

Executive Committee Report

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the LAA met in Sydney on the 28 May. The President had only just returned (6 am for a 9 am meeting!) from a visit overseas where she attended the UAP Congress and spoke with the President and Secretary-General of IFLA. Further details of the visit will appear in a subsequent issue of *InCite*.

Financial regulations

A problem raised at the last meeting of General Council was the difficulty some divisions have preparing annual accounts and the ensuing high cost of LAA audits.

The General Treasurer has consequently prepared draft revised financial regulations altering the basis of profit sharing and remittance to the LAA in an attempt to simplify accounting procedures. These regulations will be circulated and must be submitted to the General Council meeting in August.

Membership

The membership report presented to the end of April shows that there were 5195 financial members as opposed to 5140 in the same period of 1981. By the end of May this figure had risen to 5544. We have no comparable

figure for 1981. This response is very encouraging, however there still remain 1410 unfinancial members.

Standards for libraries

At the beginning of 1980 General Council asked that all Sections report to the next meeting on the adequacy of existing standards, and on action proposed to remedy any deficiencies found. Due to a number of reasons, not least being the enormous task of preparing standards or performance measures, little has so far resulted.

At the April meeting of General Council the various members of the Public Libraries Section implored the Association to regenerate interest and action. The recent spate of amalgamations has also highlighted the need for 'standards' of some type.

The Executive discussed requests from several members and believes the LAA has an obligation in this area, with this obligation extending to funding work or seeking funds from other bodies. It is hoped that General Council will discuss this extensively at its meeting in August with a view to establishing a committee on library standards, who can advise Council on needs and resources required to fulfil these needs.

Australian archives

The Victorian Branch sent information to the Executive relating to cuts in funding for Australian archives. This will be discussed again at the next meeting when more information has been sought, before any action is taken at the national level. The LAA has already made representations following the 'Razor Gang' report and including cuts to the Australian archives.

National Information Policy

A meeting is planned after the August conference between the LAA, AACOBS, Australian Computer Society (ACS) and the Institution of Radio and Electronics Engineers (IREE) to discuss the issues involved in drafting a National Information Policy. Each group is to prepare a short position paper to be used as a basis for discussion. The General Secretary, Averill Edwards, is to prepare a paper on behalf of the LAA.

IFLA 1988

Whilst overseas the President was told that if Australia would like to host IFLA 1988 a formal binding invitation must be issued before May 1983. The Committee established to discuss the holding of this major conference will meet shortly.

Office accommodation

At the time of the Executive meeting no further progress had been made in the sale of the Elizabeth Street property. Tenders were being considered for the renovation of Jones Street.

LAA Constitution

As time progresses a number of the By-laws and Regulations require updating. The Executive is to suggest to General Council that a working party be established to update the Association's Constitution.

The next meeting is to be held on 7 July in Canberra.
Susan Acutt
Executive Director

A NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CURRENT AND FUTURE URICA DEVELOPMENTS

The AWA URICA Library System is an integrated set of computer modules covering all the major functions required by libraries, namely - acquisitions; cataloguing; circulation; enquiry; serials control.

THE USERS GROUP

(Blacktown City Library; Ryde Municipal Library; University of Tasmania and Preston College of TAFE.)

invites you to a
CONFERENCE

to be held in
SYDNEY

on

8 July 1982

(Venue to be advised)

Cost: \$125

Personnel from each user library and from AWA will be present.

It is proposed that the conference will centre on:
Current status and future developments at individual libraries and AWA.

The afternoon of the conference will concentrate on small working groups dealing with - acquisitions; cataloguing; circulation; enquiry and serials control modules.

The number of participants will be limited to 50 to enable all to interrelate adequately with the users, AWA and other participants.

This is your opportunity to become more informed on the 'current status' of the URICA system and converse with users.

For further information contact:

Preston College of TAFE

Learning Resources Centre, Library
St Georges Road
Preston Vic 3072
Phone: (03) 479 3345

(Pat Stewart/Marie Wood/Val Henshaw)

Go to war - or read a good book?

ONE AMERICAN COLLEGE is replacing library science on the curriculum with a course on weapons training.

Dr Edmond Watters, president of Montgomery County Community College in Pennsylvania explained that there was a lack of 'demonstrated interest' in library science as well as few job opportunities.

He explained that public schools weren't hiring library employees at the same rate as they had done a few years ago, but positions in the security field had increased.

Dr Watters was optimistic about the success of the new course, pointing out that no such courses were at present being offered elsewhere in the United States.

Commencing in July 1982!

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN INFORMATION STUDIES (CHILD/YOUNG ADULT)

This is a two-three year part-time post-graduate course designed for professional librarians who wish to develop specialised competencies and skills in the field of child/young adult library and information services.

1st Semester commences 26 July 1982

For further information on entry requirements and application form, contact The School of Library and Information Studies by Wednesday 30 June 1982.

Kuring-gai College of Advanced Education
Eton Road, Lindfield NSW 2070
Telephone (02) 467 9336/9261

Subject to Higher Education Board approval.

In this issue

All readers should receive a notice on Executive Mobility and its Stresses. Queensland readers should also receive a newsletter and a TAFE library pamphlet, and for Victorian readers there is a *Vibra '82* pamphlet.

Now you see it, now you don't!

MICRO-DATA, the producers of ATHCOM (Australasian Tertiary Handbook Collection on Microfiche) have advised us that some people have been experiencing problems in the storage of microfiche.

Some users have been storing microfiche in plastic folders containing an ingredient unsuitable for use in proximity to diazo microfilm. The reaction between the folders and the microfiche causes the images on the microfiche to disappear.

Micro-Data have asked us to alert microfiche users to this problem and to indicate that they will be pleased to advise users in the suitability of microfiche storage equipment.

People seeking advice should contact Phil Dallimore at Micro-Data Pty Ltd, 290 Coventry Street, South Melbourne 3205. Phone (03) 690 2011.