

Obituary

Crusader psychologist

On 24 November 1989, at the age of 80, Mary Smith died. She was well known throughout South Australia for all the practical wisdom that was contained in her long-running column in the *Sunday Mail* under the heading of 'Mary Smith, Child Psychologist'. This was a column that was of great benefit to many individual South Australians.

But she was also a Catherine Helen Spence scholar and, like Catherine Helen Spence, she was a social reformer. Mary Smith's soft voice and gentle wit hid a steely resolve in this regard.

Although I only met her late in her life she still found time to become passionately involved with our Concerned Residents of the Western Suburbs (CROW) group in the welcoming of the Aboriginal Community College into Port Adelaide. She also took a leading role in our successful campaign to get public libraries into Western Adelaide.

On a personal note, I will always be honoured by the fact that she was in the habit of referring to me as 'my favourite lunatic'.

Arthur Mortimer,
Largs Bay, SA

Public library services - user charges

The Brunswick City Council reports that it has followed the recent debate on user charges for public library services with interest.

The Town Clerk, K.D. Wilson, advises that Council resolved on 8 November 1989 in relation to user charges for Public Library Services, that:

- * Council endorse the principle that public library services and resources should be freely accessible to everyone in the community;
- * Council dismiss the Australian Libraries Summit's proposed distinction between 'basic' public library services, which should remain free, and 'value-added' services, which could be subject to charges; and
- * Council advise ALIA, ACLIS and the MAV of its resolutions in this regard.



Australian Library and Information Association

Nominations for Fellowships

The Australian Library and Information Association may confer the distinction of Fellowship of the Association on an Associate (professional) member who has made a distinguished and sustained contribution to the theory and/or practice of librarianship. Nominees normally must have at least 8 years' standing as a professional member of the Association.

Nominations for Fellowship may be submitted by professional members of Divisions of the Association. They should be supported by details of the following: nominee's achievements and leadership in librarianship or archives administration; contribution to the objects and work of ALIA; publications on bibliography, librarianship or archives, and/or conduct of research or development in librarianship or archives.

Nomination forms are available from the Mary Papachristos, Membership Services Manager, Australian Library and Information Association, PO Box E441, Queen Victoria's Terrace, ACT 2601.

Members should note that any recommendations for Fellowships must be made in strict confidence. Failure to comply with this requirement will jeopardise the nomination. Nominations should reach the ALIA office by 1 June 1990.

Women and the Power of Managing Information

27 August 1988
Basser College, University of New South Wales

Proceedings

In August 1988, as part of the pre-conference activities of the joint ALA/IFLA conference, the Status of Women in Librarianship organised a seminar aimed at women who would be attending the IFLA conference. An international first for women in libraries, the complete Proceedings of this seminar, plus an additional paper, have now been published and are available from the Status of Women in Librarianship. Four speakers addressed the theme of Women and the Power of Managing Information. Deborah McCulloch, a consultant with extensive experience in working on EEO Committees and Women's Networks in State Governments of Australia, opened the day with an incisive account of EEO issues. Barbara Imroth, a Professor at the Faculty of Library Studies, University of Texas, spoke on the conceptual issues of power. Lynnley McGrath of the Women's Information and Referral Exchange in Perth, Australia spoke of the task in setting up WIRE. Nita Norman of the Phoenix Public Library, concluded the morning's talks. A fifth paper by Thelma Tate, who took an international view of women and library services, is included with the Proceedings. Accounts of the afternoon's workshops are also included in these Proceedings, as is a list of the seminar participants.



How to obtain your copy of
*Women and the Power of Managing
Information*

Send your order, with a cheque payable to **Status of Women in Librarianship**, to the following address:

Status of Women in Librarianship
95 Gladstone Street
Kew Victoria 3101
Australia

Price: \$12 (includes postage)
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