

Directline

ALIA Volunteers

Looking at the efforts of volunteers in the extended community, it's important to acknowledge volunteers within our own organisation. ALIA is made up of thousands of members with a relatively small National Office. Our real strength lies in the efforts undertaken by ordinary members who volunteer their time and knowledge to further the actions of the Association as a whole. From the Directors of the ALIA Board, taking on legal and financial responsibility for this multimillion dollar business, to the person who printed name tags at the last ALIA event you attended, these members share a desire to contribute to the success of their profession and its peak body.

Without the work of volunteers ALIA would not exist. At any given time there are hundreds of volunteers working for you. What are they doing? Some are managing our e-lists. Volunteers make up our Standing and Advisory Committees. A major effort falls to the organising committees of ALIA conferences – you'd never get to attend an ALIA conference without them. Currently we're undertaking ALIA course recognition, and members are assisting by reporting on education needs. Our Groups have teams of people who plan and execute events, produce newsletters, and visit institutions teaching LIS courses to promote ALIA membership. The list goes on, and if I've missed your valuable role, let me say a blanket thanks for all your efforts.

Why volunteer? ALIA volunteers want to build a strong profession, furthering the industry as a whole. They know our strength grows exponentially with the efforts of everyone. They are gaining personal skills and experience, being given the opportunity to tackle new projects, and be mentored by others in the industry. They are contributing to the future success, of themselves and of you, the lucky recipients of their efforts.

I urge all members to look at volunteering their expertise to ALIA. Join a group, send a message to an e-list, attend a function and offer to meet and greet, present a paper, or nominate for an Advisory Committee.

Farewell and good luck

Speaking of volunteers, we say a special thank you to Derek Whitehead, Damian Lodge, and Kate Watson for their amazing contributions to the ALIA Board of Directors during their terms which finish in May 2009.

We also farewell Peter Heffernan, Assistant Director Business Support at National Office, and welcome Catherine Kelly to the position.

Election Results 2009

Graham Black has already been elected Vice-President (President elect) unopposed, and will begin his tenure as Vice-President following the May 2009 ALIA AGM, then take up the presidency in May 2010 until the 2011 AGM. Gill Hallam and Kate Sinclair have been elected as Directors. Their terms will run to the 2011 AGM.

A total of 4119 internet voters and 773 postal voters were eligible to vote in the Board election. The ballot count was conducted by the Australian Election Company.

645 formal ballot votes were received:

- Gill Hallam received 233 first preference votes, with a total of 344 votes, following the distribution of preferences, and was elected.
- Kate Sinclair received 160 first preference votes, with a total of 373 votes, and was elected.
- Stuart Ferguson received 114 first preference votes and a total of 144 votes.
- Richard Siegersma received 72 first preference votes.
- Lothar von Retzlaff received 66 first preference votes.

Public Libraries Summit 2009

The ALIA Board of Directors is pleased to announce that the new date for the ALIA Public Libraries Summit is **16 July 2009**. We are delighted that Senator Ursula Stephens, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector, and Parliamentary Secretary Assisting the Prime Minister for Social Inclusion, will open the Summit.

The submissions already received are now available on the Summit website. Thank you to all those who have contributed. To see the submissions, and for more updates, please visit the Summit website <http://www.alia.org.au/summit09>.

Annual Report correction notice

In the 2008 Annual Report 'Operations Results', located on page 13, the word surplus appears incorrectly. As is indicated in the rest of the report and my April 'Directline', this should have been recorded as a deficit. ALIA and auditors Walter Turnbull wish to confirm the accuracy of this Concise Financial Report. <http://www.alia.org.au/publishing/annual.reports/>

LLD

National Office got into the spirit of Library Lovers Day, with a 'Black and Red' theme to also incorporate Friday the 13th. We enjoyed a fantastic morning tea (only black and red foods!), and decorated our offices – and ourselves – with official Library Lovers Day stickers, red hearts, black cats, and library-themed posters.

For more Library Lovers Day stories from across the country, please see our special LLD section in this month's issue, pages 32–35.

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Local Liaison Officers

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