



# Health Libraries Section Australian Library & Information Association

December 1997

## National Newsletter

FROM THE EDGE, PERTH OCTOBER 1997  
⇒ STRAIT TO THE FUTURE, HOBART AUGUST 1999

'Where's the evidence?' was the dominant theme of the health papers presented at the Specials, Health and Law Librarians conference in Perth from 12-16 October. Assisting in the hunt, were Professor Joanne Gard Marshall from Canada, Dr Judy Palmer from the University of Oxford, John van Loo from the University of Sheffield, and Dianne Roberts from the Therapeutic Goods Administration in Canberra - and that was just the Wednesday afternoon sessions. The hunt continued with other health librarians searching for the holy grail of an effective consortium (though an achievable grail if that is not an oxymoron) or many other papers in search of 'proof' of the value of services, and one searching out possums in the roof and other things that go bump or which flood mysteriously in the day and the night.

The imported plenary speakers and the home grown speakers inspired, enlightened, invigorated, educated and shared ideas both pragmatic and philosophical. The trade exhibitors brought us up to speed with products and services. The networking on Wednesday afternoon kept us in touch with colleagues. The surprisingly well attended breakfast annual general meeting proved that health librarians have what it takes to get up early after a heavy night on the tiles at the conference dinner. The social networking came close to being a health hazard, though on second thoughts it's aerobic

isn't it to dance for 3 hours at a time? A sociable 440 delegates crammed into the Conference dinner and were given a very entertaining dose of light opera and fine cabaret singing (as well as some food and drink). This was followed by a physical workout dancing to a Beatles cover band, and an attempt to break the record for the number of people able to fit onto the dance floor and jump about vigorously without injuring other delegates with flailing limbs. As a South Australian colleague who will not remain nameless, observed, who could have imagined that buried in so many memories were the words to Hey Jude (Greg Fowler).

Feedback from delegates was very positive and Professor Marshall's plenary presentation in particular was singled out as inspiring by librarians from all sectors.

The social highlights cannot be reproduced for those not present but all of the program papers that could be dragged out from speakers (not all unfortunately - we have our limits) have been reproduced for one year on the Trimagic Software site: <http://www.trimagic.com.au/edge.htm>. They are fully searchable with Trimagic's LYCOS Spyder. For those dedicated to the printed page, there are a very limited number of Proceedings left for sale at \$60 plus \$10 for postage.

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## *on the edge...*

### *A report on the conference by Angela Smith, recipient of a grant from the National Executive*

Australian special libraries are 'on the edge', a part of an ever-changing, dynamic and turbulent environment where work and professional practice must constantly evolve to remain viable in response to rapid technological and organisational change.

'On the Edge' brought together library and information specialists from across Australia and overseas. The conference speakers, all highly respected practitioners, representing best practice in library and information management, facilitated an exchange of views and opinions on areas of common interest.

The issue of change management was a major focus of the conference and Betty Eddison delivered a powerful presentation as the conference's first guest speaker, leaving us in little doubt that our survival and the survival of our profession will rely on a positive and enthusiastic approach to change. She sent us on our way equipped with a strategy for information leadership.

The directions in which our profession is evolving is an issue of great concern. We are a profession, 'on the edge', fighting to remain in control in the face of rapid change. How do we approach change in a proactive manner? Sylvia Webb's presentation on Day Two challenged us to acquire the new skills, attitudes and knowledge necessary to ensure we are at the leading, or cutting edge of the changes taking place both in a professional and organisational context.

The conference also provided the opportunity to learn from colleagues who are demonstrating leadership in library and information management through a variety of innovative projects and programmes. Much was to be learnt about co-operation, team work and multiskilling from the South Australian Health Commission Library Consortium. I'll never again watch 'The Price is Right' without reflecting on the memorable presentation

of Kathy Saurine, Karen Andrews and Ann Ritchie, who emphasised the importance of valuing our services in an organisational context, dealing with issues such as privatisation and co-location and how to manage more successfully in increasingly commercial and competitive environments.

Without a doubt one of the biggest highlights for those of us from the health libraries sector was the opportunity to monopolise some of the conference's international guest speakers, Judy Palmer, Joanne Gard Marshall and John van Loo, at a forum in Fremantle. The more intimate setting resulted in lively discussion of issues such as the impact of evidence based health care on libraries, and the importance of effectively evaluating the impact of library services on clinical outcomes. The afternoon gave way to evening with the opportunity to indulge ourselves in all that Fremantle's restaurants have to offer.

