



COLLABORATE. CO-OPERATE. COMMUNICATE.

Echoing the spirit of the imminent ALIA National 2014 Conference theme of collaboration and inspired by the ALIA Queensland Mini-Conference model, 70 information professionals assembled at the State Library of Western Australia in June for the inaugural ALIA WA Symposium.

The goal for this event was to provide low-cost professional development to Western Australian information professionals. Representatives from the ALIA Students and New Graduates Group, ALIA WA Library Technicians and ALIAWest came together to organise a full day of thought-provoking presentations by practitioners and researchers. Committee members included Matthias Liffers, Reeti Brar, Tamara Capper, Joanne Comerford, Patrizia Gianatti and Catherine New.

The program included keynote speaker Hugh Rundle from the City of Boroondara in Victoria, whose presentation *What We Have and What We Do* was part inspiration, part practicality. Shannon Verbakel and Rebecca Keshwar gave independent accounts of public library services for the youth market and Dora Adeline from the City of Albany showed us how packing a van up with toys and other educational resources and driving for hours can lead to positive outcomes for regional communities.

Andrew Kelly and Caris Chamberlain delivered a workshop in which we were asked to build a new library, from the ground up, for a newly merged council. The program then moved into the academic sphere with Megan Fitzgibbons and Chloe Allen from the University of Western Australia walking participants through the support they provided for a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course).

Finally, Leith Robinson spoke of her research into the convergence of libraries with other community services. She observed that even though converged libraries are becoming more common, convergence of staff is not necessarily following.

The day was a marked success and the next Symposium will be something to look forward to in 2015.

NEWS FROM ALIA HOUSE

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After several years with the Association, Director of Corporate Services Harry Carroll retired in August. Harry guided the Association's finances through the aftermath of the global financial crisis and has worked tirelessly to ensure our financial stability. ALIA Board members and staff know they will be joined by our members in thanking Harry for his significant contribution to the Association.

David Patrick has now joined the ALIA House team as the new Director of Corporate Services and Company Secretary. David is a Certified Practising Accountant and has held senior management positions with Care Australia and the Royal Canberra Golf Club. He brings broad experience and a special understanding of professional associations and not for profit companies to his new role with ALIA.

ALIA House also welcomes not one but two Laurens to the team. Lauren O'Hara has joined us as the new Communications Coordinator as we farewell Hannah Moorby, who is off on a new adventure. Lauren brings previous experience in marketing, sponsorship management, media liaison and social media to this role.

We are also very pleased to announce Lauren Gobbett has now been appointed as the ALIA State Manager for South Australia. Lauren currently works in the Flinders University Library and has been active as a volunteer in Indigenous Collections at the State Library of SA, along with various roles with SALIN, the History Council of SA, the ALIA Information Science Group, Conway's Kids and the SA Country Women's Association.