



## The times, they are a'changin'

In this issue of INCITE we are exploring the changing face of our industry. As with any organisation that's been around as long as we have, a lot has changed about how we go about our daily business of being library and information professionals since

any of us first began our careers – even our very newest new grads are seeing change galloping towards them at full speed.

The Association has been through some major changes over the years, not least moving to our current organisational structure and the changes to our name undertaken in an effort to reflect the broadening roles and responsibilities of our members. We have introduced new categories of membership over time to better represent these

ties to international organisations such as IFLA, are important. They help ALIA to ensure the quality and relevance of services to our members and the delivery of effective advocacy strategies for the broader community.

Ours is a profession marked by an unusual level of proficiency in networking. This is a great advantage to us in achieving the objectives of the Association and the profession – ensuring the free flow of information and connecting people to ideas. These partnerships also deliver a direct benefit to members, for example through reciprocal membership of IFLA and, through agreements to assist members wishing to transfer and register with other professional library associations such as CLIP.

So while the times may change, and the delivery format of information and services definitely will change, it is the underlying – and largely unchanging – values of the profession that allow us to effectively deal with the challenges change consistently brings. The Association's strategic plan is all about protecting those values and equipping members to make the most of change.

Rob Miller  
ALIA Acting Executive Director  
rob.miller@alia.org.au

OURS IS A PROFESSION MARKED BY AN UNUSUAL LEVEL OF PROFICIENCY IN NETWORKING. THIS IS A GREAT ADVANTAGE TO US IN ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION AND THE PROFESSION – ENSURING THE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION AND CONNECTING PEOPLE TO IDEAS.

new roles, among them the Library Technician membership. We have reviewed our awards structure too, to ensure we are continuing to identify and reward real, relevant excellence in the sector.

While over 50 organisations presently represent various groups in the library and information services sector, ALIA, as the peak body, also reaches out to other sectors employing what the federal government is pleased to call the information and organisation occupations. Our submissions and advocacy initiatives often involve joint activities such as those with the Australian School Library Association, National and State Libraries Australasia, Australian Libraries Copyright Committee, and the Public Library Associations. These strong partnerships, such as with our colleagues in record management, archives, and major cultural institutions, and our

## ALIA SNAPSHOT

### Counting down to the Biennial

With the festive season done and dusted for another year, it's suddenly not long til the ALIA Biennial Conference, *Discovery*, in July. Check the website for early bird registration discounts and all the latest news about the program and satellite events. Where else would you want to be in this, our special anniversary year? **conferences. alia.org.au/alia2012**

### New regular research feature for INCITE

Watch out from this issue for our new feature column, *LIS: Investigations*, a roundup of the latest in library and information services research. This column is coordinated by the ALIA Research Committee. Do you know about some great research going on right now? Let INCITE know by emailing us at **incite@alia.org.au**.

### Correction

In the article *The Secret Should Be Out* (INCITE December 2011, p. 8) the Inquiry into School Libraries and Teacher Librarians was referred to as a Senate Inquiry. Our apologies for this error; it was in fact a House Inquiry.