

CD-ROM access at Box Hill College of TAFE

With the increasing number of databases on CD-ROM format, the Library and Information Studies Department was faced with a dilemma. How could it arrange individual 'hands on' access to CD-ROM products in a classroom situation? Even though classes were limited in size the two CD-ROM stand alone set ups connected to an overhead monitor were inadequate.

The only option was networking. A product called OPTINET appeared to be the answer to the problems and it has been. The department had a computer laboratory of 17 PCs (IBM clones) and it purchased a 286 machine, 40MB hard disc as a file server. It soon became apparent that faster machines were needed as work stations, EGA or VGA screens were needed in order to be able to use certain products. New 286 machines with multi-sync monitors were purchased.

In order to install OPTINET the machines had to be networked. This was done using Novell 2.1 and OPTINET 1.2 was

loaded. The department purchased the 100 user version of OPTINET — the options available were 8 or 100. The two CD-ROM players were connected to the file server and 11 work stations attached. There is nothing magical about the figure 11 — it represents all the department could afford.

This has revolutionised the teaching in some areas, especially that of online searching. Students can now spend hours acquiring searching skills without any online costs. The online access time has been dramatically reduced.

This facility also enables the department to run continuing education activities using a number of CD-ROM products. Details of these courses can be obtained from the department. An 'open' session for interested persons will also be held in July — once again contact the department for details.

Pamela Naylor
Box Hill College of TAFE

AV Copyright continued from 1 . . .

Institutions are required to keep records in a specified form of all recordings made and submit them as required to the Society.

The agreement also provides for retention of recordings made in the past, subject to an appropriate remuneration being paid, recording of broadcasts for preview purposes, and retention of an archival copy, called a 'preservation copy', made for the sole purpose of providing the institution with a copy for use in replacing a lost or damaged copy.

As specified in the Act, preview copies of a broadcast may be kept only for 14 days at which point a decision must be made to destroy them or pay remuneration for their retention.

While the new provisions in the Act relating to recording television and radio broadcasts apply only to educational institutions and institutions assisting intellectually handicapped persons, including their libraries, they provide a useful indication of the way in which future developments might occur in the Copyright Act to provide opportunities for other libraries to record radio and television broadcasts and make them available to their clientele.

The Audiovisual Services Committee of ALIA is currently considering whether an extension of the provisions in the Act for the recording of radio and television broadcasts to include libraries other than those

already covered would serve a useful purpose. Librarians who see some advantage in their libraries being able to record radio and television broadcasts in return for equitable remuneration being paid to copyright owners are invited to write to the convener of the committee expressing their views.

A further provision in the Copyright Amendment Act, 1989 which may be of interest is contained in Part VC. This provides for a royalty payable on blank sound tapes which are sold. It is intended that royalties collected will be distributed by a Collecting Society to copyright owners. In return for payment of the royalty, purchasers will be able to copy published sound recordings for private and domestic use.

The new provisions in the Act mark important steps forward for librarians, particularly those in educational institutions, in the provision of audiovisual resources to meet the needs of their users.

The Audiovisual Services Committee of ALIA will continue seeking amendments to the Copyright Act to allow librarians to meet better the needs their users have for access to audiovisual materials while at the same time protecting the reasonable rights of copyright owners.

Paul T McNally
Convener

ALIA Audiovisual Services Committee

ALIA 1990 Conference update

The Fourth Circular with updated information is in preparation and if not enclosed in this *incite*, will be forthcoming.

We were delighted to read that Plenary Speaker Meg Cameron became a Member of the Order of Australia in the recent Queen's Honours List, and send her our congratulations.

The program is shaping up well. The paper review sub-committee is very pleased with the quality and novelty of the papers received.

Remember: 1990 is International Literacy Year (ILY). There will be a Baker & Taylor Literacy Luncheon during the Conference. Baker & Taylor will be sponsoring both Ernie Di Mattia and Margaret Whitlam who will be speaking at the luncheon on Wednesday, 3 October 1990. Margaret Whitlam AO is Chairman of the National Consultative Council on ILY and received press in *incite* 8. Ernie Di Mattia is an American who has worked with UNESCO and is well known in Australia. He will present us with an international perspective of ILY.

The Singapore Post Conference Seminar 8-9 October 1990 is on! The first day will be spent on strategic planning, and the second will cover the technological implications of our rapidly converging information related professions, Singaporean presentations on WITS (Work Improvement Teams) and visits to Singapore libraries. Want to go? Let Promaco know!

Send your registration in now to our Conference Organisers: Promaco Conventions Pty Ltd, Unit 9a, Canning Bridge Commercial Centre, 890-892 Canning Highway, Applecross, WA 6153, telephone (09) 364 8311, fax (09) 316 1453.

See you soon.

Kerry Smith
Publicity Sub-Committee



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