

# ACHPIRST is a winner!

OVER THREE YEARS of effort by Melbourne's Footscray Institute of Technology library to achieve recognition of the need to improve control of Australian publications in recreation, sport and tourism have been rewarded.

It has been announced that all the Australian States and Territories through the Recreation Ministers' Council will fund the development of a national clearing house at FIT.

ACHPIRST – the Australian Clearing House for Publications in Recreation, Sport and Tourism is the idea of FIT Chief Librarian Alan Bundy. It will be developed in association with the two major overseas data bases, that of the Canadian Sport Information Resource Centre in Ottawa, and Leisure, Recreation and Tourism Abstracts based in Oxford UK. Both data bases can be accessed online in Australia.

Coordination of ACHPIRST will be the responsibility of FIT's Subject Librarian for Physical Education and Recreation, Fran Hegarty who says 'our overseas links will ensure that valuable Australian material is promptly and comprehensively made known internationally . . . we are also hoping to make the material available through AUSINET, funding permitting, in 1983. The biggest problem we anticipate in developing ACHPIRST is the collection of the wealth of items that are not published in the formal sense. To assist us in this task ACHPIRST will have a national advisory committee with representatives from all states and territories, as well as the National Library, ACROD and the Institute of Sport.'

Other aspects of ACHPIRST will be retrospective index of all Australian publications, and an abstracting journal of current materials, the first issue of which is planned for

September 1982.

ACHPIRST will be issuing a newsletter for the exchange of information and developments in recreation, sport and tourism documentation in Australia and overseas. Any library wishing to receive this newsletter and an explanatory leaflet on ACHPIRST should write to Ms F Hegarty, ACHPIRST Coordinator, FIT Library, PO Box 64, FOOTSCRAY, Vic 3011.

ACHPIRST is just one of two national clearing houses being developed by the Footscray Institute of Technology library in 1982. The other which will be of interest to all *InCite* readers is a clearing house for library and information science. This is being developed in association with Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA) as a cooperative venture with The Australian Education Index. More details will be given soon in *InCite*.

## Middle East survey

A NATIONAL SURVEY is being conducted into the information resources in Australia on the Middle East.

It is being carried out by the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services (AACOBS) in conjunction with the National Library of Australia and Footscray Institute of Technology. In charge of the project is the Chief Selection Librarian from the national library, Mr Richard Stone.

The aims of the survey are –  
 to describe the information resources on the Middle East which exist in Australia.  
 to establish a picture of the information needs of a broad sample of the Australian community most concerned with the Middle East.  
 to ascertain how these information needs are being met.  
 to recommend possible lines of action for future development.

The sample group is being drawn from the scholarly and academic communities, government agencies, the ethnic community, business, and the media.

Library based resources to be surveyed include all types of material whether printed, microform, audio-visual or manuscript. All languages will be included.

The emphasis is on the modern era and the contemporary Middle East. However significant resources on the ancient and classical aspects of the area will be noted. For the purposes of the survey the definition of the Middle East extends from Morocco to Afghanistan, and from Turkey to Southern Yemen. Cyprus is included.

Questions about the survey, or comments on information resources on the Middle East, should be sent to – Mr Richard Stone, AACOBS Middle East Survey, National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT 2600. (Tel (062) 62 1641).

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