LOCAL STUDIES SECTION

Following the successful inaugural meeting of the Local Studies Section in February 1987, the Section's second meeting was held at History House on 13 August. A small, but interested and supportive group attended, to participate in the major thrust of the evening which was a state-of-the-art approach to the theme 'Education for Local Studies Librarians'.

A panel of nine speakers considered current and planned NSW courses which are concerned with the development of skills, and widening of understandings and knowledge for both the newly recruited and the professionally experienced librarian. Courses discussed were current courses at the University of Sydney School of History, Kuring-gai CAE School of Library and Information Studies, Armidale College of Advanced Education, proposed courses at the University of NSW School of Librarianship and the NSW Institute of Technology, and ongoing programs presented by the Local History Co-ordination Project and the Royal Australian Historical Society. Initiatives by the LAA NSW Branch Sub-committee on Education for Local Studies Librarians were also described. The panel session was ably chaired by Carol Yuen, Information Services Consultant with the NSW Public Libraries Division.

As a follow-up to the meeting, the Section is currently investigating the nature of local studies courses in other states and territories, and will report on these in the new Section newsletter. Enquiries and information welcomed.

Margaret Wyatt
President

UCLS (QLD BRANCH)

Destiny or delusion

On Thursday 6 August 1987, the UCLS (Qld Group) and the Cataloguer's Section (Qld Group) held a joint meeting on 'Catalogue enrichment — destiny or delusion'.

The meeting was held at the University of Queensland and attracted both cataloguers and reference librarians from a variety of educational institutions and special libraries — about 40 attended.

Joanna Richardson, recent President of the Cataloguer's Section (Qld Group) chaired the meeting, and Tom Cochrane (QIT) started the ball rolling with an interesting overview of catalogue enrichment — what it is, its history, its benefits — 'destiny', and the realities of funding it — 'delusions'.

Gaynor Austin (BCAE) followed and presented a paper by George Eichinski (QU) on the work of the Subject Data Enhancement Interest Group.

Jenny Kenyon from the Qld Parliamentary Library spoke on their in-house developed catalogue enrichment scheme. This admirable project involves comprehensive daily indexing of newspapers and other materials and provides free text searching.

The final part of the evening was particularly interesting with Margaret Travers (BCAE) and Ian Simmons (QIT) taking on the role of adversaries — Margaret speaking with fervour on the 'pros' of catalogue enrichment and Ian speaking with candour on its 'cons'.

Margaret raised many smiles when she pondered the dilemma of 'teaching students how to think like an American Library of Congress Cataloguer did 20 years ago' and raised a lot of interest when she suggested that reference librarians should do the subject enhancements on catalogued material.

Ian spoke of the depressing realities — the problems of cost — justification, of the ideal (ie enhanced catalogues) and the real situation where there isn't even basic cross-referencing let alone 'enriched' cataloguing.

Some interesting ideas came out of the meeting: the need for standards, the desirability of networks, the possibility of indexing journal articles, contents, of enhanced MARC records, of using an online thesaurus with one's online catalogue. All in all, a most thought-provoking evening!

Helen Darch

OBITUARY
Lenore Deacon

Lenore Deacon (Tate) died in Brisbane on 14 July 1987, after a short illness. At the time of her death, Lenore was on secondment from duties within the Brisbane CAE Resource Centre to the position of Senior Lecturer in Teacher Librarianship within the Department of Communication and Resource Studies BCAE Kelvin Grove Campus.

Lenore's career in librarianship covered both administrative and teaching roles. After early experience as a teacher and as one of Brisbane's earliest trained teacher-librarians Lenore was appointed Principal Librarian of Kelvin Grove CAE in 1974. During this period, Lenore saw the achievement of one of her objectives as Principal Librarian, the completion of the five-storey Resource Centre building enabling the integration of scattered library and audiovisual services for the College. On the amalgamation of the CAE in Brisbane in 1982, Lenore was appointed Head, User Services Section in BCAE Resource Centre, and later moved to the position of Campus Librarian at the Carseldine Campus, before her secondment to teaching duties.

As a trained teacher-librarian, Lenore's great interest was in the development of a quality curriculum collection within the Resource Centre to provide essential material for teacher trainees working within the schools. As a library manager, Lenore was always available to assist staff with problems and took an interest in the concerns of each of them. She was actively involved in sponsoring overseas students at the College, acting as a personal mentor to a number of these students. Lenore was active in both the LAA and ALCAE, and was LAA Queensland Branch President during the 1970s.

One could not fail to be impressed with the dignity with which Lenore faced her final illness. Her colleagues within the Brisbane CAE, within school librarianship in Queensland and within the Queensland librarianship profession have lost a valued associate. We extend our sympathy to her husband and family.

Gaynor Austen