



### Busy new year ahead

I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Sue Hutley, who will be leaving ALIA at the end of the year after six years of service as Executive Director.

During her time as Executive Director Sue has built excellent relationships with the Federal government, other library associations, members and the

profession at large. Through her work ALIA has been at the table for discussions regarding the National Broadband Network, internet filtering and school libraries to name just a few issues of key concern to our members and our profession. Her lobbying and advocacy on behalf of the profession has been instrumental in securing funding for significant national projects such as The Library Initiative and National Year of Reading 2012 and there are other opportunities still in active discussion.

Working with a management (the ALIA President and Board of Directors) which changes every 12 months would be challenging for anyone. Sue has managed this with good grace, a professional manner and importantly, a sense of humour.

Many of you will know Sue personally and I hope you will join with me in wishing her all the best in her new role with Queensland State Archives.

The Board has now commenced the important process of recruiting a new Executive Director to lead the Association. Some members have expressed to me their concern that our professional voice and values remain a primary focus within the leadership of the Association and the importance of this is acknowledged by the Board. Whilst the recruitment is underway, Rob Miller will be Acting Executive Director and the Board will work closely with him and the ALIA National Office team to ensure services to members continue smoothly and that our strategic outcomes remain a key focus.

By the time this *INCITE* goes to press, the National Advisory Congress for 2011 will be completed. This year's discussion topic of the future of the profession has prompted some interesting and lively discussion.

I have had the opportunity to be personally present at three different meetings and the energy and enthusiasm for our profession continues to be strong. Whilst all recognise there are challenges ahead, there is support for ongoing evolution of what we do, of our knowledge and skills to meet the changing role of libraries and the expectations of our clients.

The final report of the 2011 National Advisory Congress will be available on the website and the Board will use this in our planning for 2012 and beyond.

In November I was privileged to attend the Library and Information Association of New Zealand Conference in Wellington. The program included a number of excellent presentations from our colleagues 'across the ditch.' International speakers from the US and the UK particularly focused on advocacy initiatives in the light of the significant funding reductions to libraries and the resultant closures. Of particular interest was a seminar and discussion that has paralleled our own National Advisory Congress topic. The issues raised during the discussion also paralleled our own and ALIA will share the outcomes of our own discussions with LIANZA as we have a great deal in common.

Finally, as the year draws to a close, I'd like to wish everyone a relaxing and safe holiday season and best wishes as we look forward to a busy 2012.

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## YOUR INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT

### Publishing news

Publishers Taylor & Francis have signed an agreement to publish *Archives and Manuscripts* on behalf of the Australian Society of Archivists from 2012. Meanwhile, the *Wall Street Journal* (WSJ) has joined the eBook bonanza and is now including eBook sales in their customised best-seller charts. The sales figures appear weekly as part of WSJ Weekend.

### Healthshare partners with beyondblue for depression resources

Social online health network Healthshare serves a range of mental health communities by providing a safe online environment for reliable information from services such as beyondblue, Lifeline, SANE Australia and Mental Health NSW. Now they have extended the beyondblue partnership to provide content for Healthshare's depression, anxiety and postnatal depression communities. More at [www.healthshare.com.au](http://www.healthshare.com.au).

### Civil rights records go digital

ProQuest has teamed up with the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) to digitise the association's archives in a move that will make one of the most famous records of the American civil rights movement available to researchers internationally. Nearly two million pages of internal and legal records, revealing a firsthand view into issues including desegregation, criminal justice and discrimination will be included. Currently on microfilm, this resource is the most heavily used collection in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress.

### French National Librarian to chair the Europeana Foundation

The Chief Executive of the Bibliothèque nationale de France, Bruno Racine, has been elected to chair the Board of the Europeana Foundation, responsible for the EU's primary cultural heritage showcase, Europeana.eu, which currently includes some 20 million cultural artefacts. The European Commission has just announced proposals for structural funding for the resource through to 2020.