

Library technician news

Whilst wishing to express their great sense of loss arising from Janelle Thoms resignation as Secretary, the members of the Library Technicians Section (National Group) are delighted to add their congratulations. Janelle has been awarded the Library Technician of the Year 1994 and is well-deserving of that award. Some of us will have the pleasure of joining with Janelle to celebrate this event and to thank her for her enormous contribution to the development of library technicians.

Review of the National Group

How disappointing that only one submission has been received; this after quite a few complaints about how the Group has been structured this year! In light of this dearth of input there will be a discussion paper circulated. Hopefully this will generate comment and thereby lead to a structure that meets the needs of all library technician members.

The May National Group teleconference

Once again a significant effort was required by the members in order to process the documentation and address the issues that face the Group. The teleconference had to be extended by half an hour to two hours and even then some business had to be dealt with outside that forum. The minutes of the teleconference have been circulated to the State/Territory groups and other significant office bearers, however Jean Bailey is concerned that these do not reach a substantial proportion of the sectional membership. For the moment, anyone who is interested can request a copy by contacting Jean Bailey by telephone on (02) 692 4691 or by email to jbailey@extro.ucc.su.oz.au. Communication from sectional groups to members who because of distance or circumstance cannot be directly involved in group activities is an issue that will be addressed in the Review.

Formation/reformation of groups

The enthusiasm generated at the 7th National Conference (once again, thanks to Elizabeth Collins and her team) has resulted in the reformation of Library Technicians Section Groups in Victoria and the ACT and in the formation of the Library Technician Subcommittee of the Far North Coast Regional Group based in Lismore. Jean Bailey, National President, spoke at the ACT Branch Council's relaunching of the ACT Group on 23 March 1994. Her address focussed on what she considers to be the three most important issues facing library technicians: identity, representation and membership of ALIA. Jean was funded by the Far North Regional Group to attend a meeting on 4 August to talk with library technician students and practitioners about the potential of library technicians and the importance of ALIA membership. ■



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