

News from the Divisions

VICTORIAN BRANCH COUNCIL

Program Budgeting

The feasibility of the LAA adopting this budgeting technique was raised by the Victorian Branch at the March General Council meeting. After considerable discussion the following resolution was passed:

That a small sub-committee consisting of the Treasurer, the Executive Director, the NSW and the Victorian General Councillors, be set up to investigate alternative measures for budgeting for the 1985 financial year.

Membership

Membership of the Association as a whole increased by 294 in 1983. Our Victorian increase was 4.49% (from 1,870 to 1,954 members). In 1984 the membership goal is for a 7½% increase so we will all need to examine new ways of attracting members.

Saturday Meeting

It was resolved to hold the December Branch meeting on a Saturday to enable country delegates to attend. It will be an all day meeting and the budget for 1985 will be a major agenda item.

Managing — more or less

This well-attended one day seminar concentrated on two issues of vital importance to public libraries, namely, the sinking level of State Government Subsidy and the Human Services Report, which advocates devolution of funding power to local authorities. If these recommendations were adopted by the State Government, libraries would no longer have the security of a tied grant but would have to compete with other service agencies in their community for funds.

Many of the participants at the seminar were Councillors and Local Government Administrators. A few Members of Parliament were also present. Debate on both issues was lively to say the least and the meeting resolved to set up a sub-committee of both librarians and councillors to work out a plan of action to improve financial support for Victoria public libraries.

Angela Bridgland

UCLS — QLD

Human Resources Management in Academic Libraries

UCLS has organised a preconference seminar on human resources management in academic libraries.

It will focus on the economic aspects of library services with particular emphasis on personnel management. Speakers are Alison Crook (State Library of NSW), Peter Durey (University of Auckland Library) and George Blackgrove, who has had a distinguished career as Manager, Organisation and Staff Development with MIM Holdings Ltd.

The seminar is free. The place and time is Griffith University, Brisbane on Sunday 26 August, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

See *Happenings* for details.

'Libraries: after 1984.' The theme of the LAA/NZLA Conference in Brisbane. The broad sociological patterns of change will be outlined by Professor Stephen Hill.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION NSW

'Organisation and management of people in the school library' was the subject of the latest Saturday seminar run by the NSW School Libraries Section. One hundred participants from as far afield as Wilcannia and Wagga gathered in the library at Normanhurst Boys High School to hear a number of speakers examine the role of the teacher-librarian in relation to students, clerical staff, classroom teachers and the school administration.

The stimulating keynote address by Mr Max Beardmore, Principal Consultant for P.A. Management Consultants, gave valuable insight into the general principles of management in relation to human behaviour. Mr Beardmore made the point that as the 'experts' in their own field, teacher-librarians have the power, and should have the confidence, to change behaviour in relation to the library. Defining management as 'getting things done through people,' Mr Beardmore suggested that there were a few simple steps for successful management — deciding what you want to do (setting objectives), deciding how to do it (planning), doing it (implementation) and evaluating what has been done (control).

A panel discussion by Mr Max Delaney, an Inspector for the NSW Department of Education, Sister Carmel McEwan, principal of Corpus Christie Primary School and a former member of the Schools Commission, Mrs Ruth Readford, Principal of Beverly Hills Girls High School, and Mrs Margaret Ford, Science teacher at Normanhurst Boys High School, considered the role of the teacher-librarian in the management of people as perceived by other members of the school community.

A lively examination of a number of interesting case studies concluded the afternoon. To give wider dissemination of a highly valuable experience, the section is planning to publish an occasional paper based on the day's activities.

The next School Libraries Section Seminar, 'Enquiry Skills — are they necessary?' will be held at Glebe High School on Saturday, 30 June, 1984. Contact Dianne Simpson, Sydney Church of England Grammar School, P.O. Box 1221, North Sydney, 2060 (Phone: 922 7983).

Beth McLaren

Hear Richard Landon on Special Collections and Conservation. LAA/NZLA Conference, Brisbane. 27-31 August.

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