



**Fiona Bradley,  
Adrienne Harris,  
Simone Hys and  
Kate Watson**

New Generation Policy  
and Advisory Group

## NGAPG: Looking towards the future

Almost four years after it was founded, the New Generation Policy and Advisory Group (NGAPG) has made important contributions to ALIA's direction. Over its most recent two-year term, NGAPG has made several recommendations to the ALIA Board that are now in place, including a scholarship to attend Aurora, a new position on the Research Committee until the end of 2006 and, in December, NLS2006 will welcome hundreds of delegates to Sydney.

We currently have proposals for a resumé review service and an ALIA FAQ in the works. The New Graduates Group is going from strength to strength with activities and co-ordinators in all states and many regional areas.

NGPAG began in 2002 after ALIA commissioned a group of recently graduated ALIA members to form an advisory group to assist in achieving ALIA's key initiative to develop and market new services for students/new professional members in the Association. This group became NGPAG. We meet monthly by teleconference and use an e-mail list to communicate.

NGPAG determines its priorities and work from surveys conducted at the New Librarians' Symposiums, suggestions from NGPAG committee members, and the ALIA Board. Being a committee member of NGPAG is a wonderful experience – you have the opportunity to work with passionate peers in the industry from all over the country. You have the chance to work on proposals that will positively benefit new grads and you have a direct influence on ALIA's strategic direction and activities. NGPAG is also a great place to start if you see yourself becom-

ing involved with other Association committees in the future.

Simone Hys notes "I think it's amazing what the Group has come up with that has been approved and how these activities will make a difference to what the Association can do for its members. The fact that we have a Board that is open to our suggestions and willing to accept our proposals validated my faith that by getting involved you can make a difference."

Fiona Bradley agrees, "NGPAG has given me the chance to work on several issues that are important to me, and it's fantastic to see your ideas taken on by the ALIA Board and turned into action".

Adrienne Harris suggests that, "NGPAG has allowed me to be a part of a group that is suggesting new and innovative ways for the Association to engage with new information professionals. As part of a national group, the opportunity to brainstorm and suggest ideas for the ALIA board has been an exciting one - watching our ideas grow from loose concepts to full issue papers and reports for consideration by the Board."

If you are interested in becoming a part of NGPAG, now's your chance! Vacant committee spaces will be filled in November this year. Feel free to contact any committee member or Marie Murphy at ALIA for more information about what's involved.

For more about the New Grads Group and the committee members, go to <http://alia.org.au/groups/newgrad/>.

To contact Marie Murphy, phone 02 6215 8218 or e-mail [marie.murphy@alia.org.au](mailto:marie.murphy@alia.org.au).

## Thanking our gold medal coaches

While there are still another two years until the 2008 Olympic Games, the Australian library community has recently recognised and awarded some gold medal coaches.

At the recent ALIA Click06 Conference in Perth, a handful of ALIA new graduates and supporters (Chelsea Harper, Kate Davis, Melissa Okely, Kylie Smith and Linda Papa) held a presentation to recognise and thank the wonderful coaches and mentors who have guided and supported the new library athletes. While we thanked individual gold medal coaches at the presentation, it was also a general tribute to everyone in the profession who makes a deliberate choice to mentor or help out a new graduate.

Australia's new graduate athletes in library and information services have been performing solidly for the last four years. They have been training hard, organising and performing

at events on the new grad circuit, winning medals and scholarships, reaching their goals and for the stars. Of course, hard work and talent are paramount to their achievements. But a vital aspect to their success is, without a doubt, the guidance and encouragement provided by their coaches and mentors.

Earlier this year, New Grads around Australia were asked to nominate someone in the industry who has helped them most in their career. These coaches were recognised with certificates of thanks, and those who attended Click06 were called on-stage to accept a gold medal.

These are the nominated Gold Medal Coaches of our profession. See the *inCite* webpage (<http://alia.org.au/publishing/incite/2006/>) for the longer version of this article explaining why each coach was nominated.

**Julie Ager**, Swinburne University of Technology Library ▶

**Energise>>  
Enthuse>>  
Inspire!**

...gives a voice to the new generation of library and information professionals. If you have any suggestions or topics for this column, please contact the column co-ordinator, Kate Watson, [kwatson@usc.edu.au](mailto:kwatson@usc.edu.au).

