



FEEDBACK

UCLS VICTORIAN GROUP

CAI in libraries

The Victorian Branch of UCLS is running a one-day workshop at Monash University on computer aided instruction (CAI) in libraries on Friday 28 August. The objectives of this workshop are to introduce librarians to the principles of CAI; explore the possibilities for CAI in libraries; and gain hands-on experience in developing and using CAI.

The use of microcomputers with associated CAI software packages (authoring systems) opens up many possibilities in libraries, for example, CAI can be used for library staff training and as an adjunct to the Reader Education Programs. Speakers will include Julia Mitchell from SAIT who has developed a number of CAI programs that are now commercially available. An outline of the program for the day is available from Leigh Oldmeadow (03) 565 2652 or Barbara Jacoby (03) 565 2638.

Grosser survey

Kerry Grosser, of RMIT's Department of Information Services, is preparing the results of her survey on tertiary student use of public libraries, for publication later this year. The survey, which was conducted in 1986, was funded by the Group which will also finance publication of the results.

At the UCLS AGM in March, Kerry pre-

sented some of the findings of her survey which revealed much about tertiary student use of their own institution's libraries as well as how their habits impact on other libraries. The survey has collected much valuable background information which will serve a dual audience. It is hoped that the results of the survey, provisionally titled *Tertiary Student Usage of Public Libraries: report of a 1986 Melbourne Survey* will be available in September.

LISPD SIG

The updated list of the financial members of the LISPD Group shows numbers in each State as follows: New South Wales 27; Victoria 31; South Australia 14; Queensland 12; West Australia 3; Australian Capital Territory 4; Northern Territory 4.

The Group is looking for a volunteer from each state to join the committee as a corresponding member and, hopefully, to organise some activities in their state. I can suggest a visit to your local independent Living Centre as one possibility — our Sydney members found it very interesting.

The Sydney group has developed a mailing list which includes 30 people who are not LAA members (some are not even librarians, but are involved in disability information). In addition each meeting has been attended by a number of librarianship students. Funds provided by the LAA cover our mailing costs, and we expect to reimburse our committee members in each state for their local postage costs.

Two occasions are coming up where contact may be made between some of the members of LISPD nationwide. These are the segment on 'Disability Information' on 29 September at the Special Libraries Conference in Brisbane and the seminar on Library Services for Hearing Impaired in Sydney in March 1988.

Efforts will be made to make sure members of the group are put in touch with one another on these occasions.

Please consider volunteering to become a corresponding member of our committee. We promise not to overwhelm you with paperwork, but will send the minutes of our meetings to keep you in touch.

Maureen Webb,
Convenor

ONLINE USERS SIG

APAIS On ABN

The new pink LGI foyer of the National Library was the venue for a demonstration of APAIS on ABN which Bryony Wilcox (NLA) gave to a gathering of online users in May. After the demonstration the group adjourned to the theatre to listen to an interesting talk on APAIS and AGP given by Sandra Henderson (NLA), which was followed by a lively question time.

The function was the best attended of any given recently by the Group, attracting a total of 50 members. The Group always provides drinks and nibbles before each 5.30pm function to, not only 'tide attendees over' until dinner, but also to liven discussion.

Maureen Swords
Convenor

UCLS QLD GROUP

Counselling Skills Workshop

On Friday 22 May 1987, UCLS (Qld Group) held a Counselling Skills Workshop at Bardonia Professional Development Centre. Dr Bryony Thompson (Lecturer in Applied Psychology in the School of Management at Queensland Institute of Technology) was the workshop leader. There were 15 participants from libraries at the University of Queensland, Queensland Institute of Technology, Griffith University, State Library, and Darling Downs Institute of Advanced Education.

The day began with an examination of what participants expected to get out of the workshop, an interesting exercise in that it revealed misconceptions about counselling and provided a launching pad for discussing what counselling is and is not. It is helping. The major part of the day was concerned with listening skills — learning about active listening, clarifying, asking questions, — seeing these in action and practising them.

Participants were involved in a number of 'listening' exercises one of which was particularly interesting and quite illuminating. The exercise was illuminating as it revealed that you don't listen to all that you are told. A large proportion of 'listening time' is spent analysing parts of what is said and formulating a response rather than actually 'listening'.

A video of a counselling interview by a skilled counsellor was then shown. The problem originally presented by the counsellor was later revealed as not the real problem. By listening, paraphrasing to check one's perception, and clarifying, the counsellor gradually helped the counsellee recognise and reveal the underlying problem and formulate solutions. It would seem from the video that the essence of counselling is to listen, to help but *not* to give advice. Emphasis was placed on the art of questioning as a means of obtaining and clarifying information.

The workshop concluded with a look at the principles of goal setting and a look at where people can be referred to for professional counselling.

