C·A·U·L
COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS

OCCASIONAL BULLETIN

THE INVASION BEGINS!

CAUL and CONZUL members begin arriving in the UK in early April, converging on Cardiff, Wales to participate in the SCONUL meeting commencing on the 10th. The touring party comprises 18 members of the two organisations, indulging in a whirlwind tour of the island to be treated to an expose of the latest and most innovative work being undertaken by the UK Higher Education and library community.

The tour program includes visits to nine institutions in Cardiff, Stirling, Edinburgh, Glasgow, London and Cambridge, more than 20 presentations with local library leaders conducting discussions on programs and projects currently underway. The SCONUL program includes: Digital technology for widening access: the National Electronic Resource, by Alicia Wise, JISC Collections Manager and Widening access research: the Research Support Libraries Programme, by Peter Fox, RSLP Steering Committee.

The CAUL/CONZUL tourists are:
Margaret Appleton, Central Queensland University
John Arfield, University of Western Australia
Marian Bate, University of New South Wales
Angela Bridgland, University of Melbourne (Deputy Librarian)
Janet Copsey, University of Auckland, NZ
Ainslie Dewe, RMIT University
Earle Gow, LaTrobe University

Helen Hayes, University of Melbourne
Helen Livingston, Deakin University
John McKinlay, James Cook University
Madeleine McPherson, University of Southern Queensland
Gail Pattie, University of Canterbury, NZ
Sue Pharo, University of Waikato, NZ
Alison Ransome, Southern Cross University
Grace Saw, Auckland University of Technology, NZ
Janine Schmidt, University of Queensland
Colin Steele, Australian National University
Evelyn Woodberry, Bond University
Michael Wooliscroft, University of Otago, NZ
Carolyn Young, Queensland University of Technology (Associate Librarian)

CAUL PRESIDENT 1999–2000

Helen Hayes (Vice-Principal (Information) at the University of Melbourne) is in her second year as president of CAUL. In 1999, she was awarded the Telstra Australian Business-woman of the Year award in the public sector category.

THE STRATEGIC PLAN IN ACTION!

CAUL adopted a new plan following its March, 1999 Council meeting. The following highlights how far it has progressed.

    <http://www.caul.edu.au/caul-doc/
    strpln99final.html>

INFORMATION RESOURCES

- **Improve opportunities for cost-efficient purchase and licensing of electronic information resources through CEIRC (the CAUL Electronic Information Resources Committee).** New agreements with Chemical Abstracts Service (for SciFinder Scholar), the American Mathematical Society (for MathSciNet), the Association for Computing Machinery (for its Digital Library Package), Lexis-Nexis (for both the classic product and the new web-based Lexis.com) and ISA-RoweCom Australia (for License Depot) have been concluded over the past four months. Thirty-seven of CAUL's 39 members now subscribe to ISI's Current Contents through the agreement originally brokered in 1994. It is currently negotiating its participation in the international mega-consortium led by Solinet for access to McGraw-Hill's AccessScience. CEIRC is also reviewing its intra-consortium cost-sharing models.

    <http://www.caul.edu.au/datasets/>

- **Establish a framework and develop a business model for a national universities borrowing scheme.** An issues paper and a summary of current reciprocal borrowing schemes have been prepared.

    <http://www.caul.edu.au/caul-
    doc/national-borrowing.htm>

- **Develop a business plan and funding model for a national cooperative digital and archive store linking regional stores under a common management and technical structure.** Agreement has been reached with the two regional stores, CAVAL and SAUL, to work with them on national protocols. The working name of the proposed cooperative entity is Research Resources Australia.

    <http://www.caul.edu.au/caul-
    doc/store.html>

- **Develop subject gateways for information access & delivery (MetaChem, AgriGate, AVEL) through collaborative development.**

    <http://metachem.ch.adfa.edu.au/>
    <http://www.agrigate.edu.au/>
    <http://avel.library.uq.edu.au/>

- **Assess the feasibility of a cooperative approach to collection development and resource sharing for university and other major research libraries (Janus Project)**

    <http://www.caul.edu.au/janus/>.

    Phase I of the program highlighted the complexity of the national research library network, and difficulty of mapping the multitude of discrete but connected activities into an overarching business model for research libraries. Phase II of the project will consequently not proceed, and CAUL is reviewing options to proceed with the strategy in more easily digestible chunks.

- **Investigate the feasibility of an Australian university library portal to facilitate resource sharing and collaborative collection development.** A small working group is reviewing technological options and international developments in personal information environments to support an Australian Research Library Network (ARLN). The plan is to research and develop an architecture using portal technologies which integrate the various library resource sharing services so that all users have an integrated view of the information resources available in the

current collaborative environment. A final funding application will be forwarded to DETYA before 2 June, 2000.