Just as valuable was the opportunity to establish both formal and informal networks, with colleagues both from within Australia and overseas, providing a forum to explore alternative ideas and work practices and facilitating the exchange of opinions with professionals from different organisations who share common experiences.

'On the Edge' provided the opportunity to take part in such special conference activities as Special Interest Group Sessions, AGM's, the conference dinner and exploring the many trade exhibitions.

I'd like to thank the ALIA Health Libraries Section for providing me with a unique opportunity for professional growth through observation and learning from fellow information management professionals. I'm sure that 'On the Edge' will equip those information professionals lucky enough to attend with the flexibility, innovation and shared vision needed to guide the profession into the 21st century. See you in Tasmania!

Angela Smith  
Liaison Librarian  
Gardiner Library Service

### *From the President.....*

I would like to congratulate the Conference Organising Committee on the most successful planning and organisation of the conference. It was a truly memorable conference with an extremely informative and challenging programme, great food and most enjoyable social events.

The quality of the papers and presentations was uniformly high. The highlights for me were the key note address *Creating a vision for the 21st Century: The way ahead for Library and Information Professionals*, by Prof Joanne Marshall and the Health afternoon seminar *Evidence-Based Healthcare*.

Joanne gave an inspiring address which reviewed the changes we are all facing, outlined the competencies and skills we will need to seize and realise the future, and then helped us all create a positive and achievable vision for the future.

The lovely old Port City of Fremantle was the setting for the seminar on evidence based health care. The four speakers for the afternoon Prof Joanne Marshall, Dr Judy Palmer, John van Loo and Dianne Roberts, presented an overview of the concepts of evidence based health care and lots of practical assistance on how we might go about supporting evidence based practice in our own institutions. The skills we learnt are able to be applied to our own and other professions.

Many health librarians signed up to have dinner at the various restaurant in Fremantle and were treated to a most enjoyable casual evening. This says a lot about the stamina of health librarians as most had bopped the night away the previous evening to the music of the Fab Four at the conference dinner and then attended the AGM for the Health Libraries Section at 7.45am that morning.

Well congratulations once again to the Organising Committee. A special thanks and congratulations to all who gave papers at the conference, they were all of a very high standard and gave us lots of inspiration and ideas to take back to our own

organisations. Now it's **Strait to the Future** in Tasmania.

Tricia Scolaro

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Contact Motive Conventions, PO Box Z5327, St Georges Terrace, Perth 6831.  
motive@vianet.net.au ph (08) 9322 2666 or fax (08) 9322 1417. Wednesday afternoon's papers are not reproduced but tapes of them have been sent to all states as noted elsewhere in the Newsletter.

See you in Hobart in August 1999. Cheryl Hamill

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### **CALLING ALL CONFERENCE JUNKIES / INTERNATIONAL TRAVELLERS**

Anyone going to the 64th IFLA General Conference to be held in Amsterdam 16 - 21 August 1998? [International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions for those of you perplexed by acronyms.] <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ifla/IV/ifla64/64intro.htm>

Fancy taking on the unpaid but spiritually uplifting role of ambassador for Australian health librarians by promoting Australia as the destination for the 2005 International Congress for Medical Librarianship (ICML - another acronym!)? The Biological and Medical Sciences section of IFLA holds the power to decide our fate as hosts or not in 2005. What we long to hear is that cry of - it's Syd--ney!!!!

So, if you're going anyway - why not lobby, lobby, lobby for us in between all those educational and social sessions. Prue Deacon and Virginia Walsh have already sent in a written submission. If you can help out, let the following people know and they can brief you closer to the date.

Prue.Deacon@health.gov.au and  
Tricia.Scolaro@health.wa.gov.au  
ph (08) 9340 8465 fax (08) 9382 3055

## Health Communication Network NSW CLINICIANS GO ON-LINE

Clinicians in New South Wales public hospitals will be the first group of Australian health care professionals to be supplied with a suite of on-line reference databases by their state health department. Designed to support and enhance decision-making at point of care, the Clinical Information Access Project (CIAP) is the only state-wide on-line health information service currently operating in Australia. Launched by the NSW Health Department in July 1997, CIAP utilises the unique hosting services of Health Communications Network (HCN) and Ovid Technologies.

Under the project, all of NWS's 212 public hospitals will be given vital access to key biomedical resources, evidence-based medicine and full text medical and nursing journals. Browser access to Medline, CINAHL, Cochranes Library and MIMS will provide decision support information to metropolitan and rural clinicians across NSW 24 hours a day, every day, whenever it is needed.

