International role for National Library chief executive

Director-general of the National Library of Australia, Jan Fullerton, was elected to the position of chair of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries at the recent IFLA (the International Federation of Library Associations) annual conference in Jerusalem.

Ms Fullerton, who has been director-general of the National Library of Australia for just over twelve months, is the first Australian to be elected to this prestigious international position, which she will hold until August 2004.

The Conference of Directors of National Libraries is an independent association of the chief executives of more than eighty national libraries. The group was established to facilitate discussion and promote understanding and co-operation on matters of common interest to national libraries worldwide.

Ms Fullerton said she was delighted to be invited to lead the group over the next four years. 'The Conference of Directors of National Libraries is a dynamic group that creates an invaluable forum for the discussion of issues of relevance to all major libraries worldwide', she said.

In 1999, the Conference of Directors of National Libraries commissioned Ms Fullerton to produce a policy on copyright and preservation issues which as adopted by the group at their recent meeting in Jerusalem.

In between annual meetings, the group regularly forms sub-committees to advance issues of mutual interest to national libraries — such as the role of libraries in collecting and managing digital publications.

'To represent the National Library of Australia within that international group and now to be offered this leadership role is a great privilege,' Ms Fullerton said.

The next meeting of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries is in Boston in August 2001. ∎

Library stamps its mark as exhibition venue!

Kim Sutcliffe, liaison librarian, Southbank Institute of TAFE

The Morningside Library of the Southbank Institute of TAFE recently hosted its inaugural Teachers' Exhibition. Staff worked very hard and enthusiastically to bring this event to fruition. The exhibition contained artwork by teachers and tutors at the Morningside Campus of the Southbank Institute of TAFE. Contributions were received from a number of educational units, including architectural studies, multimedia, performing arts, visual arts, graphic design, photography, illustration, and binding and finishing. This created a very eclectic selection of exhibits, from textile arts to interactive websites to wood turning and it also included silk paintings, mounted photographs, illustrations and paintings. Between 9 and 23 August this collection of artwork was displayed in the library to enable all students and staff to appreciate the creative skills and artistic expressions of the teachers and tutors at Morningside.

To entice all would-be-onlookers we kicked off the event with an opening night, including wine and food. The evening was officially opened by our campus manager, Sally Lamoin who stated that, 'an event of this kind presents a rare opportunity to see examples of teaching staffs' private works and portfolios, and enables us to celebrate the combined talents and efforts of our staff, thus providing inspiration to our students'.

The Morningside Library is housed in a new purpose-designed building, which provides an excellent forum for this type of event. Due to the overwhelming success of this inaugural event, plans are under way for next year's (bigger and if possible, even better) exhibition.

As a result of this exhibition, Morningside library has since played host to two more exhibitions, an Australia-wide travelling architectural exhibition by the Australian Association of Architectural Illustrators Incorporated and an Indigenous art exhibition by students in the Certificate and Diploma courses of Visual Arts at Morningside TAFE. Anyone interested in having an exhibition at the Morningside Library should contact Margaret Rodger on 07 3244 6445. ∎