►  
**Georgina Binns**, The Victorian College of the Arts (VCA)  
**Pat Bomford**, State Library of Tasmania  
**Catherine Brown**, University of the Sunshine Coast Library  
**Lee Coleman**, Bond University Library  
**Sandra Cochrane**, USQ Library  
 (Previously Central Queensland University Library)  
**Nola Fulwood**, Former Manager Public Access,  
 Queensland State Archives  
**Gillian Hallam**, Queensland University of Technology  
**Cheryl Haughton**, Rockhampton City Council Libraries  
**Helen Hobbs**, Queensland University of  
 Technology Library  
**Ann Huthwaite**, Queensland University of  
 Technology Library  
*"Ann gave me the idea and the confidence to submit  
 my first abstract for the Library Technicians conference,  
 which was successful. She was supportive and had a  
 wealth of information when it came to writing the pa-  
 per and presentation. She has motivated me to continue  
 striving for what I want to achieve."*  
**Anne Jones**, Greater Taree City Council Library  
**Jennie Keppell**, Brisbane City Council  
 Libraries  
**Rhonda Langford**, University of New South Wales Library  
**Carmel Leahy**, Australian Public Service Commission  
**Kerrie Ludekins** and **Moyra McAllister**, VIC Mentoring  
 Group 2001

**Tanya McPhee**, Hunter Institute of Technology,  
 Business and Computing Faculty  
**Roxanne Missingham**, Parliamentary Librarian  
 and ALIA Vice President  
**Laurence McDonnell**, Woollahra Library  
**Ruth Newton**, Dalby Agricultural College  
**Debra Orr**, Central Queensland University Library  
**Leesa Philip**, Central Queensland Institute of TAFE,  
 Mackay Campus Library  
*"Leesa has always had a moment to help me whenever  
 I needed it. Under her encouragement I have started  
 my first year in my Bachelor of Information and Library  
 Management. She gives me the support I need to suc-  
 cessfully do my assignments. Thank you for taking the  
 time to help me grow professionally and personally."*  
**Dagmar Schmidmaier**, ALIA President  
**Gemma Siemensma**, Ballarat Hospital  
**Dianne van Sommers**, University of Sydney Medical Library  
**Gunde Svans**, North Coast Institute of TAFE, Taree Campus  
**Michelle Woodcroft**, Therapeutic Goods Administration  
**Norma Worswick**, Ballarat Health Services Library  
*"Norma encourages me in all aspects of my career. She  
 lets me attend conferences, workshops, training sessions,  
 meetings for ALIA etc. She also allows me to experiment  
 at work with implementing new databases, programs,  
 software, ways of doing things etc. I have learnt so much  
 from Norma and will be forever grateful."* \*

## Introducing our international keynote speaker

New Librarians Symposium, 1–2 December 2006, The John Niland Scientia Building, UNSW, Sydney Australia

The excitement is starting to build as we get closer to the date of the New Librarians' Symposium. The committee is proud to announce the international speaker for NLS2006 – Pathways and Possibilities.

### International keynote speaker – Joan Frye Williams

Internationally recognised technology consultant, planner and trainer Joan Frye Williams will challenge delegates by asking them to explore ways that new service mod-



els can help us meet our users' changing expectations in ways that add real value and preserve our role as library professionals. 'Information is Not Enough: Shaping the User Experience' will get Day 2 of NLS2006 off to a dynamic and exciting start and provide advice on how to keep customer satisfaction up and your own blood pressure down by providing a top-quality user experience.

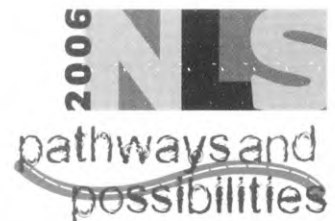
A library futurist and designer of innovative library services, Joan is best known as an acute observer of emerging library trends, issues, and practices.

### And an absolutely fabulous social program

NLS2006 is not all about work. There are some fabulous networking events to end each day on a high note. On Friday evening of 1 December, there will be a Cocktail Party hosted by the State Library of NSW. The Cocktail Party will be held in the Mitchell Wing. With its neo-classical design and galleries, you will be immersed in a cultural experience while sipping cocktails and mingling with fellow delegates.

On 2 December, spend a night at the races and enjoy dinner at the Oaks Lawn Marquee, one of the exquisite function rooms of the Australian Jockey Club (AJC) Convention Centre. Get dressed up in your favourite frock and hat and enjoy the view of the race track, dining on fine food and dancing the night away.

As part of the networking opportunities provided by the Symposium, the NGG and NGPAG will meet the evening before the Symposium for dinner. The dinner aims to put faces to the names of those on each group and to discuss ways that each group can support each other and contribute to the success of



new grads and ALIA, and of course share a great meal and good company.

With so much packed into a couple of days, the Symposium is value for money. You still have time to take advantage of the **Early bird Registration**, but remember that this **closes on Friday 6 October**. For those wishing to get involved in further professional development experiences, sign up for a satellite event. Learn about general cataloguing principles and practices, how to market information services or how to be a relaxed overachiever. All the information you need is available at <http://conferences.alia.org.au/newlibrarian2006/>. If you have any questions, please e-mail us at [newlibrarian2006@alia.org.au](mailto:newlibrarian2006@alia.org.au).

**Vicki Bourbous, Fiona Bradley  
and Adrienne Harris**