

Professional options

Graduate studies

The following courses are featured in this issue as part of *InCite's* series promoting graduate-level courses for professional development.

Advanced studies at Curtin University of Technology

Five advanced courses offered by the Department of Library and Information Studies at Curtin University of Technology are among the many options open to information and library professionals in Western Australia.

Access to a range of courses is important, for different people have needs for different programs of study. An MBA or Master's degree in Industrial Relations may be the choice for some; study at the higher-degree level that continues the discipline of the first degree, for others. While courses are available within the field of information and library studies, prospective students should consider all options and determine their professional needs and preferences. DLIS/Curtin is happy to counsel students on this matter.

If the student wishes to continue studies within the professional context, and holds a pass degree in information and library studies having a SWA of 75 per cent in the final year of study, entry to an honours degree may be the best choice. During the honours year, students increase their understanding of research, enhance their research skills, and prepare a dissertation. This may result in a feasibility study for entry to a Master's degree.

Alternatively, graduates from qualifying courses at the Bachelor's or Graduate Diploma level can elect to take a Postgraduate Diploma in Information and Library Studies. Classes are held in common with the honours students, but the outcome of this program is a research proposal and small-scale testing of the methodology.

The Master of Applied Science (Information and Library Studies) is a research degree of 1 year's duration for full-time students. Areas of special interest to DLIS are user and usage studies, historical studies, management issues, and problems of information retrieval. A doctoral degree is also available to suitably qualified candidates.

From 1990, an MSc in Information Management will be available as a course-work degree. Students will be

able to select from a range of units (in information and library studies, management and marketing, computing science, information systems or geographical information systems) and complete a project. This will be a 2-year course for full-time students.

All programs are open to part-time students, and classes are held in the evening. Entry to the Master's degree by research is competitive.

Application for entry to courses should be made in November 1989 for entry in February 1990. For further details, contact Professor Patricia Layzell Ward, Head, Department of Library and Information Studies, Curtin University of Technology, PO Box U1987, Perth, WA 6001; telephone (09) 351 7430, (09) 351 7215 or (09) 351 2705; facsimile (09) 351 2255.

SA Institute of Technology

Master of Arts in Library and Information Management

The South Australian Institute of Technology offers a Master's Degree by research program in a variety of subjects. A Master of Arts in Library and Information Management is offered by the School of Library and Information Management within this program.

The degree is awarded on satisfactory completion of a thesis, and no course work is normally specified. However, if a student lacks the necessary background in, for example, research methods, a bridging course may be specified before work on the thesis begins. Candidates should have a recognised professional qualification in librarianship, and will normally have at least 2 years' experience post qualification. The School does not have a specific research program, and students choose their own topics — normally related to their daily work.

Students are supervised by a member of staff, but if there is no member of staff with a suitable special interest an external supervisor may be appointed. Full-time students are expected to complete the thesis in 2 years, part-time students in 4 years. These times may be extended if a good case can be made, but it would not normally be acceptable for a part-time student to take more than 6 years.

The thesis is examined by two examiners, neither of whom must have

been involved in the supervision. Up to now, external examiners have been members of the staff of other library schools, but there is no reason why other suitably qualified persons should not act in this capacity. The names of the examiners must be approved by the Institute's Board of Post-Graduate Studies.

A leaflet describing the Master's Degree by research program is available from the South Australian Institute of Technology, PO Box 2471, Adelaide, SA 5001. Students wishing to undertake the degree should discuss their proposal with the Head of School at the Institute on North Terrace, Adelaide, telephone (08) 236 2603. The program is not available to external students.

School of Librarianship, University of Tasmania

Master of Arts

The University of Tasmania offers a Master of Arts by research in the School of Librarianship. It is offered on a full-time or part-time basis, and is open to candidates with an honours degree and a professional qualification in library or information studies. The requirement is for a thesis, based on at least 1-year's full-time study and research, under the direction of an appointed supervisor.

The thesis is examined by two external examiners. There is no course-work component. However, for students lacking an honours degree, a Master of Arts qualifying course is offered, the duration of which is normally one academic year. This consists of a seminar program, a 5000-word essay and a major essay of about 15 000 words. Depending on demand, the course-work component may be offered in a summer school.

The School of Librarianship is a small one, in which favourable staff—student ratios allow for close individual attention. Students tend to develop a considerable *esprit de corps*, as well as lasting friendships.

For more detailed information on the higher degree programs, contact the School of Librarianship, University of Tasmania, GPO Box 252C, Hobart, Tasmania 7001; telephone (002) 20 2270.

