

# Tolerant technicians

The 1995 Library Technicians conference in the *International Year for Tolerance*

The 8th National Library Technicians conference, *Techs at the top*, in Darwin on 12-14 July will feature something for everyone.

As 1995 has been declared the *International Year for Tolerance* the conference will cover interesting and creative ideas regarding cross-cultural aspects of library services from multicultural perspectives.

To stimulate interest in multicultural aspects, the conference has succeeded in attracting three interesting keynote speakers in Sarah Wirawan of Hasuruddin University, Ujung Pandang, Indonesia; Tony Barry from the Centre for Networked Access to Scholarly Information at the ANU library and Lex Marinos from the ABC who is currently serving on the Federal Government's Multicultural Advisory Committee.

The Territory is a multicultural community encompassing some 52 ethnic groups and the conference will stress the importance of consulting Aboriginal people and other ethnic groups before implementing future community-based library services.

A wealth of information on the Territory's ethnic communities, some dating back to the late 1880s is housed in extensive collections. Many of these libraries will be open for library tours during the conference.

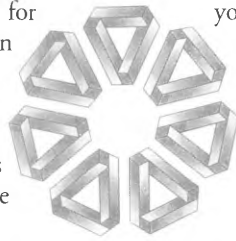
Of particular interest is the NT University's Djourra' Djagamirri collection which consists of published and unpublished research material on the Territory and the north coast of Australia, as well as the adjacent sea and lands, including Indonesia.

The North Australia collection, the centrepiece of the Northern Territory Library, located in the Territory's new Parliament House, is arguably the world's most extensive collection of publications about northern and central Australia.

Nungalinya College Library Research library covers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander materials with the main focus on development, theological and language studies.

The Northern Land Council Library is not yet automated, but its special collection contains an unique collection of important land claim and land council documents, as well as an impressive collection of materials on Canadian Indians.

Early Bird registrations for the conference closed on 31 March, however organisers will accept registrations until 14 June. You are advised to register as early as possible to ensure



you have your choice of accommodation, parallel sessions, workshops and library tours.

For more information, contact conference convenor Kaye Bartlett on (089) 466 179 or fax her at (089) 451 317. ■

## Does the corporate library have a future?

Specials, Health and Law librarians Conference keynote speaker profile

James Matarazzo believes that the corporate library can only have a future if senior executives are convinced that librarians/information managers bring unique, value-added services to the firm or company. Corporate librarians can bring value-added services if:

1. They decide who will be served: ...determine which group, process, or function will be the focus of their work and products. The group should not be more than a couple of hundred members, less the service provided appears to be a low-value commodity.
2. They understand the actual work of the group, ...its vocabulary as well as the content and the context of the information requirements.
3. They figure out what information will add value to the work of the group.
4. Leave the library and spend time with their customers to learn how information is used and valued.'

James is well-qualified as a plenary speaker. He is the co-author of an important study of 164 corporate libraries, *Valuing corporate libraries* sponsored by the United States Special Libraries Association. He is currently Dean and Professor at the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Studies. The future of special libraries is a major area of concern for Matarazzo; he wrote *Closing the corporate library* and *Library problems in science and technology* and in 1994 co-authored *Information for management: a handbook*. He is also a consultant to academic institutions on accreditation issues and to many corporations on how to manage library and information resources.



James Matarazzo, keynote speaker

Matarazzo is a powerful speaker who will open the first day of the conference with the topic *Management strategies for success*. The management theme will be further explored throughout the day with sessions on strategic leadership, business and financial planning, quality or how to stay one step ahead, and empowering the end user. Later in the day a keynote address will be how to make the corporate culture work for you. Afternoon sessions will feature human resources management, insourcing, outsourcing and copyright. This exciting program for day one will conclude with dinners for both Health and Law librarians.

Watch *inCite* next month for further information about the Asian-Pacific Conference for Specials, Health and Law Librarians Conference, 27-30 August 1995. Contact ACMS on (02) 332 4622, fax (02) 332 4066 for a registration form and program. ■