

INFORMATION SCIENCE SECTION PROGRAM

Special Studies

Monday 23 August

- 2.00 pm Creating a database out of earth, fire, air and water.
Dr Peter RUSCH, Director of Chemical Information, DIALOG Information Service.
- 3.00 pm Developments in on-line book ordering.
Dr Philip L. HOLMES, Managing Director, Blackwell Technical Services Limited, UK.

Tuesday 24 August

- 2.00 pm Data bases — duty, profit or fun: a review.
Mr Peter JUDGE, CSIRO.
- 3.00 pm Electronic publishing and document delivery systems, including ADONIS.
Dr Philip HOLMES, Managing Director, Blackwell Technical Services Limited, UK.

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 24 August

- 4.00 pm This will follow Dr Holmes' paper on document delivery, after a brief interval.

Dinner

Tuesday 24 August

- 7.00 pm Joint ISS and Special Libraries Section dinner, Shang Ri-La Restaurant, 122 Unley Road, Unley. Charge: \$18.00 per person (includes drinks). Book early.

The School of General Studies is responsible for a wide range of leisure courses, subjects in the Business Studies Certificate, an adult literacy program, foreign languages, courses in the theatre arts, subjects in the Library Technician's Certificate and foundation courses as part of the transition program for unemployed youth. It also has under its auspices Para-Veterinary Science courses, training veterinary nurses, animal technicians and meat inspectors. Para-Veterinary Sciences also includes Equine Studies.

The School of Para-Dental Studies trains dental technicians and dental hygienists and looks after a public dental clinic in co-operation with the South Australian Health Commission.

The college has a well-appointed theatre and a sophisticated language laboratory.

The range of courses, student needs and diversity of staff backgrounds have enormous implications for the provision of teaching, learning and informational resources.

Students may have little experience of a library service; they may have literacy problems or, on the other hand, they may have high expectations of what a library in an educational institution should provide.

Staff may come from an academic background with Ph D qualifications or a technical background with little perceived need for books and periodicals. The rapidity of technological change may be critical in some subject areas and not in others. The library service is expected to cater for all these needs.

With such needs in mind, the Gilles Plains Community College library service was designed as a learning resource centre with provision for traditional library services as well as the acquisition and distribution of a wide range of audio-visual hardware. No distinction is made between book and non-book materials on the shelves. The Resource Centre administers the language laboratory, the darkroom and photocopying and other copying services. It provides a 16 mm and video ordering service, is responsible for the distribution and maintenance of all audio-visual hardware throughout the college and conducts in-service training for staff and students on the use of audio-visual equipment and preparation of teaching materials.

In the last two years, the demand from staff for bibliographic searches using computerised data bases has increased by over 70 percent and Resource Centre staff have attempted to meet these demands by making provision in the budget for staff training and computer searches using ABN, Ausinet and Orbit.

The Learning Resource Centre at Gilles Plains Community College was conceived as the hub of the teaching/learning process

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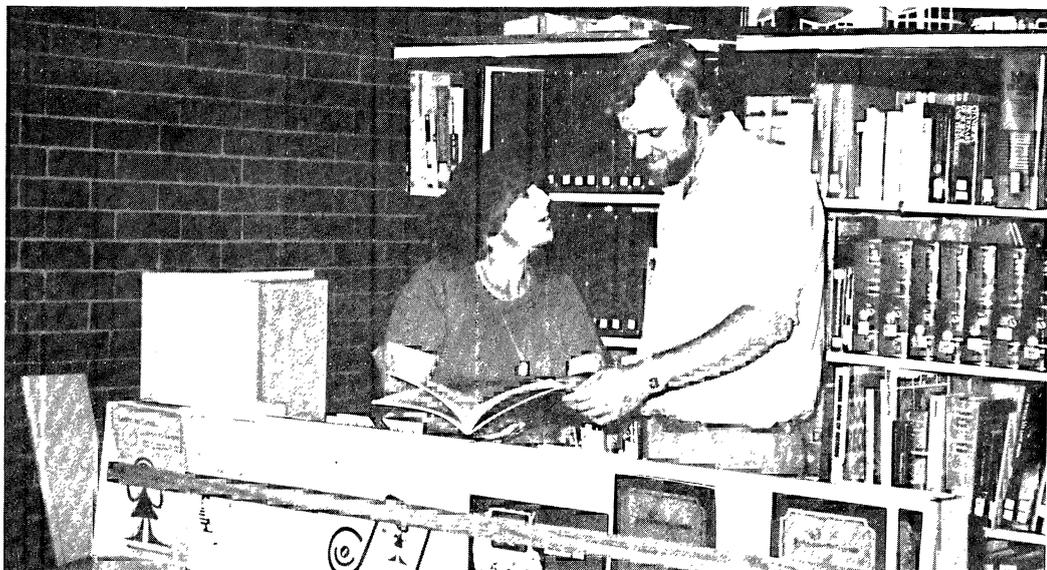
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Gilles Plains Community College Resource Centre

The major sources of education and training for adults in South Australia are provided by the Department of Technical and Further Education under the Minister of Education. There are 27 community colleges or colleges of further education which administer hundreds of branches, especially in primary and secondary schools, throughout the state.

