

TIP-OFF: News from the Executive Director

THE WEEK FOLLOWING Easter saw the gathering of the decision-making body of the Association – General Council. This two-day meeting was preceded by a meeting of the Executive Committee. Like all first meetings of the year, there were new faces, new ideas and new friendships.

It was particularly gratifying to see the Presidents of all Branches present as invited observers. During the two days there were sometimes as many as fifteen observers; hopefully this is an indication of the general interest in the welfare and progress of the Association. General Council particularly welcomed as observers Mrs Dorothea Brown, President of the New Zealand Library Association and Ms Helen Tait, Co-Convener of the 1984 Conference Committee.

A full report of the Council meeting will appear in the next issue of *InCite*; in this column I will preview some of the more exciting issues discussed. The stage was appropriately set by discussion centring on the role of the General Council and the Executive Committee.

For new Councillors the relationship between the two bodies may be a little unclear – this was an excellent opportunity to answer queries. Under our By-laws the Executive Committee has such powers as the General Council from time to time directs. To avoid any confusion, I will draw up a list of delegations of authority for the next meeting of Council.

The conduct and powers of the Annual General Meeting has been an almost endless topic for discussion. In preparation for the 1982 AGM, which will be one of the high points of the Conference, the Executive sought legal advice on the powers of an AGM over Council. The resulting opinion was that resolutions of an AGM are binding on Council. Accepting this advice could mean a considerable change in the operation of the Association. In view of this, a second opinion was sought which verified the first. This issue certainly made for lengthy and difficult discussion at the Council meeting, and I shall enumerate further on this in the next issue of *InCite*.

LAA conferences are always a topic for discussion and at the moment the Association has some plans under way for 1982, 1984, 1986 and 1988. To the great pleasure of the Northern Territory Branch, General Council resolved that the 1986 Biennial Conference would be held in Darwin.

Two topics to be considered by council in the future are – the role of the LAA and information scientists, and the legal responsibilities of librarians. These will be discussed at length at future meetings.

The subject of office accommodation was in the minds of most Councillors as a lot had happened since the previous meeting. The LAA has now purchased new premises in Jones Street, Ultimo. A full report of this will appear in the next issue of *InCite*.

These were only a few of the subjects discussed. The meeting was very long and the finish at 5 pm on Saturday was due only to the skilful chairing of the President. The next meeting will be held in Adelaide on Friday, 20 and Saturday, 21 August.

Susan Acutt
Executive Director

Latest news from LAA22

CONFERENCE ORGANISERS ARE delighted at the number of early enrolments. Could anyone who enrolled before their travel arrangements were completed, please notify Ellisservice (the conference organisers) of the final details. This is particularly important for those planning to have lunch at the University on Saturday, 22 August.

Enrolments made after 29 May will be subject to \$25 late fee, so please act promptly to avoid this! This will also help to ensure that you receive your choice of hotel and special study. This is particularly important where numbers for special studies are limited.

If you wish to take part in any of the sightseeing tours listed on page 10 of the Conference Circular, you should send \$20 with your registration, not the full amount as implied on the registration form.

Changes

The Special Study 'The librarian as manager in local government' (PU1) will now take place on Monday and Tuesday only.

In the parallel session 'Children, information and new technologies', John Cook will be joined by Bob Miller from the Educational Technology Centre in South Australia. In 'Outline public access catalogues and reader services', Ron Wehir has been replaced by Barry Martin also of the University of Melbourne. Bob Hogg of the Australian PLATO Services has withdrawn from the session, 'New learning resources', and a replacement is being sought.

Child-care and LAA22

Steering Committee members have investigated the availability of child-care facilities for delegates to LAA22.

The University of Adelaide, a major conference venue, has affiliated child-care services catering for children between three

Launching party for Directory of Special Libraries



The Canberra launching of the *Directory of Special Libraries in Australia* was held on 10 March in CSIRO Headquarters Conference Room. It was well attended by Canberra-based Special Librarians. Guests included Judith Baskin, President of LAA, Harrison Bryan, Director-General of the National Library of Australia, Peter Judge, O-i-C, CILES in CSIRO and Terry Holden, from CSIRO-DCR. CSIRO assisted greatly with the production of the Directory.

The editors at the Canberra launching presented Mr Bryan with the deposit copy which had been autographed by the editors and speech makers. The photograph shows Harrison Bryan receiving the Directory from Jean Geue and Heather Howard.

months and five years. Direct day time access to these facilities cannot be offered to conference delegates because the Centres are fully booked, with permanent enrolments on a full time or part time basis.

The Management Committee offers the following suggestions:

1) For evenings and weekends when the Centre is not open normally, its full facilities could be made available with trained staff rostered to care for children. Staff costs would be the only expense to be met by parents and this would be on a share basis.

The maximum capacity is 60 children, including up to 12 babies; that is up to about 18 months or needing cots. Children over 5 could be accommodated for these sessions.

2) During day-time sessions, if there is sufficient demand, a suitable room in the South Australian College of Advanced Education (City Campus) will be set aside as a child-minding centre. Situated between the University of Adelaide and the Festival Centre, it would be very accessible to delegates. Experienced staff, known to the Management Committee, could be employed and equipment, keys and other requirements would be loaned by the Centre. This arrangement would be limited to children up to five.

We wish to stress that this would be a *child-minding* rather than a full child-care program; that is a normal week's program