



the front line

I have been re-examining the report of the Corporate Plan and Review Committee and the consequent discussion, debates of the membership at large, and resolution by Council in some detail for a paper which will have been given by the time this reaches you, at last week's Conference in Wellington of the New Zealand Library Association.

Although a re-examination may hardly have been thought to be necessary after all the time which so many of us have devoted to the Review over the past year, I was anxious to meet the request of our New Zealand colleagues that I seek to explain the Review and the conclusions we have reached in terms which would have relevance to the NZLA. This has meant looking at the antecedents to the Review and the principles lying behind the recommendations as well as the recommendations themselves.

One of the important antecedents which pays re-reading is *Possible futures and their implications for the LAA: a report of the LAA Futures Committee's Sydney workshop, 5-7 August 1983*. (Peter Judge organised the workshop, and Doreen Parker and Moira MacKinnon are the authors of the report.)

It is this report which emphasises the need for the Association to broaden its scope to include 'information' as well as libraries in its role to help attract and retain members from

the non-library sector of employment and to assist potential employers in understanding the scope of the educational programmes it accredits. This concept was taken up by the Review Committee when it said:

With the current changes in the information industry there is also a cross disciplinary shake-up occurring. This will continue for the next 5-10 years but the Association must act now to attract its share of the information profession.

As Ian McCallum said in his last 'bottom line' column, 'Next year [1987] we move into top gear.' As we move into top gear implementing the recommendations of the CRPC, one of the imperatives we must meet and one of the opportunities we have — particularly given the flat fee structure — is to increase our membership. I make no apologies for again stressing the urgency and importance of this task. I urge every member to help build a stronger and more financially viable Association by recruiting new members. The more members we can enlist the better position we will be in to implement *all* the recommendations of the CRPC, including the politically important need for lobbying as well as the widely expressed wish for local Association representation.

But re-studying the CRPC report has also brought home once again the debt we owe Warren Horton, Jenny Adams and Anne Hazell for this major review — probably the most significant in the Association's history.

Accepting the report was one thing, giving its recommendations final shape another. I suspect that only those of us who have worked closely with 1986 President Ian McCallum are fully aware of the depth and quality of his contribution — of his incisive-

ness yet commitment to the democratic principle and of his application and dedication to 'getting it right'.

And so, as in-coming President I think it entirely appropriate that one of my first acts should be, on behalf of us all, to thank the members of the Review Committee once again and to say Vale Ian McCallum! You have set us on the right path. Now it's up to all of us to 'get it right' as we begin the task of implementation.

Peter Dawkins
President



Special General Meeting

The General Council of the Library Association of Australia has called a Special General Meeting to be held at LAA House, 376 Jones Street, Ultimo at 5.30 pm on Friday, 3 April 1987.

A motion will be put to the meeting in relation to the application for a Supplemental Charter, which is necessary to effect the changes to the name and objects of the Association which have been agreed to by Council.

The meeting is in accordance with the Royal Charter 12:2 and By-law 11.

Full details of the motion to be put to the meeting will appear in *InCite* No. 3, 6 March.

Jan Cree
General Secretary

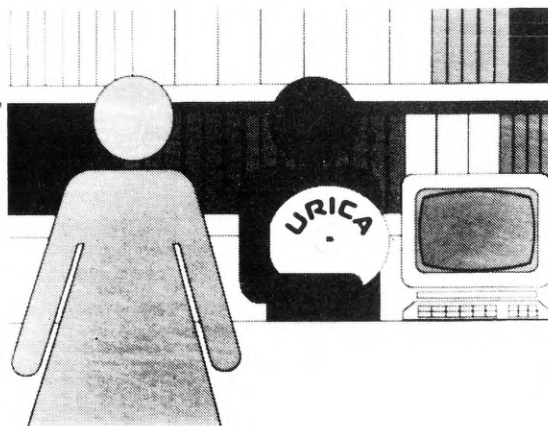
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