With the inclusion of Best Practice Standards, CIAP also aims to improve patient health outcomes by reducing inappropriate diagnostic testing. A spokesperson from the NSW Health Department's Clinical Systems Reference Group stated: "On-line reference clinical information and electronic mail are tools which have the potential to assist clinicians in providing better quality care at a relatively low cost."

HCN is Australia's leading provider of on-line health information. Originally funded by the federal government in 1995, HCN recently received substantial investment from insurance group FAI and international medical publisher Medimedia. Spokesperson for HCN, Ms Allison Hartman said "HCN were proud to work with the NSW Health Department on what is one of the most sophisticated health information networks available today. It is very rewarding to be able to offer vital medical resources to clinicians across the state regardless of their geographical location. In the end it is the patient who will benefit."

For further information please contact:  
Catherine Hoban (The PR People)  
Ph 61 3 9867 2522  
email: prpeople@prpeople.com.au

## ALIA Board of Education Forum Leading the Profession into the 21st Century: Library and Information Services Education

Tricia Scolaro, National President  
Health Libraries Section ALIA

On October 7-8 I had the privilege to participate with fellow practitioners, educators and representatives from ALIA and other peak bodies in a forum run by the ALIA Board of Education which examined the role of education in equipping library and information practitioners to deal with the challenges they will meet in the 21st Century.

There were four themes for the forum:

1. Current and forecast changes in work practices in the library and information services (LIS) and related areas
2. Developments and initiatives in education and training in LIS and related areas, in Australia and overseas
3. Government education, training, employment and information policy directions and information policy directions and LIS education
4. The linking of knowledge and skills to changing work practices

Each theme generated lots of lively discussion and Helen Tait, ALIA immediate past president, ably facilitated the formulation of the key issues identified by the forum which were submitted to the Board of Education for consideration at their meeting the next day.

At this meeting the Board developed a plan for strategic focus on the following areas:

- The identification of a core body of knowledge for the library and information sector
- Aligning the learning continuum to workplace needs
- Currency of knowledge and professional development
- Cooperation and collaboration between educators and practitioners

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*Evidence Based Healthcare ~ Wednesday Afternoon at the Conference*



*Back Row: Ann Ritchie, Hollywood Private Hospital; Tricia Scolaro, Princess Margaret Hospital; Ann Yorke, Dept of Health & Family Services; Robyn Waller, Cheryl Hamill, Rhonda Mayberry, Fremantle Hospital & Health Service*

*Front Row: Dianne Roberts, Therapeutic Goods Admin; Professor Joanne Gard Marshall, University of Toronto; John van Loo, University of Sheffield; Dr Judy Palmer, Oxford University; Marcia Powell, Fremantle Hospital & Health Service.*

**Calling all Members**

**\*\*National Newsletter via email/ALIANET\*\***

**the editor would like feedback from those members who would be prepared to receive this newsletter by email or to access it via ALIANET with notification of publication in ALIAHEALTH.**

**see editors contact details on last page**

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- Research directions and opportunities

An action plan is being developed by the ALIA Board Of Education and a follow up to the Forum will be held in Adelaide on Sunday 25 October 1998 prior to the Biennial Conference.

