

An information odyssey ... a long and eventful journey

11th ALIA National Library Technicians conference
An invitation from Helen Duggan, conference convenor

The rapid expansion in information technology, and the impact this has on the library and information industry, challenges us to keep abreast of developments. To address this challenge, our committee is proudly hosting the 11th ALIA National Library Technicians conference in Hobart, Tasmania. The conference program is designed to provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas over a broad range of issues topical to library and information workers today.

On behalf of ALIA and the Tasmanian committee I would like to extend to you a warm invitation to attend our

conference in August and assure you that the experience of seeing some of our beautiful island at the same time will be a memorable one for you. The social program will include some exciting events and opportunities to see many of Southern Tasmania's attractions including the Tasman Peninsula and the world acclaimed Saturday Salamanca Market.

The conference committee looks forward to welcoming you to Hobart in August this year.

Program outline

Our theme *An information odyssey ... a long and eventful journey*, provides the

opportunity for our program to develop streams which will allow us to explore the vast opportunities ahead as we enter the 21st century.

Our program boasts exciting speakers, and some new formats. Check the conference website at <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/2001/>.

Program themes

On the opening afternoon we shall look at 'the encounter' ... a time for coming together of library information workers. A time to network; welcome new people and renew old acquaintances in informal library discussions

The first day we will examine 'the mission' — the library profession. This will encompass all the library services that we offer our clients — a time to analyse what we do and how we can do it better.

The second day is devoted to probing the needs of 'the crew'. We all need to look at ourselves, learn how we can improve our motivation and skills, manage today's environments and work as teams to be more productive in the information world.

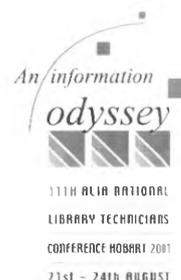
To complete our journey we will explore 'the voyage'. When we have defined what we do and who we are — we will be ready to look to the future and embrace the journey that technology is offering.

The conference committee's mission statement is 'to create a learning environment where library technicians will meet to analyse the profession, acquire new skills and become empowered by knowledge of future technologies.'

Registration brochure

The registration brochure and provisional program is now available.

Details are also available on the conference home page at <http://www.alia.org.au/sections/libt/conferences/2001/>. If you would a copy of the brochure sent to you please contact Convention Wise telephone 03 6234 1424 or e-mail mail@conventionwise.com.au.



Helen Duggan

Revel in October

Margaret Smith, chair, RAISS conference 2001 committee

The ALIA Reference and Information Services Section symposium *Revelling in reference* 12-14 October 2001 offers the opportunity to share and network with a stimulating group of practitioners in reference and information services.

Our international keynote speakers Professor Carol Tenopir, School of Information Services, The University of Tennessee, and Sara Weissman, Morris County Library, New Jersey, both active professionals and well known through their provocative columns in *Library Journal*, will set the pace for each day.

A diverse group of Australian speakers will challenge us: Veronica Brady, John Levett (editor, ALJ) ALIA president Alan Bundy, Judith Peacock (Queensland University of Technology), Prue Mercer (State Library of Victoria), Guy Field (Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology) and Paul Mercieca (RMIT University). Other colleagues will share research, experiences in setting up innovative services, and explore the challenges for reference and information services in the 21st century.

The two-and-a-half day program is designed for participation and action. Topics to be explored include theoretical foundations, reference models, evaluation and measurement, skills for reference staff, measuring user needs, information literacy and online learning.

To balance the cerebral and challenging, there is time for revelling. Here is the chance to catch up with friends and colleagues, enjoy the welcome reception at the marvellous State Library of Victoria, and share a wonderful night with colleagues at the conference dinner at the Victorian Arts Centre, located alongside the temptations of Southbank, as well as sampling the cuisine and multi-cultural life of Melbourne. Whilst we can not guarantee spring weather we can promise revelry and fun!

It is not too late to register. The final registration deadline is Friday 7 September 2001.

For the latest information about the program please visit our website <http://raiss2001.monash.org> or e-mail the conference organiser Conference Plus conplus@ozemail.com.au.

