

INDUSTRIAL NEWS

Library review finalised

The Department of Personnel and Industrial Relations (DPIR) in South Australia has finalised its review of library positions within the South Australian Public Service.

This follows protracted negotiations between the Library Association of Australia, the Public Service Association (SA Branch) and the DPIR.

The LAA has written to the DPIR seeking resolution of a few outstanding matters, however the Association is generally pleased with the new classification which has undergone major modification since the first draft was released in March 1985.

The major features of the new classification include:

- Separate structures for Librarians, Library Technicians with 5 grades for Librarians, 3 grades for Library Technicians.
- Qualifications recognised by the LAA made the basis of the classification.
- A comprehensive list of category functions and typical activities.

Workbans lifted

Librarians and archivists working in the State Library of Tasmania have lifted workbans following assurances from the Minister, Mr Peter Rae, that he would support employees demands for additional staff. Negotiations over award claims are now taking place between the parties.

National Wage Fixing

A new system of wage fixing will soon be established in Australia. The National Wage Bench has endorsed a two-tier approach, the details of which are to be determined by the major parties involved in discussions which are currently taking place.

The first tier of the new system will involve a flat money amount to be awarded as a National Wage adjustment. The second tier will be determined by individual negotiations between employers and unions to decide any further increases in wages.

Books and Beyond

Following representations to the Commonwealth Schools Commission, the LAA has received notification that approval has been given for a grant of \$52,000 to support the 'Revision of Books and Beyond: Information Needs of Schools project.'

The project will investigate the information needs of schools in Australia and will use the 2nd edition of *Books and Beyond* as its reference point. The project will be monitored by a steering committee with the work being done by a consultant.

The grant which is to be administered by the LAA, is for a period of 12 months, from January 1987 and will provide a consultant for the project for 9 months, support for the steering committee and publication costs.

The steering committee will comprise: 2 Commissioners (one to chair); 3 representatives from Government Education Authorities; 1 representative from the National Catholic Education Commission; 1 representative from the LAA; 1 representative from ASLA; 1 representative from the Department of Education; and a senior Policy Adviser

Sign up for SLASH

The National Executive of the Cataloguers Section has given the go-ahead for a second edition of the *List of Australian Subject Headings*. After the last copies of the first edition (famously known as FLASH) were sold in 1986, the editor (John McKinlay) suggested that there would be value in another edition. He proposed that the second edition (SLASH) should include ABN-approved subject headings and should reflect some of the more important Australian thesauri which have appeared in recent years.

After this proposal was publicised in mid 1986, comment from members of the Cataloguers Section was overwhelmingly supportive, and members suggested several thesauri for SLASH. These included ASCIS, Local Studies Collections, Family and the list of law headings used by the federal Attorney-General's department.

The project will get underway this year, after the appointment of an Interim Project Coordinator and a Coordinating Committee. This group will:

- refine the list of specialist thesauri to be used as source material
- draft guidelines for the selection of terms from these thesauri
- determine the mechanism by which the selected subject terms will be recorded and collated.

The National Executive would like to see substantial membership participation in this project. Accordingly, it calls for volunteers who would be prepared to assist with the above tasks and to be members of the Coordinating Committee. It especially wants to hear from any member of the Section willing to take on the role of Interim Project Coordinator.

John McKinlay has agreed to be a consultant to this project. His valuable advice, based on his experience in the production of FLASH, will be available to the Coordinating Committee.

Members interested in working on the Committee or in being Interim Project Coordinator should contact: Warwick Cathro, President, Cataloguers Section, c/- ABN Office, National Library of Australia, Parkes ACT 2600

Ancillary Staff Award

Work on an award for ancillary staff in non-governmental schools in Victoria is proceeding, with regular meetings being held by the relevant unions.

Louise Lansley
Educational & Industrial
Services Mgr

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Directory of Government Publications Librarians

One of the topics discussed by the Standing Committee of the Section on Official Publications of IFLA in Tokyo last August was the directory of experts about and sources for official publications/government documents, which has been in the pipeline for several years. It was thought, after discussion, that the use of word 'expert' had frightened many people and it has now been decided to a) substitute the word 'specialist' b) to verify existing data and c) to identify additional specialists.

In order to get as complete coverage as possible another attempt is being made to collect information. A copy of the form has been sent to all Australian university, parliamentary and state libraries, to the National Library and CSIRO, and to each of the government printers/publishers. However, there remain many Australian libraries which have not been approached and which may well have such a specialist.

Anyone wishing to receive a form should contact Ann Miller, Government Publications Librarian, Borchardt Library, La Trobe University, Bundoora, Victoria 3083, Australia.

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Contact John Horacek, Editor, AARL, La Trobe University, Bundoora Vic 3083.

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