**ALIA Health Libraries Section**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held 15 October 1997 8-9am**

**1 Present:**

Tricia Scolaro Chair & National President, Princess Margaret Hospital / King Edward Memorial Hospital	Cheryl Hamill National Secretary, Fremantle Hospital & Health Service
Anne Batt Treasurer & Anne Harrison Award Administrator & Trustee, UWA Medical Library	Susan Lutley Anne Harrison Award Administrator & Trustee, Edith Cowan University
Norma Worswick, Ballarat Health Services Base Hospital, Vic	Brigitte Glockner, Anne Harrison Award Administrator & Trustee, King Edward Memorial Hospital / Princess Margaret Hospital
Shanti Nadaraja, ANZ College of Anaesthetists	June Rider Jones, Retired
Adam Clark, Monash Medical Centre, Vic	Rhonda Mayberry, Fremantle Hospital & Health Service
Vikki Cail, Wangaratta District Base Hospital, Vic	David Dawson, Royal Perth Hospital
Elizabeth Joyce, Mercy Private Hospital, Vic	Diane Nielsen, PathCentre, WA
Mary McGill, Royal Melbourne Hospital	Robyn Hull, Psychiatric Services, WA
Judy Stoelwinder, Womens & Childrens Health Care Network, Vic.	Gillian McCardle, HIRS, WA
Beverley Hore, Austin & Repatriation Med Centre, Vic	Lucy Caminischi, Worksafe, WA
Melanie Kammermann, North West Hospital, Vic	Margaret Gabriel, Worksafe, WA
Kerry Johannes, Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine	Jeanette Longwood, Royal Perth Hospital
David Lloyd, Bendigo Healthcare Group, Vic	Cecily Gilbert, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, WA
Vanessa Craven, Western Hospital, Melbourne	Ann Yorke, Dept Health & Family Services, WA
Michael Rigby, Sydney Adventist Hospital, NSW	Robyn Davis, SA Health Commission
Gillian Wood, NSW Health Dept	Julie Hooke, Royal Adelaide Hospital
Kay Vincent, Liverpool Health Service, NSW	Juliet Marconi, Rural Health Training Unit., SA
Don Keast, Bankstown Health Service, NSW	Greg Fowler, SA Health Commission
Karen Andrews, St George Hospital, NSW	Jan Heath, University of South Australia
Christine Condos, HMAS Penguin, NSW	Elizabeth Gatehouse, Womens & Childrens Hospital, SA
Angela Smith, Hunter Area Health Service, NSW	Caryl Armstrong, Drug & Alcohol Services Council, SA
Claire Pillar, NHMRC National Breast Cancer Centre, NSW	Fiona Capurro, NHMRC Road Accident Research Unit, SA
Julie Hill, Renwick College, NSW	Barbara Miskelly, Modbury Public Hospital, SA
Christine Monie, Wollongong / Port Kembla Hospital, NSW	Ruth Sladek, Rapatriation General Hospital, SA
Rolf Schafer, St Vincents Hospital, Sydney	Lindsay Harris, TQEH, SA
Chris Faricy, University of Wollongong, NSW	Juliet Scaife, State Library of Tasmania
Sandra Henderson, National Library of Australia	Kathy Saurine, Dept of Community & Health Services, Tas
Saroj Bhatia, Canberra Hospital	Andy Smithies, University of Tasmania
Sue Brudenall, ACT	Chris Parker, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld
Prue Deacon, Dept Health & Family Services, ACT	Diana Rylatt, Commonwealth Rehab Services, Qld

**1 Apologies**

Stephen Due, Geelong Hospital, Vic; Nicole Wreford, King Edward Memorial Hospital / Princess Margaret Hospital, WA  
 Ian R. Stubbin, Prince of Wales Hospital, NSW; Alan Bourne, Royal Hospital for Women, NSW;  
 Jill Brislan, TQEH, SA

**2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting 8 October 1996**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record by David Lloyd, seconded by Jeanette Longwood, and accepted by those present.

**3 Business Arising from the Minutes**

All business arising was already noted on the agenda.

**4 Correspondence**

There was no general correspondence to be noted.

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## 5 Anne Harrison Award (Award & Fund) Administration Reports

Susan Lutley, an Administrator and Trustee of the Anne Harrison Award, presented a written Award Administration A copy is attached to the minutes. She proposed amendments to the existing constitution which was written assuming that the AGM would always be in August, and the amendments link the deadlines to: "at least three months before the date of the AGM" for close of applications; "at a scheduled meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting" for the administrators to report to the National Executive; and that the guidelines for applicants should state that "Applications should reach the Administrators by (leave blank, date to be fixed by the Administrators)". Amendments were seconded by Rhonda Mayberry and accepted by those present.

Susan congratulated Kathy Saurine (the 1995 Award winner) for the conduct and presentation of her work which has now been published *Health Libraries: Challenges in the Commercial Environment*, Auslib Press, 1997.

No applications were received for the 1996 award.

The 1997 award was well promoted but that the number of responses was disappointing.

Saroj Bhatia moved that the administrators report be accepted, seconded by Gillian McCardle, and accepted by all present.

Tricia Scolaro then announced the winner of the 1997 Anne Harrison Award. Lorena Smirneos, Deputy Chief Librarian from the Alfred Hospital Health Sciences Library won the award for a project to develop, test, and publish a questionnaire and assorted documentation which can be used by health librarians to assess the use made of the internet by their clients. Congratulations were offered from the meeting to Lorena.

Anne Batt presented a written Fund Administration Report to the meeting. A copy is also attached to the minutes. inner of the Award only required \$800 for her project. Anne recommended that the money not needed for the 1997 Award (\$2,700) be split and an additional \$1,700 be added to the alternate year Award in 1998 (bringing the amount available to \$3,500), and that \$1,000 be added to the capital invested for the main award. Anne Batt proposed the recommendation, seconded by Robyn Hull, and accepted by all.

## 6 Treasurer's Report

Anne Batt provided a written report to the meeting showing a closing balance of \$7,880.17 and noted that the major expense was the national newsletter. Anne Batt proposed that the report be accepted, seconded by Brigitte Glockner, and accepted by all. A copy is attached to the minutes.

