



Margaret Findlay

Chair, Training & Development Committee

During the forthcoming year the implementation of the National Training Reform Agenda will be of paramount importance to all in the library and information industry.

At its October meeting the Board of Education set out its 1994 strategic focus. Kay Poustie, Chair of the Board, reports in detail elsewhere in this issue on the proposed National Plan for Professional Development for implementation of the National Training Reform Agenda for the library and information industry. This will include training and development activities at the national level encompassing competency standards and assessment, workplace reform, career planning and recognition of best practice.

Priorities for members

Professional development is a priority for all members in their professional practice. It is important that you are familiar with the complexities of the National Training Reform Agenda and are ready to be proactive in the workplace in its implementation.

This can be done through training and development opportunities offered by the Association, and by utilising the services and specialist knowledge within the Association. During 1994 special awareness and training meetings and workshops will be held throughout the country.

Communication about initiatives and opportunities is an essential priority for the Association. The Training and Development officers at national and state levels of ALIA are ready to guide and assist members with planning their professional development. At the national level there are Board of Education members and staff at the National Office such as Nora Stewart the Training and Development Services Officer. On all State Branch councils, there is a Training and Development Coordinator for state training or professional development

activities. The names of these state coordinators are listed in Vital Link and the new appointees for 1994 will be included in Train Line in the first issue of *inCite* next year.

Board of Education members are always happy to discuss issues such as these with members. The Training and Development Subcommittee has identified communication as a priority and will be taking steps in 1994 to enhance the information exchange on training and development activities amongst all Training and Development officers by circulars and teleconferences to ensure that all are up-to-date on the latest issues at both national and state levels and are ready to help members.

The importance of professional development

Professional development continues to be important for us all. Assessment through the National Training Reform Agenda may point to the need for reskilling but our own awareness of the changing concepts and technological development in library and information services direct us to be proactive in planning our own professional development for 1994.

The opportunities are diverse and numerous:

- formal courses are offered by the education institutions for those who wish to undertake postgraduate and higher degrees;
- conferences are organised by ALIA and the sections—in 1994, the Joint ALIA-NZLIA Conference in New Zealand, and all the Public Libraries Conference in Melbourne in February;
- short courses and workshops are offered by the education institutions, commercial training providers and by ALIA divisions;
- self-education courses are available from ALIA for those who wish to train independently and at their own pace.

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Information detailing these opportunities is co-ordinated by your State Training and Development Officer and nationally by Nora Stewart in the ALIA National Office and available:

- through the *Events* Column in *inCite*;
- by contacting your state Training and Development officers who monitor and coordinate events of state section and regional groups;
- by contacting Nora Stewart on the toll free telephone number for members—(008) 02 0071 or by fax on (06) 282 2256;
- by accessing the *ALIA Training and Development Directory* on AARNet, through the Monash Library and Information Service which sponsors the maintenance of the database. Get further information on access through findlay@acer.edu.au, or by checking the *ALIA Events Bulletin Board* on ILANET.

The New Year will be with us soon—the training providers and division committees are planning events and activities for 1994 now—we need to be planning our own professional development for 1994 now! ■

TAFE national section

Call for Nominations

President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Members. Nominations to be sent to the Returning Officer, Jenny Natt, LRC, Marleston Campus, Douglas Mawson IVE, 254 Richmond Road, Marleston South Australia 5033, by 1 December 1993.

Nominees must be ALIA financial members and members of the TAFE Section.

Enquiries: Jenny Natt on telephone (08) 416 6418 or fax (08) 352 1420.