

Burning for learning



What does it take to be a librarian in TAFE?

According to Anne Floyd, convenor of the ALIA 2001 TAFE Libraries Conference, a great deal.

'TAFE librarians not only have the information management and retrieval skills that are expected of our profession, but also have an intimate knowledge of the industry in which we work. Vocational Education and Training is undergoing rapid change particularly in the client base, teaching and learning processes and the technology that is used to deliver services.'

'Our clients have a wide diversity in age, in learning styles, in expectations and in the technology they use to learn. TAFE librarians are therefore expected to understand the National Training Packages, Accreditation and Articulation processes, the ramifications at the local level of the National Competition Policy, Australian Quality Training Framework as well as a working knowledge of the curriculum being offered by their Institute.'

'TAFE libraries in Australia are in the process of transition. They need to service the needs of the face-to-face clients as well as deliver on-line library services. Given that the actual position that TAFE institutes and therefore library services are moving towards is unclear, excellent client service is no mean task.'

'We are often seen as change agents for the uptake of new processes and systems.'

'Why? Our skills and attitude!'

'Librarians possess the passion to empower the people we serve.'

TAFE libraries leading the way: passion, power and people is the theme of the ALIA 2001 TAFE libraries conference.

The conference program emphasises the dual role of the librarian in TAFE as knowledge manager and active partner in the teach-

ing and learning process. Key presenters, Dr David Warner and Ms Rachel Hunter, are renowned educators. Workshops presenters offer invaluable experience in online learning, collaborative partnerships, inspirational stories, career opportunities and much more!

An information literacy workshop will be held on Wednesday 24 October. This workshop, jointly organised by the National Working Group for TAFE Library Services and the ALIA National TAFE section, will examine the information literacy standards as published by CAUL. It will explore the use and adoption of these standards in the VET sector and look at current best practice by TAFE libraries in delivering information literacy skills training.

Everyone involved in the partnership between educators and library and information services are invited to join us at the Sheraton Hotel Brisbane Queensland from 21–23 October 2001.

If you would like further details regarding sponsorship and exhibition or would like to receive a registration brochure please contact the conference secretariat at: ALIA 2001 TAFE Libraries Conference, c/- Organisers Australia, PO Box 1237, Milton, Qld 4064, phone: 07 3369 7866 fax: 07 3367 1471; e-mail: vanessa@orgaus.com.au, or visit the conference website: <http://www.alia.org.au/sections/tafe/conferences/2001/>. ■



View of the Brisbane River

Australian IBBY welcomes a new president

Dr John Foster becomes the third president of the Australian National Section of IBBY — the International Board on Books for Young People. He succeeds Ena Noël, foundation president 1966–1991, and Juliana Bayfield who was president from 1991 to 2001.

IBBY, allied to UNESCO, is an international non-profit organisation consisting of some sixty member nations. In Australia the member is ALIA. All who work for the organisation do so in a voluntary capacity to bring books and young people together, to encourage the young to read, to look at and to listen to the best that is on offer.

John comes to the position of president with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the area of literature for young people. He teaches children's literature at the University of South Australia and is a senior lecturer in the School of International Studies. He is director of the Centre for Children's Literature and convenes the Children's Literature Major at that university.

John has been awarded fellowships

from the International Youth Library in Munich and the International Institute for children's Literature in Osaka, Japan. He has co-authored three books on aspects of children's literature, has written numerous articles for British, American, Austrian and Australian journals and regularly reviews children's books for two Australian journals.

He was welcomed as president by Ena at the national Hans Christian Andersen Dinner. The dinner which was held recently in Adelaide to honour the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen and International Children's Book Day was a fitting occasion for Australian IBBY to



Dr Alan Bundy with members of the Australian IBBY executive at the Hans Christian Andersen dinner. l-r Gerrit Stafford, treasurer; Alan Bundy, ALIA president; Ena Noël, founding president; Juliana Bayfield, retiring president and John Foster, incoming president.

farewell Juliana and to welcome John to the presidency.

Australian IBBY was privileged in having Dr Alan Bundy, representing ALIA, as guest of honour. Alan spoke about IBBY and its mission and in farewelling Juliana he read a letter of appreciation written by Jennefer Nicholson, ALIA executive director, commending and thanking her for her work during the decade of her presidency. ■