## 7 9th International Congress on Medical Librarianship 2005 [ICML]

Prue Deacon reported on progress with preparing a bid for Australia to host the 2005 meeting of ICML. A national committee was formed: June Rider Jones WA, Anne Fricker SA, Jo Marshall Vic, Linda Mulheron / Rolf Schafer NSW, Kathy Saurine Tas, Anne Alderslade NT, and Jane Simon Qld. A vote was taken (1 vote per state) and the majority opinion was that if the bid was successful, ICML would be held in Sydney, back to back with the Specials, Health & Law Librarians Conference. Prue has held meetings with Virginia Walsh and Virginia has put the proposal to IFLA Biological & Medical Sciences Section. The decision is unlikely to be made until the next IFLA meeting in August 1998. Prue will not continue as convenor if the Australian bid is successful but is willing to carry the role until the IFLA choice is announced. Brigitte Glockner proposed that Prue continue to coordinate until IFLA 1998, seconded by Julie Hooke and accepted by all. Numbers expected at other ICMLs were thought to be around 1,000. ICML 2000 is in London. The value of lobbying IFLA during 1998 was queried and it was decided to put out a call to members in the national newsletter to ask anyone going to IFLA in 1998 to act as ambassador for the Australian bid. Michael Rigby queried how this would affect the NSW group and Prue responded that she thought that the administration could be shared nationally.

## 8 National Guidelines for Hospital Libraries

Tricia Scolaro advised that she would be writing to each state group asking them to nominate a representative to be on a committee to prepare a revision of the guidelines. The convenor of the committee would be elected by and from the members.

## 9 Physical Requirements for Hospital Libraries

Lindsay Harris proposed a motion 'That the HLS National Executive should approach General Council with a view to forming a joint ALIA / Standards Australia working party to prepare a library physical space / facilities standard'. He noted that this would complement, not conflict with the Guidelines development and is needed to have architects and planners give proper consideration to good library design. He has surveyed such guidelines in other countries and found very little information

available. He believes that the move needs peak body representation and resources committed to make it happen. Vikki Cail seconded the motion and it was accepted by those present. Diana Rylatt asked that a copy of the motion go to Specials National Executive and Don Keast asked that a copy go to all other sections. It may be that there is a need for a generic library standard with appendices for each type of library sector.

### 10 & 11 Specials Health & Law Librarians' Conference Forward Planning & HLS National Executive

Tricia Scolaro explained that HLS needs to have some idea of the rotation of conference location due to the possibility that we may be hosting ICML in 2005 in Sydney. The national executive of Specials Section is now aware of our need to keep 2005 in Sydney.

The two year National Executive responsibilities have usually gone to the state group which is organising the biennial conference. The Tasmanian group has indicated that they are very small and cannot carry out both roles. They had requested that another state take on the National Executive responsibilities. This has also happened with Specials Section. Specials agreed to keep the National Executive in WA for a further 12 months and for it to then go to another state for the next 3 years. Tricia Scolaro proposed that WA remain the National Executive for 1998 and discuss with the Victorian section if they would be prepared to take on the role from 1999 to 2001. Seconded by Shanti Nadaraja and accepted by all.

YEAR	HLS NATIONAL EXEC BASED IN	CONFERENCE STATE & CITY
1985	Victoria (1984-85)	Melbourne, Vic
1987	South Australia (1986-87)	Adelaide, SA
1989	Queensland (1988-89)	New Zealand
1991	New South Wales (1990-91)	Canberra, ACT
1993	Western Australia (1992-93)	Gold Coast, Qld
1995	New South Wales (1994-95)	Sydney, NSW
1997	Western Australia (1996-98)	Perth, WA
1999	WA 1998, VIC 1999??	Hobart, Tas
2001	Victoria?	
2003	South Australia?	
2005	New South Wales?	

### 12 Other Business

A meeting was held on Tuesday 14 October to devise strategies to raise the profile of health librarians and to emphasise the contribution our services could add to an organisation. As a result of that meeting, Cheryl Hamill has undertaken to provide members with a survey instrument that can be used to measure the impact of services delivered by the first quarter of 1998. Gillian McCardle will take on the promotional leaflet that the ACT group has prepared and enhance the presentation and make it available for any state group or individual who wishes to make use of it (with acknowledgements to the ACT section). She will put it on ALIANet. Tricia Scolaro will pursue revision of the guidelines as mentioned in agenda item 8 as this is thought to be essential both practically and as a strategy to raise the profile of the services provided by health librarians.