TAFE is perhaps best known as the source of education for the skilled trades. However, TAFE in South Australia provides opportunities for a broader based vocational education apart from the recognised trades. In particular, the South Australian Department of TAFE trains students at technician or para-professional level in technical, business and community support disciplines as well as providing remedial education for groups such as Aborigines, migrants and adults with literacy and numeracy problems. It also provides a very wide range of leisure courses.

Gilles Plains Community College (TAFE) serves the north-eastern suburbs of Adelaide. It began offering its full educational program in February 1980 with the Schools of General Studies, Technical Studies and Para-Dental Studies. The college provides over 216,000 teaching hours with a full-time teaching staff of 60 and a part-time lecturing staff of over 200.



within the college. The Management Committee consists of all senior lecturers, the Lecturer Resource Centre, Principal, Deputy Heads of School, a teaching staff representative and a member of the college administrative staff.

The aim of the LRC is to promote effective learning through close co-operation with teaching staff in the planning, production and acquisition of appropriate learning materials. The college has set a precedent for TAFE libraries in South Australia because the Lecturer Resource Centre-in-charge is an educational technologist.

However, as so often happens in TAFE institutions where Commonwealth funds for buildings are not matched by state funds for human resources, the reality of the library provision has fallen far short of the dream. With a total of three effective full-time staff (including professional and clerical) and an annual budget of \$17,000 for collection building, the Resource Centre has been forced to restrict opening hours and to provide what can only be described as a 'holding operation'. With the state government's policy of nil growth in the public service, it is only realistic to assume that the situation will not change for the foreseeable future.

Gail Munro

Public Library growth

Ninety-nine new libraries in 8 years. This was the target suggested by the Libraries Services Planning Committee Report in 1978 and at the end of 1981/82 fifty-four of these libraries had been established. It is expected a further 12 libraries will be funded in 1982/83. The program is scheduled for completion in 1986.

In 1976, South Australia was considered by the Horton Report to have the second worst public library service in the Commonwealth. As a result, the SA Government commissioned its own report which started the state on a rapid library development program. In 1978 there were only 40 public libraries, the remainder of the state was serviced by a network of institutes – a subscription service that began in the 19th century.

To date all but 2 metropolitan councils are served by public libraries and many councils have embarked on a branch network as well. In the sparsely populated rural areas a different service has evolved. The major towns and cities are served by conventional libraries but the smaller rural settlements have opted for joint-use libraries with local high and area schools. At present there are 22 such libraries and by 1986, the end of the development plan, it is expected that South Australia will have 40 such facilities. The success of these school-community libraries can be seen in both membership and loan figures which generally are well above the state average.

Use of public libraries in South Australia, as in most other states, is enjoying a boom period. Many libraries have well over half their resident population regularly using library facilities and loans throughout the state are growing at 20 percent per annum.

Another joint-use service has been developed with TAFE Colleges with shared libraries at Murray Bridge, Naracoorte, Millicent, Loxton, Woomera and Noarlunga. Further joint services are in the planning stage. The original joint-use library, the Parks Community Centre, a multi-use community facility, was granted its autonomy in 1981 and is well worth a visit.

All public libraries in South Australia are joint investments by the state and local authority with each paying half of the costs.



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Parks Community Centre Library

The development program depends very heavily on the support of local authorities and the agreement of local institutes to dissolve. Although the program started well, local interest has skyrocketed over the last two years and the Libraries Board currently has a waiting list of 15 public libraries and 14 school-community libraries. As councils are seeing the benefits of a public library service in neighbouring municipalities they are asking for one too.

The Institutes Association of South Australia is located in the Public Libraries Division's premises in Norwood, and continues to serve over 100 institutes. It is hoped to keep these institutes operational until a public library network is provided throughout the state.

A further development in public library growth occurred this year with the passing of a new Libraries Act. This act provides the Libraries Board with greater representation from local authorities, control of institutes and wider opportunities to extend the range and depth of library services.

Euan M. Miller

Jogging Bibliophiles

Local Adelaide bibliophiles and jogging enthusiasts are in training for LAA22.

Each morning of the Conference joggers will meet at 7.15 at the southern end of the University foot bridge, Victoria Drive (just opposite the Victoria Drive University main entrance).

The jogging routes (of varying lengths) are most scenic – and you will be able to join many hundreds of local Adelaide joggers who start their day exercising along the river banks.

Full shower and locker facilities will be available at the University – and even a hot breakfast coffee at 8.30 am, before the intellectual rigours of the day at the nearby Festival Theatre.

So ... pack your sweat gear and joggers (and alarm clock).

Chris Harrison.

PS. Full details will be in your Conference satchel and handbook.

Computers – cure or complaint.

LAA 22 – Adelaide, August 22-26, 1982.

Some leisurely strolls

Visitors to LAA22 may well like to take advantage of an offer made by Kay Hannaford to 'Enjoy the leisure of Adelaide'.

Kay specialises in arranging personally guided walks, which, she says, combine exercise, information, food and fun. She suggests Sunday strolls along North Terrace, by the River Torrens, the University, or a Public Art walk.

A stained glass walk should prove an enlightening (sorry!) experience on Saturday afternoon, and the really daring might like to try the late-night walks along Hindley Street – Adelaide's 'red light' district!

For further information contact Kay Hannaford (08) 212 7049.