



Christine Mackenzie

ALIA president
christine.mackenzie@alia.org.au

Heading towards 2010...

As people begin new jobs or take on new roles they always have high expectations and hopes of what they can achieve. As the incoming president of our Association I am no different and I am really looking forward to the next twelve months.

First I would like to acknowledge the work of Joyce Kirk, our outgoing president. Joyce has brought intelligence, good sense and a great feeling of inclusiveness to the role, and has done a fine job representing our profession both within the sector and to the wider world. Her knowledge and experience of librarianship has been a real asset to the Board and to the profession as a whole. Thank you Joyce!

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution that outgoing board member Moyra McAllister has made. Moyra's enthusiasm, wide knowledge and practical experience have been greatly valued. Her contribution to the profession has been significant, and both she and Joyce have made a real difference to our Association.

My hope is that 2003 will be an exciting year for ALIA. At our board meeting in March we spent much of our time discussing longer term planning taking us forward to 2010. As a board we see the need to articulate to members the future direction of the Association. We need a clear and defined path, recognising the continued pressure on resources, both financial and human. ALIA cannot keep taking on new

roles without evaluating and discarding some old ones. I am looking forward to presenting this pathway to the future, through the National Policy Congress, for your feedback and endorsement.

2003 will see the cumulation of a lot of work the Association has been engaged in over the past year or so.

- The Research Exchange and Partnership (REAP) program was launched at the AGM. The aim of REAP is to have an established network for the exchange of ideas and information by the end of next year [see p8 of this issue for more details on the REAP program].
- The new web-accessible membership database will provide new online and member-only services, including personalised information about services and benefits delivered to members [see p22 of this issue for more details].
- Growing our membership base is an ongoing goal, and the participation of new graduates will be especially encouraged, building on the excellent work of the New Generations Group.
- Lobbying and advocacy resources will be available through the new members only website.
- And the big one — LISEKA, the Library and Information Science Education for the Knowledge Age project. This is focused on the development of a national approach to career long education of library and information workers for practice in the 21st century. The project outcome sought is a workable framework within which education providers, individuals and agencies can work in partnership towards the goal of ensuring effective and appropriate career-long education of library and information workers. Stage one was completed last year, and stage two is currently underway. It is planned to launch LISEKA at the National Policy Congress in September.

With the ongoing support of the dedicated staff at ALIA National Office I am confident that we will achieve our goals and move towards our vision: inform > innovate > inspire. ■

ALIA members gathered in Canberra on Thursday 15 May to celebrate the launch of the new website and membership database