Cheryl Hamill proposed that the National Executive write to General Council to encourage them to forge closer links with Asia / Pacific library associations. Claire Pillar seconded, and accepted by those present. This is in response to the lack of success WA have had in making significant contacts in the region for a conference titled "Asian Pacific". The objective is to form sister association links, gather and send information between members of associations in the region on conferences, events and issues in our countries, and give recognition in conference fee structures that membership in the home country association is given parity with ALIA membership. Lindsay Harris noted that many librarians in the region are members of the International Federation of Documentation and that this organisation should also be recognised. There may need to be members from the Asia Pacific region on the conference organising committee in order for the name to be in any way meaningful.

Tricia Scolaro announced that the National Section had awarded Angela Smith a \$500 subsidy to assist her to attend the conference. Angela thanked the National Executive for providing the grant which was given to assist a relatively new member of the profession and a conference novice to attend what may otherwise have been unaffordable. Angela will write an article on her experiences for the national newsletter.

Andy Smithies, convener of the 1999 conference, advised that the conference would be held from 22-26 August at Wrest Point Casino with the theme Strait to the Future. The Tasmanian group has requested appointment of a liaison person on National Executive. Shanti Nadaraja suggested that the Tasmanian conference organisers appoint a specific person with responsibilities for liaising with the Asia Pacific Region.

Lindsay Harris moved a vote of thanks to the Western Australian National Executive and to those involved in organising the Conference.



ALIA HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION

Anne Harrison Award: Award Administration

Report to the Annual General Meeting, October 1997

1995 Award

Kathy Saurine received the Anne Harrison Award in 1995 to support the investigation of the impact and challenges for health libraries operating in increasingly commercial environments.

Kathy has kept the issues of privatisation and commercialisation before us for the last two years, and her work has culminated in the presentation of her paper at the On the Edge Conference in Perth, and in the production of the book *Health libraries : challenges in the commercial environment* (Auslib Press, 1997). The Award Administrators congratulate Kathy on the conduct and presentation of her study.

1996 Award (The "Alternate Year" Award)

The funds for the "alternate year" Award were set up, for a ten year period, at the 1993 Annual General Meeting of the Health Libraries Section. The aim of the Award in these years is to provide funds for state HLS or local groups to mount a continuing education activity in the non-conference year.

The Award was made available for the second time in 1996, but no eligible applications were received.

This Award will be available in 1998, and the Award Administrators hope that there will be practical and imaginative proposals from all states.

The 1997 Award

The Fund Administrators allocated \$3300 for the Award in 1997. The availability of the Award was advertised in the HLS newsletter, through various electronic networks and through an article in *Incite*.

This promotion produced a reasonable amount of interest with eight information kits being distributed.

In the end the actual number of applications received was disappointing, especially given the amount of money available, the modest financial requirements of this year's selected Award project, and the needs and opportunities which could be usefully addressed with the assistance of some funds. The Administrators consider that the Web in particular provides opportunities for resource sharing which we need to exploit.

The Award winning project this year follows in the tradition of a number of other Award projects, in that the outcome will be a resource which can be used by many of us.

The nominee of the Award Committee is Lorena Smimeos, Deputy Chief Librarian, Health Sciences Library, Alfred Hospital, Prahran, Victoria. The project is entitled: *The Internet as an information resource : health professionals use of the Internet*. The major outcome for which the Anne Harrison Award has been granted is the development, testing and publication of a questionnaire and associated documentation,

which can be used by health librarians to assess the use made of the Internet by their clients. The application of the questionnaire will provide information to help librarians develop services to support and exploit Internet resources. As the questionnaire has been developed as part of a research project, a thesis and associated articles will provide additional information. The Award Administrators recommend that \$800 be provided to support the development of the questionnaire.

Recommendations for amendments to the Constitution.

The current constitution contains dates based on the granting of the Award at Annual General Meetings held in August.

The changes are to remove dates and to replace them with a period of time prior to the date of the AGM.

The recommended changes are:

Part A.

Heading: Conduct and Conferal of the Award.

Clause d: Applications shall close *at least three months before the date of the Annual General Meeting.*

Heading: Function of the Award Administrators

Paragraph 5: The Administrators shall be responsible to the National Executive of the Health Libraries Section. They shall report to the National Executive *at a scheduled meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting:*

Part B. Guidelines for applicants

Last line: Applications should reach the Administrators by ... (leave blank, date to be fixed by the Administrators)

Anne Batt

Brigitte Glockner

Ann Ritchie

Susan Luitly

ALIA HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION

Anne Harrison Fund Administration

Report to the Annual General Meeting, October 1997

The aim of the Fund Administrators is to provide funds for the Awards, while ensuring that the value of the principle invested maintains its value relative to inflation.

