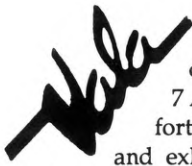


VALA 5th Biennial Conference

 Registration brochures were being distributed in [*InCite* 7 August 1989] for the forthcoming conference and exhibition 'Communicating in the information age', to be held between 13-15 November 1989 at the Southern Cross Hotel in Melbourne. Please direct enquiries to the Conference Secretariat, Bloomsbury Conference Services, telephone (03) 429 4322, facsimile (03) 427 0715.

The multi-faceted program will address the central theme from technological, managerial and practical viewpoints. A keynote speaker, Richard Luce of the United States, will bring to the Conference the benefit of his acknowledged expertise in networking library management in local government. He will speak on one of the significant areas developing in cooperation between libraries — 'Library intersystems connections'.

Since October 1989, Richard has been Executive Director of the South-East Florida Library Information Network (SEFLIN). SEFLIN — a multi-type cooperative network that coordinates resource-sharing services for libraries with a service population of 4 million — is currently implementing a

network linking heterogeneous vendor systems.

Prior to relocating to Florida, Richard Luce was network Director of the IRVING Library Network (Colorado), where he led the effort to create a decentralised network connecting dissimilar vendor systems. Based on the OSI standard, the project was labelled by the *Library journal* 'one of the most exciting projects on the horizon', and is today considered a national model for linking dissimilar library computer systems.

Concurrent with that position, as Assistant Library Director for the Boulder Public Library (1980-88), Richard Luce directed all library-support operations and wrote the master plan for capital facility construction. During this time he served as the Staff Campaign Coordinator for Boulder's successful \$14 million library bond issue.

In addition to his library-oriented activities, in 1984 Richard was elected to the City Council of Louisville (Colorado) and appointed to the Board of the Denver Regional Council of Governments.

Truly rural and isolated ?

Following the 1987 Conference: 'Libraries alone: rural and isolated librarians an application was made to libraries General Council for endorsement of an ALIA Rural and Isolated Libraries Special Interest Group.

The group was endorsed, but remains inactive. It is currently lacking any form of secretariat, despite a call for nominations in 1988 and again this year. Unless a committee can be formed, it will be necessary for the group to be wound down, and yet ninety people have indicated that they wish to belong to it.

As Manager, Membership and Division Services, I have written to all members at the SIG advising them of the situation and calling for nominations for a committee. I would be interested to hear members' views on the need for such a group, and to receive offers of assistance if it is felt the group should be resurrected.

Jo-anne Fuller
ALIA head office



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Enquiries: Helen Gilkes, 413 8336.

HYPERTEXT.

GUIDE 2.

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