`<http://www.lib.monash.edu.au/elim/`
`espace.htm>`

Contact: Earle Gow

`<E.Gow@latrobe.edu.au>`

- **Evaluate options for a national authentication system which will permit students and researchers to access authorised information and databases with a single sign-on.** Work is about to begin on a prototype which will require minimal intervention in institutional authentication systems, and minimal work on the part of information providers.

  `<http://www.caul.edu.au/caul-`
  `doc/authenticat-rief.htm>`

- **To provide improved access to Australian theses** and to disseminate the research findings contained in them more widely, seven university libraries have collaborated in a RIEF funded project to develop a distributed database of Australian digital theses. Software provided by Virginia Tech, USA, has been modified for Australian conditions of award and to allow for customisation by individual universities. Using this software a thesis may be submitted or deposited electronically and a PDF version created for access via the World Wide Web. The Australian Digital Theses service is unique in its national distributed approach. From July 1, 2000, CAUL will take on the overall responsibility for the service and the other Australian universities will be invited to participate.

  `<http://www.library.unsw.edu.au/`
  `thesis.html>`

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

- **Foster the implementation of the scholarly communication agenda** as defined by the March 1999 workshop on Australia's information future. The workshop

proceedings were only recently published by DETYA

`<http://www.detya.gov.au/highered/eippubs`
`/eip99-5/execsum99_5.htm>`

but the projects which flowed from it are well underway under the auspices of the Coalition for Innovation in Scholarly Communication.

`<http://www.caul.edu.au/cisc/>`

The largest of these is the Economics of Scholarly Communication, examining current practices, trends and implications, and emerging and alternative business models.

BEST PRACTICE

- **Complete a best practice guide for university libraries through the EIP Benchmarking Project.** A manual was completed in September 1999 and is awaiting publication by DETYA. Contact: Gaynor Austen

  `<g.austen@qut.edu.au>`

- **Assist in the development of national benchmarks** for university library and information technology services by contributing to the IDP Benchmarking Project. CAUL members contributed to the sections on human resource management and library and IT services. The national benchmarks were published in March 2000.

  `<http://www.detya.gov.au/highered/otherpu`
  `b/bench.pdf>`

- **Review the efficacy of the CAUL Performance Indicator kits** and revise if appropriate. Plans are underway to revise the three kits, and to determine the priorities for new ones. Indicators for the electronic library and indicators for evaluation of information literacy training and reference services have already been identified.

  `<http://www.caul.edu.au/caul-`
  `doc/publishi.htm#perfind>`

- **Conduct and publish the results of surveys and questionnaires, which enable members to share collective knowledge and experience.** Recent surveys have addressed trimesters and summer terms; resources (including information resources) to support university research; library reporting lines & university administrations; sponsorship of library facilities; library orientation services.

  `<http://www.caul.edu.au/surveys>`

ADVOCACY, MARKETING, COMMUNICATION

- **Raise the awareness of the AVCC to CAUL cooperative strategies through the CAUL strategic plan.** Three members of CAUL and the chair of the Australian Libraries Copyright Committee are members of the AVCC's Standing Committee on Information Policy in 2000. Progress in key areas in CAUL's strategic plan is being raised with SCIP for information, advice and support.

  `<http://www.avcc.edu.au/>`

- **Support CAUL representation on groups seeking to influence regulatory reform, especially in relation to copyright, telecommunications, higher education, etc.** The Copyright Amendment (Digital Agenda) Bill 1999 is expected to be finalised in the next few months.

  `<http://www.aph.gov.au/parlinfo/billsnet/99173.pdf>`

  Key concerns relate to the right of first digitisation, the maintenance of inter-library loans between for-profit and not-for-profit organisations, the presumption that all temporary electronic 'copies' are reproductions in material form for copyright purposes, and that library users browsing electronic material on the premises are able to make reasonable copies under fair dealing using both hardcopy and digital technologies.

  `<http://www.caul.edu.au/org/copyrdoc.htm>`

- **Develop strategic alliances by organising a visit of CURL librarians to Australia for a study tour in September, 1999.** This inspired the return tour to the UK by CAUL & CONZUL members in April 2000, and the proposed tour to Australia of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries in October 2000, coinciding with both the ALIA2000 Conference

  `<http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/alia2000/>`

  and CAUL's spring meeting. Several CAUL members toured New Zealand in November, 1999 further enhancing the close relationships with CONZUL and its members.

GLOSSARY

ALIA Australian Library and Information Association
`<http://www.alia.org.au/>`

AVCC Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee
`<http://www.avcc.edu.au/>`

CONZUL Council of New Zealand University Librarians

CURL Consortium of University Research Libraries

DETYA Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs
`<http://www.detya.gov.au/>`

IDP IDP Education Australia
`<http://www.idp.edu.au/>`

CONTACTING CAUL

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