NEW RESOURCE WILL HELP GET THE NAMES RIGHT

Appropriate personal name headings for *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander* people are an important way to improve access to information in collections. *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander* names can be complex as Aboriginal people may have several names. Some names are combinations of traditional names, nicknames, skin names, personal names and family names and conventions in Aboriginal cultures do not apply equally to Torres Strait Islander culture.

The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) Library has now designed a new webpage and tutorial for librarians and information professionals designed to help users better understand indigenous cultural naming conventions.

The AIATSIS Library is a leader in promoting understanding of the richness and diversity of Australian indigenous cultures. AIATSIS engages in and publishes research and provides access to library and audiovisual collections. One of the goals of AIATSIS is to maximise access to well-documented archives and collections, particularly by Indigenous peoples.

The current standard for cataloguing, AACRII (*Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules 2nd edition*) does not contain instructions for establishing headings for Australia's Indigenous peoples. This has led to a gap in the application of the rules when setting up headings for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. As a result inconsistencies in the form of names for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples exist in many catalogues.

We encourage other libraries to use the AIATSIS Pathways thesaurus which contains headings for place names, language groups and people, and subjects relating to Australian Indigenous studies. This thesaurus has been approved by the Library of Congress for use in bibliographic records.

Library staff have also recently developed an online interactive tutorial aimed at cataloguers and indexers. The *Talkin Names* tutorial is an introduction to Indigenous cultural naming conventions and library concepts and practices. AIATSIS Library endorses the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander *Protocols for Libraries, Archives & Information Services*. The Protocols address issues related to Indigenous materials held in libraries, archives and other information services.

Library workers can connect via this resource to information which provides cultural awareness of Australia's Indigenous people both past and present. The tutorial explores the naming conventions used by the AIATSIS Library when setting up headings for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander names. Through the AIATSIS website, users can also access acquisition lists and cataloguing, indexing and collection policies.

This new webpage acts as a gathering place for information about working with materials with Indigenous content. The *Talkin Names* tutorial reflects our attention to cultural protocols, the diversity of peoples and respect for the heritage of names.

You can find the links to our thesaurus, the ATSILIRN protocols and the *Talkin Names* tutorial at: **www.aiatsis.gov.au/collections/services.html**

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COMIC CONNECTIONS

Cult creations such as the *Twilight* franchise routinely combine multiple media channels to reach their audiences and now libraries are benefiting by making the same connections. In South Australia, the Adelaide Comics Centre is working with school and public librarians to draw in new readers by providing popular topics in accessible formats such as graphic novels.

While some of us might not be too familiar with graphic novels, librarians dealing with young people and those coming to reading in adulthood certainly are. Episodic stories already well-established through other media such as movies and computer games are attracting - and keeping - a loyal following. It's also now possible to interact with other fans through social media – enriching the whole experience for the reader.

Michael Baulderstone and Peter Spandrio, the dynamic duo behind the Centre, share many a librarian's belief that leading people to reading is a matter of finding the right material to get them started, and tapping into these mass media juggernauts is one way of helping a new reader develop their reading habit.

"They might start with a graphic novel that follows a television series and then move on," Michael says.

As a one-time English teacher, this suits him just fine.

His partner Peter has come to the business via a love of the art in comics and graphic novels and says the stories themselves and the art are both powerful attractions for new readers and loyal fans alike. They are especially proud to be now working with librarians and delighted by every new reader that comes along.

Graphic novel publication has skyrocketed in recent years and the range of subjects is "as broad as you can imagine," according to Michael. They range from the classics, such as *The Man in the Iron Mask* to hard-hitting tales such as life in Nazi Germany, told in the Pulitzer Prize-winning two part work, *Maus*.

To begin with, a handful of libraries sought out graphic novels and it was an experimental process on both sides to find the right materials, as Michael and Peter aimed to find out what would best suit the libraries and the librarians learned about what was available.

""Comics and graphic novels aren't all capes and spandex," says Michael. "We made suggestions about what we thought might work and it went from there - now the librarians come to us with specific requests and feedback and we work together."

"We see a lot of people getting into reading this way," he says. "It draws people in, gets them hooked through something that already has a mass following, such as Twilight or Halo, something they have other connections with as well through movies, social media and games. It's compulsive."

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