

ON THE INDUSTRIAL FRONT



Wages

Due to the wage indexation guidelines established by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in September 1983, the majority of Australian workers have received only two wage increases in the last 12 months: a 4.3% rise flowing from the National Wage Case in September 1983 and a 4.1% rise following the National Wage case in March 1984.

A number of unions, however, have achieved, or are presently attempting to achieve, salary improvements for their members within the principles laid down by the Arbitration Commission.

Library Technicians — Victoria

On 15 June, 1984 the Arbitration Commission approved an application by the MOA for insertion of a new classification — Library Technician. This provided for two grades of Library Technician, defined in terms of both qualification and levels of duties and responsibilities. The Commission stated that the date of operation of the classification must be 1 February 1984. The Commission's decision has, however, been appealed against by the MAV and the hearing before the Commission is set down for early next month.

Public Sector Unions 6% claim

Eleven NSW public sector unions including the PSA Teachers' Federation, Health and Research Employees' Association, the NSW Public Service Professional Officers' Association and the Independent Teachers' Association, have formed an alliance to campaign for a 6% catch-up claim. The combined unions are claiming that during the previous period of wage indexation, public sector wages fell behind those in the private sector.

Health and safety issues

Health and safety issues have gained a great deal of prominence recently, as a number of states have either recently passed, or are in the process of formulating, new health and safety legislation.

At the University of NSW a consultative committee, comprising representatives of the library staff, a PSA industrial staff member, the University's Property and Personnel representative and until recently the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Professor Carrington, has been established to consider the hazard posed by asbestos in the Main Library Building.

At the State Library of NSW negotiation between the PSA and library management have successfully resolved a problem relating to a fire exit which had been locked at 3.45pm each day for security reasons.

Work Level Standards

The working party on Work Level Standards met in Melbourne on Thursday 13 September 1984, to reconsider its draft work level standards document in the light of comments received from the division and other interested parties. A new draft is currently being prepared and will be circulated to divisions in October.

Louise Lansley

Industrial Information and Research Officer

continued from
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LAA OBJECTIVES 1984/85

Item	Progress to date	Action required	Date due	Action Officer	
10. Library Workforce	Working party to investigate implications of Manpower Study presented report. Recommendations referred to LWSC and Board of Education. LWSC established.	Continuing investigation of all matters relating to library workforce.	Ongoing	LWSC	
	Manpower study	LWSC investigating update.	Update required.	1985	LWSC
11. Library technicians in school libraries	Paper prepared by Industrial Information Officer 'Support staff in school libraries' an overview of classification.	Consideration by Council.	March 1984	Gen. Council Ind. Info. Off.	
12. Structure of the LAA	Last assessed 1975. Paper prepared by Susan Acutt and Barrie Mitcheson. Considered at March GC and working party established.	Terms of reference to be drawn up.	December 1984	Vice Pres. Working Party	
13. Membership 1) Fees	Set annually Review of method of setting fees.	Monitor.	Ongoing	GC, GT and ED	
**2) Comparison		Compare fees and services offered (may be incorporated into paper on structure).	1984	Exec. Director	
**3) Long Term Planning		Set targets for membership on long term basis.	November 1984	GC, ED, GT	
14. AFLC	Exec. Committee liaised with AFLC Committee. Submission presented to Prime Minister. Response received saying has been referred to PSB Proposal turned down June 1984.	Follow up correspondence being prepared.	Ongoing	Exec. Director, Exec. Cttee.	
15. **Marketing of library services	GC resolved that the LAA employ a PR consultant. However after obtaining several quotations resolved that the services were too expensive. An agreement has been signed with AAP PR wire to issue 20 releases p.a. Refer lobbying, point (4).	Monitor effect of AAP PR wire on LAA exposure.	1984	Gen. Council Exec. Cttee. Media Liaison Officers	
16. Public library financial support					
17. Future directions for profession and LAA	Futures Committee report prepared and presented to GC November 1983.	Consideration and resolution by Gen. Council. Comment from members.	Throughout 1984	Gen. Council	
18. International relations	Statement on South West Pacific. Further statement required on Indian Ocean. IRC has prepared statement on International Relations for consideration by GC. Nov. 1983. Referred back to IRC by March GC.	Consideration by Gen. Council and circulation to divisions.	August 1984	Gen. Council IRC	
19. Interlibrary lending and document delivery	WP convened by Peter Dawe established July 1983 to examine concept of centre of first resort.	Report from Working Party.	August 1984	Peter Dawe	
20. Freedom of Information	Following an announcement that the A-G is to review the FOI legislation, the LAA prepared a supplementary submission which was forwarded to the A-G, all Members of Federal Parliament and all policy committees. The submission has been quoted extensively in Senate debate.	Merilyn Bryce and Jeanette Knox maintain a watching brief and make recommendations to GC. Victorian legislation be investigated. Report to GC.	Ongoing	M. Bryce and J. Knox Exec. Director	
21. *Library and Information Research Foundation	GC approved in principle the establishment of an ALIRF. Circulated to divisions and interested parties for comment by 31 January.	ED to develop proposal further. GC to consider comments.	August 1984	Exec. Director Gen. Council	
22. Joint Australian Information Council	Formation of JAIC not considered appropriate by March 84 GC. An Information Research Forum has been formed in NSW.	Monitor success of Information Resources Forum.	March 1985	Gen. Council Exec. Director	
23. Volunteer workers	Draft statement prepared by Roy Stall and Judith Hill. Considered by Gen. Council November 1983, March 1984. Unable to reach agreement.	Gen. Councillor NT to have a new look at comments.	August 1984	Gen. Council	
24. Work level Standards for librarians and library technicians	Working Party convened by Ted Flowers established to draw up work level standards. Draft prepared by November 1983 for consideration by Gen. Council.	Divisions, Board of Education ASLA, POA, to comment by 31 March 1984.	August 1984	Gen. Council	
25. *Florence Agreement	GC resolved that approaches be made to the government re institution of the Florence Agreement. Joint Standing Committee on the Book Trade asked to prepare briefing.	Briefing required from Committee.	January 1984	Exec. Director Pam Trier	

To be completed in next issue

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