

## AND THE WINNERS ARE...

In September INCITE we asked you what the most critical issue library and information services face is, in planning for the future.

The winners of our competition all received a copy of Steve O'Connor's *Imagining*

Your Library's Future: Scenario Planning for Library and Information Services, generously donated by Chandos Books. Here's what the winners had to say:

The most critical issue library and information services face in planning for their future is...

"The critical issue library and information services face in planning for the future is users thinking that they can do without us. We are doing such an outstanding job that users do not believe that we are necessary. My general remedy for this ailment is to become professional at marketing."

- Nina Suprun

"I am concerned and passionate about the future value placed on school libraries and the recognition they will receive for their educational possibilities by those in leadership roles. This issue is the most critical issue library and information services face in planning for the future, in my opinion."

- Kristy Moody

"An aging workforce, loss of experience, skills and knowledge as a large percentage of those employed in the profession edge closer to retirement. This raises



challenges in terms of succession planning, skills transfer and the need to keep attracting younger generations into the profession. The internet cannot replace us, yet."

- Kim Sherwin

"Persuading funding bodies and non-library users that libraries and information services are not rendered obsolete by the internet and Google but are natural partners that add value to the process of finding information – by finding just the information you needed but didn't know was there."

- Catherine Kerrigan

"The most critical issue library/information services face in planning for the future is initial education and ongoing training for librarians, library technicians and other staff. Everything moves much faster now. Technology and the world change often. More resources will be online. Library/information professionals need to be ready for anything."

- Deborah Martin

"How to make libraries relevant to Australians aged between 15 and 65. Younger children learning to read and retirees with time to read rely on libraries. But there is a 50-year gap during which libraries are irrelevant for most people for information or for recreational reading."

- John Brudenall

Congratulations to all our winners and thank you to Chandos Books.

## THE ALIA NATIONAL ADVISORY CONGRESS 2011

This year's National Advisory Congress (NAC) meetings have seen some exciting discussions and debates around the topic **The Future of the Profession**. We discovered a passion for compulsory PD, how copyright is struggling to keep up with the slew of new electronic media devices, and we addressed the future of ALIA conferences.

To round out these local meetings, ALIA Board Member John Bayliss will host a regional and rural teleconference on 7 November to ensure our valuable members not located in major metropolitan hubs could have their voice heard.

Wrapping up these engaging discussions the ALIA Board President Margaret Allen will convene a final NAC with a representative from each of the local and teleconference meetings on the 16th November.

Members are encouraged to visit the website and read the available resources and check back soon for the final report.

For more information, please visit [www.alia.org.au/governance/nac/2011/](http://www.alia.org.au/governance/nac/2011/) or phone 02 6215 8222 or 1800 020 071.

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