

NEW DIRECTOR-GENERAL ANNOUNCED

The library community has been eagerly awaiting the news and on February 11 Arts Minister Simon Crean announced the appointment of Anne-Marie Schwirtlich as Director-General of the National Library of Australia. She will take up her post in March.



Anne-Marie Schwirtlich will take up the role of Director-General, National Library of Australia in March

Anne-Marie said the National Library of Australia is a leader in the international cultural sector, and the role of libraries in this digital age has never been more important.

"I look forward to the work of positioning the Library to serve Australians now and in the long term," Ms Schwirtlich said.

Mr Crean said the appointment comes at a crucial time as the National Library is embracing and utilising digital technology for collection and storage of key cultural material.

"I look forward to working with Ms Schwirtlich and the Library's Council as the National Library implements its transition into the digital age," Mr Crean said.

"The role of the National Library has never been more important. With Ms Schwirtlich's appointment the National Library will be well placed to realise the opportunities of new technology and the National Broadband Network, while developing the library's role as a highly valued centre for learning, knowledge creation, enjoyment and understanding of Australian life and society," he said.

The Chair of the Council of the National Library, The Hon Chief Justice James Spigelman AC said Ms Schwirtlich would maintain the Library as an internationally respected reference and cultural centre.

The new Director-General brings a broad experience in national and state cultural institutions to her role, most recently as CEO and State Librarian of Victoria, and also including roles with Arts Victoria, the National Archives of Australia and the Australian War Memorial.

VIDEO on demand - including analytics

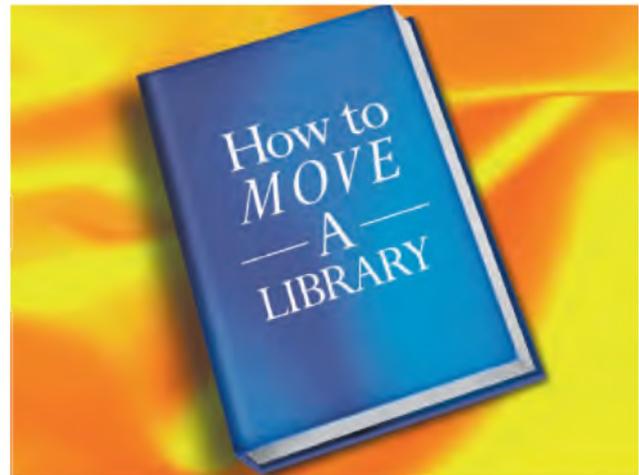
Tertiary library supplier Kanopy's new Streaming Service has been so successful there are plans to expand into New Zealand by mid-year. The new service offers an 'a la carte' streaming marketplace through which tertiary libraries only pay for what they need and use from the Kanopy DVD catalogue.

It's taken two years to come to fruition, and a lot of research and collaboration with local and international universities. Nineteen Australian university libraries have signed on for the service.

Streamed programs are supplied with all relevant copyright clearances in place and enhanced with a tailored and branded sub-site featuring only the ordered material. Behind the service is a suite of analytics to enable library staff to analyse and evaluate viewing behaviour. Additional options are also planned for the near future, including clip-making, playlist creation, editing suites and simultaneous powerpoint presentations. The service delivers high quality content to PCs, iPads and other devices.

Kanopy has also taken a deliberate step to actively support the creative industries, with the majority of licence fees going direct to filmmakers. Over a hundred Australian and international filmmakers are on board with the project, including Ronin Films, ABC, Films Media Group, Michael Blackwood, VEA and Dennis O'Rourke among others.

www.kanopystreaming.com



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