Funds Invested

\$12,000.00 @ 6.0% due 8 August 1999  
 \$12,961.04 @ 7.75% due 3 April 1999  
 \$2,179.66 @ 6.5% due 8 February 1998  
 \$5,691.45 @ 7.75% due 20 February 1998

Total in investment accounts \$32, 832.15

Total in operating account at 1/10/97 \$2300.58

Components of the above funds include:

1. \$4880.72 (plus interest for 1997) for alternate year Awards (1998, 2000, 2002). \$1800 will be available from these funds for 1998. Money for this Award was originally set aside in 1993, with the capital and interest to be allocated to five Awards over a ten year period.

2. \$3500 available for the 1997 Award. The amount required for the 1997 Award is \$800.

Recommendation:

Of the \$2700 not awarded in 1997, \$1700 be added to the alternate year Award in 1998 (bringing the amount available to \$3500), and \$1000 be added to the capital invested for the main Award.

Anne Batt



Brigitte Glockner



Susan Lutley



ALIA HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION

Statement of accounts as at 1/10/97

1997 opening balance \$5323.32  
 Refund from Anne Harrison Accounts \$3000.00

Income

Sale of publications 252.45  
 Advertising in Newsletter 365.00  
 Interest (from fixed deposit) 225.01  
 Interest 34.53

TOTAL \$876.99

Expenditure

Newsletters 1130.00  
 Conference - Training for session chairs 185.00  
 Bank charges 5.14

TOTAL (\$1320.24)

BALANCE as at 1/10/97 \$7880.17

(Bank reconciliation: Balance \$8065.17 less unrepresented cheque \$185 = \$7880.17)



Anne Batt  
 Hon. Treasurer

19 August 1997

M. Jean-Philippe Accart  
 Chair, IFLA Section of Biological and Medical Sciences  
 ANACT  
 40-41, Quai Fulchiron  
 69321 Lyon Cedex 05  
 FRANCE

Telecopie: 78 37 96 90

Dear M Accart,

### **Proposal for the ALIA Health Libraries Section to host 9ICML**

The Australian Library and Information Association has pleasure in inviting the IFLA Section of Biological & Medical Sciences to hold the 9th International Congress on Medical Librarianship in Australia in 2005.

#### **Rationale**

Coming to the southern hemisphere would be an exciting move for ICML! In Australia we can offer two special themes:

1. Health library services to remote areas; and
2. Health library services in a multicultural society.

The Health Libraries Section of the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) has the full support of the national body for its bid to hold the 2005 congress. The Association has considerable experience in organising conferences, including those of the size of ICML. The annual IFLA conference was held in Sydney in 1988, and our biennial conferences regularly attract over 1000 delegates. The Health Libraries Section of ALIA also has conference experience through active participation in organising the ÔSpecials, Health and Law LibrariansÕ conferences which are held every second year in Australia.

#### **The host association**

The Australian Library and Information Association is the professional association for the library and information services industry in Australia. It has over 7500 members throughout Australia and overseas. It has a branch in each State and over 100 geographic and special interest groups. It maintains an Internet site at <http://www.alia.org.au>.

9ICML would be hosted by the Health Libraries Section of ALIA which has branches in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia. The ALIA Health Libraries Section undertakes a wide range of activities on behalf of all those who are involved in health related librarianship. The section is a member of the Australian Council of Allied Health Professions. A national newsletter is circulated to all members quarterly. The section maintains an ongoing interest in hospital library standards, an interlibrary loan co-operative network and seminars and workshops on management issues.

A number of members of the Health Libraries Section have attended ICML in previous years and are looking forward to attending 8ICML in London.

#### **Venue**

The proposed location is Sydney and the likely venue is the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre in the heart of Sydney, Darling Harbour. The centre has the capacity to seat over 3000 delegates at keynote sessions, can accommodate up to 100 booths for a trade exhibition, and has very versatile break-out rooms. There is detailed information about the venue at <http://www.scec.com.au/cc.htm>.

Within the Darling Harbour precinct there are 2500 hotel rooms and apartments (from three to five-star), with a wide range of accommodation options, ranging from student residences to five-star rooms within easy reach of the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Sydney has a wide variety of health libraries with many library visits possible. For example: hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, government. Pre- or post-conference tours, including library visits, could be organised to Canberra, Melbourne, other State capital cities and remote areas.