Dr Thompson was a good facilitator and the day proved to be informative, interesting and enlightening, a good mixture of theory and practice.

Helen Darch

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**PUBLIC LIBRARIES SECTION
NATIONAL**

ILL cop out

Before the AACOBS Standing Committee meeting in Sydney on 26 May I sent the following fax message to the AACOBS Secretariat: 'The national Public Libraries Section of the LAA urges AACOBS Standing Committee support for the LAA proposal for a jointly funded survey of the effects of the decision to introduce ILL charges on municipal public and other small libraries.'

This request was based on the resolution of the LAA General Council on 3-4 April 1987. That resolution had already been conveyed to AACOBS (see *InCite* vol 8 no. 7).

LAA Director, Jenny Adams, also attended the AACOBS Standing Committee meeting and spoke to the resolution.

AACOBS has ignored the offer/request and has decided only to pursue its ILL cost survey. (AACOBS public library members will already have received a questionnaire for this survey).

Several public library members have already indicated to me their intention to resign from AACOBS, a body which they now identify as being unsympathetic to their interests.

Ross Gibbs
President

**UCLS
WA GROUP**

On 29 April 1987, a group of academic librarians met informally through UCLS (WA) to raise and discuss issues of current concern. The discussion was chaired by Arthur Ellis, University Librarian, UWA and attended by 18 librarians (most of them senior members of staff) from the three Western Australian universities.

The discussion focused on two major issues: the dramatic increase in use of the libraries during 1987, and co-operation on serials acquisitions and cancellations.

Each library had experienced a significant increase in use during the first few months of 1987 compared with previous years. For example, one library cited an 80% increase in reserve loans.

It was decided that it would be useful to gather and share information on library use by full-fee paying overseas students. Jane Klobas (Murdoch) will convene a group to establish common factors for each institution to measure. Steve O'Connor (UWA) and Andrew White (Curtin) are the other members of the group.

The discussion of serials arose from a concern that it may be necessary to revise current thinking about the relative costs and values of monographs and serials. It was suggested that the three universities may be cancelling serials titles towards the same 'core'.

It was noted that restrictions to the number of titles taken by the National Library may force the academic library community to become more self-reliant. One suggestion was that we make sure that all titles — even peripheral titles — can be located in academic libraries: this could be achieved by each library setting aside a portion of its serials budget, say 2 percent, for purchase of certain 'peripheral' titles, regardless of their use in the purchasing library's institution.

There was much debate but little 'consensus' about these, and other serials matters.

The meeting was such a success that UCLS (WA) was urged to hold another similar meeting late in 1987 or during 1988. We may also hold a meeting devoted to co-operative serials activities — which will certainly generate some lively discussion!

Jane E. Klobas
Hon. Secretary

New Regional Group

The Central Western Regional Group will cater for LAA members and prospective members from Lithgow to Dubbo and surrounding areas of NSW. Some 60 existing LAA members come from this region.

It was decided to petition the General Council to allow formation of the group at a meeting in Bathurst late in 1986. The first formal meeting will be held in Orange during Spring 1987. Sandra Edwards, the TAFE Regional Librarian, is arranging the program for this occasion which will be advertised in *InCite*. It is hoped to hold one meeting per year in a major centre in the region to encourage communication and professional development.

Contact person for 1987 prior to the formation of a committee is Margaret Macpherson, Truskett Library, Mitchell CAE, Bathurst 2795 (063) 332 732.

**EDUCATION FOR LIBRARIANSHIP
NATIONAL SECTION**

Essay competition

This competition aims to encourage the writing of essays on specific aspects of library and information science which have some bearing on professional and/or para-professional education. The competition is open to all persons with a prize of \$500. The winning essay will be published in *Education for Librarianship: Australia*. The length of the essay should be 5,000 to 10,000 words. Entries close on 31 August, 1987.

For further information contact the Section Secretary: G.E. Gorman, School of Information Studies Riverina-Murray Institute of Higher Education, P.O. Box 588 Wagga Wagga, NSW 2650 (069) 232 536 or (069) 232 584.

Children's Librarians and Schoolies

Don't forget to send in details of events planned for Children's Book Week for *InCite's* special issue. Photos of last year's activities will be appreciated too!

**CATALOGUERS SECTION
NSW GROUP**

The NSW Group of the LAA Cataloguers Section was re-formed at a meeting held on 6 April, with a committee which includes Frances Taylor (Secretary), Marion Dowd (Treasurer) and Enid Roberts.

A morning meeting in July with Mary K.D. Pietris is being arranged to hear about LC subject heading developments (see 'Happenings').

Other meetings are being planned and more members would be very welcome on the committee: please contact Frances Taylor on (02) 265 9691 or Eugenie Greig on (02) 205 7525 for further information.

Eugenie Greig
President

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