

Indexers medal

The Australian society of indexers is offering its annual medal for the most outstanding index to a book or periodical compiled in Australia or New Zealand.

To be eligible for the award, the index must be in print and must have been first published after 1992. It must have been compiled in Australia or New Zealand although the text to which it refers may have originated elsewhere.

Indexes are judged at the level of outstanding professional achievement, thus sufficient material is required, both in quality and quantity, for appraisal. The index should be substantial in size, the subject matter should be complex, and the language, form and structure of the index should demonstrate the indexer's expertise, as well as serving the needs of the text and the reader.

Please send recommendations to The secretary, Australian Society of Indexers (NSW Branch), PO Box R598, Royal Exchange, NSW 2000 before 29 September 1995. For information contact Alan Walker, telephone (02) 380 5875, fax (02) 361 0651. ■

Mentoring A Victorian initiative

A mentoring scheme initiated by the Victorian Branch of ALIA has achieved great success and will hopefully expand interstate. The goals of the scheme included providing newcomers to the profession with guidance and advice on professional issues and fostering their overall professional development. At another level, a primary aim was to enhance the image of ALIA as a professional organisation and to encourage new and ongoing membership of the Association.

Since the scheme began, over sixty mentees have been matched with mentors and after its first year of operation a survey of participants indicated that the scheme had been an incentive to join ALIA and to maintain membership. Furthermore the scheme had proved itself to be useful in contributing to the professional development of those undertaking library studies and of recently qualified librarians. Mentors also recorded personal benefits from sharing their knowledge and experience with other librarians and librarianship students.

The survey has provided feedback which will assist in the ongoing management and evaluation of the scheme. The desirability of running workshops explaining how the mentoring partnership

works was highlighted. Many participants attended a recent workshop which was organised by the mentoring working party and which aimed at developing mentoring skills.

Mentoring is used by some of Australia's most successful companies and has a tremendous potential to offer in both personal and professional development. ALIA has agreed to fund the scheme in Victoria for the remainder of 1995 and 1996 and members of the working party are keen to assist ALIA Divisions with the project's expansion and development.

Members interested in hearing more about the scheme are encouraged to contact a member of the working party. ALIA Victorian members (librarians, library technicians and those undertaking library and information studies) are welcome to participate and should also contact working party members for an enrolment form.

Members of the working party include Bea Donkin, Swinburne University (03) 9214 8329; Eva Fisch, La Trobe University (03) 9479 2926; Helena Kelso (03) 9653 2278; Sue McKnight, Deakin University (052) 271 352; and John Thawley, State Library of Victoria (03) 9669 9706.

*ALIA Victorian Branch
mentoring working party*

James Cook bicentenary scholarship

Applications are invited for the James Cook bicentenary scholarship for 1996-97. The scholarship has a total value of \$20 000 and is funded by Blackwell's (Oxford) and Blackwell's North America.

In 1996-97 the scholarship is available to fund travel and expenses to enable an Australian or New Zealand librarian to spend a period as a management intern in a British or North American library or libraries. Candidates should indicate the library where

they hope to spend the internship but is not necessary to make formal approaches until the scholarship has been awarded.

Candidates should be Australian or New Zealand citizens of at least five years standing and should not be more than 45 years of age. They should hold library positions at middle management level in a large library or a senior management position in a smaller library.

Applications should include evidence of leadership potential,

by way of referees' reports and personal achievement. Details of the proposed internship(s) and application of funds must be submitted as well as an indication of the benefits anticipated and future career expectations.

Applications should be forwarded to Peter Durey, convenor, James Cook bicentenary scholarship selection panel, University Library, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, New Zealand by no later than 30 October 1995. ■