#### **Program**

Should we be successful in attracting this congress to Australia in 2005 we would propose that the program would be based on the two themes mentioned above, and would take into account the program of 8ICML in London. The conference venue will allow a variety of continuing education sessions, plenary sessions, workshops, contributed papers, poster papers and trade exhibitions.

It is planned to hold 9ICML back-to-back with the 2005 Specials, Health and Law Librarians conference. This will enable a more extensive trade exhibition and provide an opportunity for Australian health librarians to attend an international conference.

#### **Key contact**

A committee has been formed to deal with the early stages of planning for 9ICML. There is a representative from each state branch of the Health Libraries Section. The committee reports to a National Executive of the Health Libraries Section. The convener of this preliminary committee is:

Ms Prue Deacon  
 Department of Health and Family Services  
 GPO Box 9848  
 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia  
 e-mail: [prue.deacon@health.gov.au](mailto:prue.deacon@health.gov.au)

Ms Deacon has worked as a health librarian since 1979 and attended 5ICML in Tokyo and 7ICML in Washington DC. She is a member of the Health Libraries and Cataloguers Sections of ALIA.

I look forward to your consideration of this proposal. I would be happy to provide further information as required.

Yours sincerely

Virginia Walsh  
 ALIA Executive Director

## EVIDENCE BASED HEALTH CARE

A package of audio-tapes from the evidence-based healthcare seminar held during the 'on the edge' conference in Perth 15 October was distributed to all state presidents on 4 November. I've asked each state president to house the package in a Library which is prepared to lend the tapes through the inter-library loans system.

On the tapes is Prof Joanne Gard Marshall, University of Toronto; Dr Judy Palmer, University of Oxford; John van Loo, University of Sheffield; Dianne Roberts, Therapeutic Goods Administration; and the chairperson for the session, Ann Ritchie, Hollywood Hospital, Perth.

The tapes have been sent to:

Ann Ritchie, Hollywood Hosp, WA  
 Michael Rigby, Sydney Adventist Hosp, NSW  
 Anne Fricker, SA  
 Kathy Saurine, Tas  
 Stephen Due, Geelong Hosp, Vic  
 Saroj Bhatia, Canberra Hosp, ACT  
 Colleen Pyne, North Aust Research Unit, NT  
 Jane Simon, QEII Hosp, Qld  
 Suzanne Jones, Alcohol Advisory Council of NZ,  
 Wellington NZ

State presidents have been asked to inform members of the eventual location and inter-library loan arrangements in each state. Anyone in a rush to hear them may request them now via inter-library loan from Hollywood Hospital in WA.

### ★Evidence-Based Healthcare Bibliography★

A six page bibliography is available on request. Included in the bibliography are books, library services & ebhc, journals, CD-ROMs, an internet discussion list, and internet sites on ebhc. Available in print form or as an attached email file (Word 6) from Cheryl Hamill

Cheryl Hamill, Librarian in Charge  
 Fremantle Hospital & Health Service  
 PO Box 480, Fremantle WA 6959  
 Cheryl.Hamill@health.wa.gov.au  
 Ph (08) 9431 2780 fax (08) 9431 2522

## ◆◆◆◆◆ Newsletter Deadlines

**COPY DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH 1998 ISSUE IS  
 FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY**

**Copy to be sent on IBM formatted disc  
with hard copy to the editor or by email.**

See details below



### National Executive Health Libraries Section 1998

#### President

Tricia Scolaro, Princess Margaret Hospital  
 Library, Roberts Road, Subiaco WA 6008  
 Ph (08) 9340 8465 Fax (08) 9382 3055  
 email Tricia.Scolaro@health.wa.gov.au

#### Secretary

Robyn Hull, Psychiatric Services Library,  
 Graylands Hospital, Mt Claremont WA 6010  
 Ph (08) 9347 6711 Fax (08) 9383 1233

#### Treasurer

Anne Batt, UWA Medical Library, QEII  
 Medical Centre, Verdun Street,  
 Nedlands WA 6009  
 Ph (08) 9346 2917 Fax (08) 9381 1553  
 email abatt@library.uwa.edu.au

#### Newsletter Editor

Gillian McCardle, Health Information Resource  
 Service, King Edward Memorial Hospital,  
 374 Bagot Road, Subiaco 6008  
 Ph (08) 9340 1100 Fax (08) 9340 1124  
 email gillian.mccardle@health.wa.gov.au



*The editor would like to wish everyone a  
 safe and happy Christmas  
 and looks forward  
 to lots of wonderful copy  
 for our newsletter in 1998!!*