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INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR SUE REYNOLDS

Dr Sue Reynolds, Program Director, Master of Information Management at RMIT University, has been named as the winner of the prestigious Phyllis Dain Library History Award for 2011. She is the first non-American to receive this award, which is given every two years by the Library History Round Table of the American Library Association for an outstanding dissertation that embodies original research on a significant topic relating to the history of libraries, librarianship or information science.

Sue's dissertation, *The Establishment of the Library of the Supreme Court of Victoria, 1851-1884: Antecedents, Foundation, and Legacy* impressed the Committee, particularly with her depth of research, lucid and engaging prose and her ability to place the history of the library within a larger historical context. The Committee praised Reynolds's work for "setting a new standard for the history of a specific library."

Sue made a flying trip to the American Library Association Conference in New Orleans recently to receive her award, supported by RMIT University. Brian Corbitt, Professor of Information Systems and Deputy Pro Vice Chancellor Research at the University, said "Awards like this come once in a lifetime and should always be supported and promoted.

"The University felt this award not only recognised the very high quality and impact of Sue's work, but also reflected the excellence of the team of library academics she works with at RMIT University and the academy of Librarians in Australia."

Sue says she received notification of the award via email on her phone while waiting for a train. "I gasped with surprise, making the other passengers wonder what had happened," she said.

"I was thrilled and excited and of course it continued to be thrilling by being able to collect the award in person at the American Library Association Conference. The other fantastic thing was how pleased other people have been for me, especially other academics who have completed PhDs."

The award is named in honor of Phyllis Dain, a library historian widely known as a supportive adviser and mentor as well as a rigorous scholar and a thinker with great breadth of vision.

