

Countdown to Techs conference

July is fast approaching and so is the 8th National Library Technicians Conference.

Organisers are pleased with the response to date, with more than 250 delegates having already registered. Those who have not yet registered and booked accommodation should do so as soon as possible or risk missing out altogether.

Delegates are advised that when forwarding registrations and payments to ensure that cheques are made payable to *Techs at the top — ALIA conference 1995* to avoid delays in registering. New bank regulations regarding third

party cheques mean that cheques not made as above will have to be returned to sender.

Organisers have been advised that some of the original session speakers are now unable to attend and have had to be replaced. While this is regrettable, delegates can be assured that replacement speakers will more than fulfil expectations.

The 'Technology playground' is proving so popular that it has been rescheduled and will now run over the three days of the conference. The committee would like to hear from anyone attending the conference with experience on the

Internet who would be willing to assist in the 'playground'.

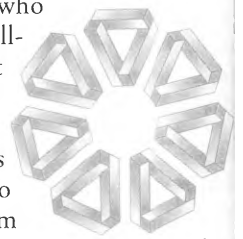
Delegates travelling to Darwin from cold climates are advised to bring clothing suited to the tropics. This means light, loose-fitting garments and low-heeled shoes and perhaps a light cardigan for night. Hats and sun-block are also the order of the day.

Pre-conference activities scheduled for Tuesday, 11 July will provide an opportunity for delegates to meet informally before the more serious business gets underway on Wednesday. Transport for pre-conference activities will be leaving hotels and apartments listed in the registration brochure for Casuarina Campus at approximately 8am. Transport will leave Casuarina Campus at 3.15pm to return delegates to their accommodation.

The opening ceremony and pre-conference registration is scheduled for 6.30pm on 11 July on The Terrace at Parliament House. Buses will leave accommodation venues listed in the brochure at 6.00pm.

On Wednesday morning, transport will leave hotels and apartments at 7.00am to allow those delegates who have not registered on Tuesday to do so. Thereafter announcements regarding transport will be made during conference sessions.

The committee looks forward to welcoming you all to Darwin in July.



Gold for State Library of SA

The State Library of South Australia has won a national gold award for the development of a leading edge computer system for its staff rostering and human resource management.

The award was announced on 28 March at the National Convention Centre in Canberra at the 8th Annual Government Technology Awards. The awards cover the three tiers of Government, with the State Library of South Australia taking out the State Government category for South Australia.

Mrs Frances Awcock, Director of the library, said the award demonstrated what could be achieved by resourceful people, determined to improve organisational efficiency, despite limited financial resources.

The award winning system

was developed by project leader, Ms Megha Padhye and development programmer, Sharon Pearn in the Library's information technology services section.

Ms Padhye said the system had achieved a range of substantial benefits for the library in the form of organisational efficiency.

Using Foxpro for Windows, the library have developed a flexible tool which effectively combines an electronic diary for 170 staff with relevant personnel information. Using a graphical user interface, from a networked PC database, the system is used as the basis for rosters across a wide range of library activities, as well as other HRM needs.

Ms Padhye said that the library feels very satisfied with the result and it is wonderful that our achievement had been recognised.

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