



National Executive Committee Meeting

The ALLG recognises the importance of developing and maintaining a strong national identity. This is a demanding process given that the Committee membership changes regularly and the Committee meets only once each year. Email has made communication easier. National Committee members receive regular updates and provide feedback as requested after consulting their state committees and members.

My experience of ALLG National Executive Committee meetings is entirely positive. It is invigorating to sit down with a group of colleagues who all want to see the Group achieve its objectives and deliver benefits to its members. This year's meeting, held during the Law Symposium in Melbourne in early October, was right on track. There was much progress to report on – projects from the web site redevelopment initiative, constitution review, conference scholarship programme and the selection criteria review, the conference programme for 1999 and 2000 and developments with the *Australian Law Librarian*.

The possibility of organising a joint ALLG/NZLLG conference was discussed. Following preliminary input from **Jane Treadwell**, the NZLLG nominee, and consideration by the New South Wales State Division, it was decided that the ALLG will run a third Law Symposium in Sydney in 2000. I have written to the NZLLG explaining the reasons for the decision. The ALLG National Committee hopes that New Zealand law librarians will participate in the Symposium and looks forward to developing closer links between the two organisations.

Future Directions

We are in the process of revising our Constitution. The Constitution sets out the Group's objectives in broad terms. There is also a need for a document which expands on these objectives and sets out specific initiatives to achieve them. The American Association of Law Libraries has produced a report called *The Strategic Challenge 1998-2000* which identifies and defines a number of strategic directions and outlines an implementation plan. This report will provide a model for an ALLG document which will be prepared over the next few months and ratified at the Biennial General Meeting.

Biennial General Meeting

The format of the next meeting which will be held during the 8th Asian Specials, Health and Law conference in Hobart in August 1999 will allow greater scope for input from members. The agenda will include current projects, future initiatives and any other relevant topical issues. These changes to the structure of the meeting are in direct response to a request from the Tasmanian Division for a more open forum for discussion. Formal reports will be tabled and distributed with the Minutes.

International Conference Scholarship Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria Guidelines have been prepared for international conference scholarships. The document also covers the selection process. It can be adapted to suit awards of all kinds at both national and state levels.

1999 Oceana Publications US Conference Scholarship

The next American Association of Law Libraries conference will be held in Washington, DC in mid July 1999. Application details for this scholarship are on page 274. Thanks to Oceana Publications for their generous support of the ALLG Conference Scholarship Programme.

New National Publishers' Liaison Co-ordinator

Greig Williams, the Publishers' Liaison Representative (Victorian Division) has taken over the role of National Publishers' Liaison Co-ordinator previously held by **Anne Gardner**. Many thanks to Anne for her efforts over the last twelve months. She remains the ALLG's National Web Site Co-ordinator.

New Owner for the anz-law-librarians- one list

Frieda Evans, the NT Supreme Court Librarian and NT ALLG State President is the new list owner. Thanks to **Elizabeth White**, Law Librarian at the University of Wollongong who has managed the list for over three years. Responsibility for the list will now rotate between the states every two years.

I have had some very positive feedback about the Group's direction recently. It has been a productive year and all indications are that 1999 will be just as successful

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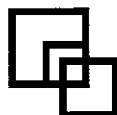
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