



SACAE LIBRARY/LAA MEDICAL LIBRARIES SECTION SA GROUP

**National Seminar
Health Sciences —
Alternatives, Choices
and Change**

28 November 1986

SACAE, Sturt Road, Bedford Park 5042

Cost: \$45 (includes lunch and teas)
Cheques payable to: SACAE Library
Closing date: 7 November 1986
Enquiries: Margaret Russon (08)
275 5289 Tlx: AA88420

Registration Form

Health Sciences — Alternatives,
Choice and Change

Send form and remittance to: Margaret Russon,
SACAE Library Sturt Rd, Bedford Park 5042.

NAME

ORGANISATION.....

ADDRESS

.....P'CODE

Q & A

Q: Where can you chat to Vincent Serventy, have a drink with Kate Grenville, listen to Gerard Windsor and Robert Pullan and do your Christmas shopping as well?

A: At the NBC 'Meet the Writers Evening'! at the Journalists Club, 36 Chalmers St, Sydney on 5 November 1986 starting at 6.00pm. Cost: \$7.50 per head, light refreshments will be served and drinks will be available from the bar.

Put the date in your diary and send off your cheque to: Brenda Pittard, NBC C/- 376 Jones St, Ultimo 2007. For enquiries call Brenda on (02) 692 9233.

SA STATE BUDGET AND LIBRARIES

Disaster befell two special libraries in South Australia's State budget. The Education Department Library, the largest library of its type in Australia and the Lands Department Library were axed as a cost saving measure. Both Departments argued that these services were becoming less relevant and stressed that organisational change would maintain such services in a different way.

It does suggest that smaller libraries need to be on their mettle to continue to show that their services are essential to their government departments. American surveys have shown that a 40% productivity drop can occur if a special library closes and users have to look elsewhere.

The Lands Department intends to merge its collection with the larger Department of Environment and Planning and suggests that consideration may have to be given to building larger co-operative collections and services to give special libraries more clout. A merging of government departmental libraries into a number of theme libraries may be a solution.

The Education Department library closure was part of a massive cut of central support services to put more staff in front of the blackboard. The South Australian Branch provoked public discussion on the issue in the press and this appears to be leading to some compromises. The Department has been attacked by both parent and staff organisations for the cuts.

Apart from these libraries, the State Library and public libraries had cutbacks in their growth although in general terms existing services have been able to be maintained.

The most disappointing aspect of the cut to the Public Library Development Programme to build 99 libraries in 8 years, was that its completion will now extend into a ninth year. The proposed budget for new libraries was halved leaving 10 Councils in the State still to get services, six of which with major subsidies required.

However, the recurrent subsidies to the 124 existing public libraries were maintained and increased in line with inflation. South Australia has a more complex formula for per capita subsidy than the Eastern States, but each service will receive approximately \$6.05 per capita. This will ensure that all but 15 services will receive full dollar for dollar subsidy. A particularly pleasing part of the budget was

the adjustment made to book subsidies by Treasury to take into account the fall in the value of the dollar that occurred last year. However, with current trends we will be looking for a further adjustment next year.

The State Library also suffered as the Reference Library did not get the expected final instalment in development funds for its collection that would have avoided using Trust funds, as it has done for the past five years and cuts were made to the Lending Service staffing which has led to a slight curtailment of hours. However, Lending Services has been re-organised and opened in a new location. It is expected that this new venue together with a new 'trend-setting' role that has been adopted for this service, will demonstrate to the community that the State Library has to be supported in the future. Reference Services is also looking at entrepreneurial schemes to keep it in the public eye as well.

In years of financial stringency, libraries have got to demonstrate clearly that funding levels cannot be cut, because user needs are even greater at such times.

*Euan Miller
SA, State Librarian*

NEW AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

CSIRO announced recently that it will continue to publish the Australian Journals of Scientific Research but will seek to put them on a sound commercial basis.

A proposed agreement between the Organisation and the Australian Academy of Science involves a major marketing effort to support the journals.

Published jointly with the Australian Academy of Science, the journals cost about \$2 million to produce in 1985-86 and returned almost \$500,000 in revenue. They are also used in an exchange program in which CSIRO receives publications from overseas institutions.

Mr Peter Dunstan, Director of CSIRO Bureau of Information and Public Communications, said the journals were a valuable resource for Australia and CSIRO wanted to continue publication but on the terms of the proposed publication agreement. The major elements of this are:

- universities and other user groups to contribute towards the cost of publication;
- reducing typesetting and other costs;
- increased subscription revenue and a quotation of overseas subscriptions in United States dollars;
- the preparation of a positive marketing plan involving more aggressive promotional support, a wider network of distributors, possible paid advertising and regular price reviews.

'The journals have established in their 40 year history an important place in Australian science,' Mr Dunstan said. 'They are distributed to more than 120 countries and are held in high regard by the international scientific community. The combination of more cost effective production, increased revenue and contributions from the major beneficiaries of the journals on the user-pays principle is expected to provide the stability necessary for the continuation and enhancement of the journals.'

The publications involved are the Australian Journals of Agricultural Research, Biological Sciences, Botany, Chemistry, Marine and Freshwater Research, Plant Physiology, Physics, Soil Research, Zoology and Australian Wildlife Research.

FIRST ASIAN-PACIFIC SPECIAL & LAW LIBRARIANS' CONFERENCE

Incorporating 7TH National Special Libraries Conference
2ND National Law Librarians' Conference



**THE FUTURE NOW:
CHANGING INFORMATION SOURCES**

Proceedings of the conference held September 1-6 1985
at the Hilton International, Melbourne Australia

The Proceedings contain the papers presented at the plenary sessions, the parallel sessions, and where supplied, the notes of participants in panel sessions.

The text of the 1st Lesle Symes Memorial Lecture is also included.

A joint publication of the National Special Libraries Section, Library Association of Australia and the Australian Law Librarians' Group 1985.

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Price includes postage within Australia. Overseas add \$3.00.

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