

Security in the Spring Equinox

The Spring Equinox is a very special time for the ALIA PD Scheme as it signals the start of the annual audit process. Although ALIA staff will not be on the job Sunday 23rd September at 00.49 am EST, the time of the Spring equinox for 2012, you can be assured come Monday morning emails will be in the ether seeking out the chosen 10% of ALIA PD Scheme members who have been randomly selected to undergo an audit to ensure compliance with the requirements of the PD Scheme.

The annual audit is part of the process of securing the validity of the ALIA certification and revalidation process and supports the undertaking of quality professional development by Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals. It is important to have effective and accountable governance and management of compliance as a way of providing reassurance for employers and peers of the credibility of the scheme.

The prospect of being chosen for audit also provides gentle persuasion for PD scheme members to engage in the good habit of recording and reflecting on PD activities regularly – it's much easier than doing it all at once!

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This year's audit will be monitoring PD compliance from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012. Compliance for annual audit purposes is satisfying all the requirements of the PD scheme: including completing a minimum of 30 PD points covering the range of activity types and completing your reflection/ learning outcomes. Remember, you choose your preferred recording and reflection method. You can use the ALIA recording tool 'My PD', or, for example, your workplace recording system or an e-portfolio. Just remember you will need to calculate your PD points and categories

by using the ALIA Summary of PD Activities listed on the ALIA website. All you need is to provide an accessible record and proof for audit purposes.

What is reflection? Reflection is more than a *description* of your PD activity. It is recording your

views, evaluating your professional experiences, thinking about relevance to your professional practice, and linking new learning to what you have learned before.

ALIA is committed to maintaining a comprehensive and effective framework for supporting ongoing learning for all LIS professionals. ALIA Training with its online and face-to-face courses is part of that support along with ALIA conferences, publishing and group activities, workshops and seminars.

So I encourage you to be ready for that very special email.

Judy Brooker
ALIA PD and Careers Manager
judy.brooker@alia.org.au



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ALIA plans to offer RDA training in partnership with TAFESA in 2013.

This training will be:

- suitable for practitioners
- delivered online, over approximately four weeks
- suitable for anyone regardless of their location or work situation.
- for both individual participants, or groups of staff from the same institution.

Dates, costs, and so on are yet to be determined, but when they are confirmed they will be widely published via all of ALIA's communication mediums.

We plan to offer another round of our current Cataloguing Basics course (that contains an introduction to RDA) early in 2013, and then follow on during the rest of the year with a number of RDA-specific training courses. As is the case with most ALIA Training courses, they will be open to members and non-members of ALIA.