Strategic planning and action

Report from the Board of Directors meeting — 2 August

2003-2004 planning document

The Board worked through the structure and content of the draft 2003 and 2004 planning document, placing particular focus on the ambitions for ALIA and a SCORE analysis (strengths, challenges, opportunities, risks, ethics). This is a process commonly used in associations and not-for-profit organisations. The draft document will now be considered by the ALIA groups through the National Policy Congress. It will then go back to the Board's November meeting before distribution to members for comment.

Bringing the new generation on board

In what is a first for the Association, the Board has set up an advisory group of students and new professionals to advise it on initiatives to be taken to strengthen the participation of a new generation of library and information professionals in the Association. The average age of the eight members is 27 years. The group is Natalie Blanchard, (convenor), Alison O'Connor, Sue Hutley, Mylee Joseph, Kate Watson, Jenelle Cleary, Tony Wauchope and Samantha Hughes. Their first challenge is ALIA's Key Initiative 1 — to develop and market new services for students/new professional members. [http://www.alia.org.au/governance/committees/new.generation/]. Yvette Turner at the ALIA National Office will provide support to the group.

Strategic action plan for public libraries (Key Initiative 7)

Following consideration of the reference group's report, the Board has agreed to the strategic action program for public libraries 2002–4 and has expanded the membership of the Reference Group. Members include Vicki McDonald (convenor), Beth McLaren, Kerry Smith (WA local government councillor), three other public library representatives, and Susan Magnay from ALIA National Office.

Strategy for career-long education for the knowledge age (Key Initiative 8)

The final report of the LISEKA project was presented to the Board. The two main outcomes from the consultation process were identified as:

- concern at the possibility of moving away from a recognised entry-level qualification or standard; and
- need for an effective CPD program.

The Board decided that the current membership structure should be retained but be constantly monitored to ensure that it reflects the needs of members and the sector. The Board agreed that professional standing be retained and continuing professional development strengthened. Christine Mackenzie is to lead a group comprising Angela Bridgland, Deanne Barrett and several members of the LISEKA project working group in fleshing out an education framework that takes into account the current membership categories and the *Worklevel guidelines*. A report to the November Board meeting is expected. A summary of the responses to the LISEKA consultation is at http://www.alia.org.au/education/liseka/analysis.responses.html.

Standards for teacher librarians

The Board has approved an ALIA/ASLA Joint Issues Taskforce proposal for their project on standards for teacher librarians. The project will develop, disseminate and promote a statement of standards for teacher librarians in Australia that describes the knowledge, skills and abilities of professional practising teacher librarians in Australia. This statement should represent the goals to which Australian teacher-librarians aspire, should inform ongoing professional practice, and provide a basis for pre-service and continuing education of teacher librarians. ∎