtag #aliaaccess for the latest conference news and chatter. Stayed tuned for more news from our Digital Coordinator Warren Cheetham about how ALIA Access will be using social media to enhance the delegate experience.

In a first for ALIA conferences, we will also be offering some sessions as live web-streaming to ALIA members. This will enable members who are unable to attend the conference in Brisbane to watch these sessions via the web. More details on the available sessions and web-streaming prices will be published on the conference website in May 2010.

Q: As the Program Coordinator, what has been involved with organising the program for this conference?

A: ALIA Access is a bit different from your usual conference. From the very start, we wanted to get members involved in putting together a program that they would want to attend – something fun, different, accessible, and relevant. So instead of the normal

program committee, we have 12 different groups located all over the country who are each responsible for one stream in the program. This has meant a few more teleconferences and emails for all of us, but together with the stream convenors we have created an exciting, interesting, and challenging program with "something for everyone"!

The program organisers are from different industry sectors, interests, and perspectives and bring that diversity to the program content. There are sections of the program that are focused on Health Libraries, Special Libraries, Public Libraries, and TAFE Libraries, giving library staff in those sectors a chance to discuss sector-specific issues. Other streams include a section for and by new library graduates; a workshop on Library Leadership; a look at LIS Education for the 21st Century; a stream focused on you and your professional development; a program looking at Web 2.0 and Information Literacy; and a section on the future of Acquisitions. There will also be a two-day international stream on ILL and Resource sharing. As well as the usual conference papers, some of the streams are 'workshop style' with lots of interaction, and we even have an unconference stream where some program content will be determined by the delegates on the day!

Q: What are some of the program highlights?

A: Again, it's hard to pick just one!

If you are interested in advocacy, the Public Libraries stream will be highlighting success stories from around the country, and giving librarians some great tips on 'how to catch the attention of government'.

If research, publishing, and education is more your thing, how about Dr Gillian Hallam talking about the Health Libraries Workforce and Education project results? Or our New Graduate workshop on "How to write Scholarly abstracts and articles"? And our full-day session on LIS Education for the future, facilitated by the ATLC project team, will be essential for all delegates interested in Australian library education and workforce planning.

For the technology enthusiasts among us, Library Camp, the unconference, will give you a chance to discuss and debate the latest issues with Australia's first Library Journal "Mover and Shaker", Paul Hagon from the NLA.

And I for one am really looking forward to the workshop on Library Leadership: creating and sustaining a culture of performance by Dr Neil Carrington.

The only difficulty will be choosing from all the great options!

ALIA Access 2010 – the ALIA event of the year

**Wednesday 1 – Friday 3 September 2010
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre**

You wouldn't want to be anywhere else!

Hurry! Early Bird Registration closes 7 July

Visit the conference website for registration information and to register online. ALIA Members are entitled to a discount of up to \$300 on the full registration fee. Don't miss the chance to be involved in what is sure to be one of the most innovative ALIA conferences in years!

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