

Sydney Technical College library opens



The new Sydney Technical College Library was officially opened by Senator Susan Ryan, Federal Minister for Education and Youth Affairs and Mr Ron Mulock, NSW Minister for Education on Friday, 11 November, 1983. Over 200 guests representing staff, students, former staff and industry attended. The LAA was represented by Susan Acutt, the then Executive Director, and Warren Horton, President for 1984.

Sydney Technical College is by far the largest College of Technical and Further Education in Australia. The College offers over 600 courses and has a student enrolment of more than 40,000.

The new library is the largest in the New South Wales TAFE system and serves the role of central library as well as servicing the Sydney Technical College campus.

The library currently holds 236,000 print volumes, 3,000 serial subscriptions and 24,000 audio visual items. The library occupies three levels and a total floor area of 7,000 square metres. It has study seating for 550 as well as a number of informal reading, viewing and listening areas and six seminar/conference rooms and four group study rooms provide seating for a further 250 people.

An area of about 1,000 square metres has been allocated for audio visual services including viewing and recording rooms and a music listening area.

Improvement likely for engineering data

BETTER CO-ORDINATION in collecting and documenting Australian engineering information is a likely result of the seminar/workshop *Engineering information and documentation in Australia: problems and solutions*, organised by Melbourne's Footscray Institute of Technology Library and the Australian Database Development Association, on 25 November 1983.

More than 70 people from around Australia discussed various aspects of the provision and dissemination of engineering literature, including the need for co-operation in indexing/abstracting and document supply; and difficulties of access to international conference papers.

Herbert Landau, president of Engineering Information Incorporated in New York, producer/publisher of Engineering Index and COMPENDEX, spoke about the continuing and exponential development of information management, particularly since 1968. He discussed three strategies: a national effort within Australia for computerised recording of engineering information; to leave such an operation to be developed by international indexes; and the third and recommended course, to combine the first two strategies in a 'piggyback' operation.

Representatives of existing databases containing Australian engineering information, gave their views on improving engineering documentation. Dr Max Lay of the Australian Road Research Board and Dr Ian Thomas of the BHP Melbourne Research Laboratories, spoke of the needs of practising engineers, including information of a less formal nature that emanates from 'the invisible college'.

There followed a diversity of views from librarians in the engineering field. Alex Byrne, Central Services Librarian, James Cook University of North Queensland spoke about overseas database coverage of Australian engineering literature and the need to improve its coverage within Australia. Ray Walsh, Technical Librarian, the South East Queensland Electricity Board, spoke on some co-operative aspects of documentation of Australian engineering information, giving examples of success in the electrical engineering field. Marta Chiba, Librarian of Hargrave Library for Engineering and Physical Sciences at Monash University, spoke about some future possibilities for

Australian engineering and documentation and suggested that a national technology transfer organisation would be a viable solution to existing problems in the area.

Views that emerged from the workshop discussions included the need for a national clearing house for engineering literature; gateways connecting systems for more comprehensive coverage and minimal overlap; and recognition that more response is needed from government and industry in information provision and support funding.

Continued interest in issues raised will be fostered during 1984 by the Australian Database Development Association.

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY GEELONG

Technical Services Librarian

Applications are invited for appointment to the position of Technical Services Librarian at Deakin University Library, consequent upon the retirement of Mr. N. Rudakov.

The Technical Services Librarian is responsible for the overall management of the Technical Services Division, which includes all acquisitions and cataloguing functions. The Division's staff establishment is 21, with additional temporary staff. The materials budget in 1984 is approximately \$610,000.

The Library has adopted the Dataphase system as the centre of its automation program. Cataloguing is by means of the Australian Bibliographic Network, and the acquisitions system is on the University's mainframe. The University is a member of CAVAL (Co-operative Action among Victorian Academic Libraries).

Applicants must have a degree from a recognized tertiary institution and an approved post-graduate qualification in librarianship, or equivalent professional qualifications. Applicants should have substantial experience at a senior level, preferably in technical services in an academic library.

Salary: \$31,390 to \$36,585 p.a.

Written applications, (quoting reference number 84/09) close on 29 February 1984 and should include a full curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees. Applications should be sent to the Personnel Branch, Deakin University, Victoria, 3217. Telephone (direct line) (052) 47 1131.

Further information is available from the Chief Librarian, Miss Margaret Cameron, telephone (052) 47 1344.

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