

Rare double honour

Dual Fellowship awarded to Colin Steele

Australian National University (ANU) librarian, Colin Steele received a rare double honour when he was recently awarded a Fellowship of the Australian Library and Information Association, and a Fellowship of the British Library Association. This is only the sixth time that a dual Fellowship has been achieved.

The presentation ceremony took place at the British High Commission in Canberra on 19 November.

John Shipp, president of the Australian Library and Information Association and librarian of the University of Sydney presented the ALIA Fellowship, and Deputy British High Commissioner, Dr Andrew Pocock presented the British Fellowship on behalf of the Library Association.

Colin has held the position of university librarian at the ANU since 1980. He was the ANU deputy librarian from 1976–1980, and assistant librarian at the Bodleian Library at Oxford from 1967–1976.



Colin Steele with ALIA president, John Shipp after the presentation ceremony at the British High Commission

Colin is one of Australia's foremost bibliophiles, his collection of science fiction books represents one of the best private collections in the country.



Colin with Deputy British High Commissioner, Dr Andrew Pocock who presented the British Fellowship on behalf of the Library Association

He is also well-known for his publications and presentations which cover a broad range of topics relevant to the profession. He has been a major contributor to the literature of librarianship having written or edited some eleven monographs and more than three hundred published journal articles and reviews in addition to delivering numerous conference papers.

Colin's support for the Association has been demonstrated in his willingness to serve on various committees. Between 1979 and 1981 he held the position of chair of the ACT group of the University and College Libraries section of the Library Association of Australia. Later, Colin served as ACT general councillor from 1990–1991. He is currently the convenor of the program committee for the 2000 biennial conference which will be held in Canberra.

Throughout his career Colin has worked assiduously to promote librarianship and to ensure that librarians are included in the processes associated with changing the scholarly communication environment. ■