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NEWSLETTER
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CORPORATION
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008 337 405

Curriculum Corporation has a 008 number for schools requiring assistance/advice on the use of SCIS products. The service is a FREE call for schools.

The helpline is usually staffed by 2 people but users must be prepared to be rung back by the Information Services staff, as often the demand will exceed the supply.

The assistance that the Information Services staff can give over the helpline will be improved if users requesting assistance leave a message concerning the request/ problem and a staff member will ring you back.

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PP 381667/00227

Connections

Issue No 13 Autumn 1995

Professional Upgrading: What's available for the working T/L?

With the three fold role of librarian, educator and manager it is essential that teacher-librarians are aware of current developments in all areas of the profession.

With several universities offering external study facilities, T/Ls have a choice of educational institutions when juggling employment and professional upgrading.

Charles Sturt University was the first academic institution in Australia to offer external courses in librarianship. James Henri writes....

Teacher Librarianship at CSU: What's happening?

There has been more interest in courses for teacher librarianship at CSU over the past few years than at any other time since 1982. In response, courses are being continually revised and currently include:

- Grad Dip Ed (TL) course to fee paying students in response to growing demand for student places.
- Teacher Librarianship Certificate to two year trained teachers, as a non award course and may be used by students as the third year in a BEd.
- A Teacher Librarianship method within the Grad Dip Ed (Secondary) for qualified librarians to gain teaching qualifications.
- A Teacher Librarianship strand within the Master of Applied Science (Information Studies) degree – a composite course work and research award.
- Collaboration with the Northern Territory University to provide them with a major in teacher librarianship as part of their BEd program. Subjects are taught by CSU staff with residential schools conducted in Darwin.
- Securing sponsorship from the NSW Department of Education for selected students.
- Offering optional residential schools in most subjects.
- Offering 'off-campus workshops' in Sydney and Wollongong as an alternative to attendance at the Wagga Wagga Campus.
- Offering selected subjects during the Summer Session (Dec - Feb).

During 1994/5 efforts have been concentrated on revising the GDE (TL) course and towards developing a MEd (Teacher Librarianship). It has been recognised that the graduate diploma is not a particularly attractive award for teachers who hold four year qualifications. The MEd (TL) will be introduced from Autumn 1996 and will consist of 8 academic subjects and two practical subjects. It will be a total coursework degree and will be available via HECS funding and as a full fee paying award. Three year trained teachers will continue to undertake the Grad Dip Ed (TL) course.

At the present time we are working on a proposal to introduce a coursework **Master of Applied Science (Teacher Librarianship)**. This award will consist of 12 academic subjects: the first 8 of these (or Part A) is the Grad Dip Ed. Teacher-librarians who already hold a Grad Dip in Teacher Librarianship will be able to

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claim up to 8 subjects credit depending on the recency of their award. It is anticipated that this award will be introduced in Spring 1996 to students who are eligible for maximum credit and to other students from Autumn 1997. This award will be available to HECS students as well as a fee paying program. However, it is anticipated that students coming into the program with credit will pay fees.

Those not familiar with the difference between HECS payments and Full Fee Paying arrangements need only know that if you are in full time employment there is no significant difference between the bottom lines.

Those looking for a coursework/thesis option may seek entry into the MAppSci (Info Studies) and those who want to undertake research alone and have a first award teacher librarianship may consider undertaking either a MAppSci or PhD.

For further information contact James Henri, ph: (069) 332468, fax: (069) 332733, or jhenri@csu.edu.au

Other Universities offering external courses include:

Monash University

(Clayton Camp)

ph: 03 9053787 fax: 03 9053054

(Gippsland Camp)

ph: 03 9026200 fax: 051 226300

Curtin University of Technology

ph: 09 3512000

Edith Cowan University

ph: 09 2738333 fax: 09 3877095

Northern Territory University

ph: 089 466666 fax: 089 270612

A MASTERS – WHAT'S THE POINT?

Jan Barnett has made it....recently completing her Master of Applied Science through Charles Sturt University. With a gap of some 18 years between her B.Ed (Canberra CAE, 1976), Jan shares her thoughts on study commitments while managing a busy school library and keeping the domestic scene running!

The benefits (for me):

- being current in my professional reading in education, teacher librarianship and librarianship;
- gaining a sense of achievement;
- having empathy with all students;
- improving my time management skills;
- having a current recognised qualification;
- being able to study when I wanted to, by using a distance education course.

The problems (not insurmountable):

- the vagaries of the postal system – Australia Post and the University;
- writing essays in academic language;
- bibliographic style;
- different markers' expectations;
- time management;
- wanting to give up when everything looked very black;
- waiting for results.

The logistics (to be organised ahead of time):

- make your Masters your priority for the duration of the course;
- plan your study by the semester to keep on target;
- have a set time each day when you study – morning, afternoon, evening, late night;
- have an understanding, independent partner who will forgive your "stress";

- have supportive library staff and an understanding Principal;
- have a study buddy, who is also a friend – or at least someone who has studies at post-graduate level;
- have a study area which no-one else touches – not even the cleaner;
- buy a computer and learn to use it well – it will also be your friend;
- let some aspects of your life go: learn to say no and mean it;
- keep your sense of humour;
- talk to your lecturers on the phone regularly. You will be lucky to see them more than once every twelve months unless you organise to meet them at a conference.

The outcomes:

- I finished my dissertation and it was accepted;
- I have learnt to think more critically and write in an academic manner;
- my time management skills have improved;
- I learnt to say 'no' when it was necessary;
- My pay did not increase but my self-esteem did.

My recommendations:

If you want to study at a higher level, then do it – but expect it to take over your life. Stick with your decision and communicate regularly with your lecturers and the administration.

My future:

A PhD or possibly a complete change of direction in either career or study!

Jan Barnett. BEd MAppSci AALIA
Saint Laurence's College South Brisbane.

HAVE YOU READ THIS

Internet Australasia is a relatively new journal on the Australian market and issues to date contain articles relevant to school users. *Education on the Internet* (Vol. 1, Iss. 5) highlights the Internet centre at Hoppers Crossing Secondary College, Victoria while in Vol.1, Iss. 2 Ric Curnow writes on *Internet for people who are deaf or hearing impaired* (p:26). Each Issue carries a section titled *Globetrotting* which lists some interesting Net sites to visit. Available from newsagents for \$4.95 per issue or by subscription fax: 02 2473330.

While almost every publication around

has an opinion or article on the Internet, Tony Banks from Mnt.Isa SHS keeps it simple for the novice group! The second of his series looks at *Electronic Mail (Insite. March 1995. p:3)* providing a clear description of the process, details of several programs to use and some addresses to subscribe to.

Some educators have become quite excited about the use of multimedia computers and CD ROMs within the classroom. Jon Madian evaluates their educational value in *Multimedia - Why and why not. The Computing teacher. Vol. 22 No. 7. p:16*.

T/L's faced with providing staff inservice

on the Internet could find the paper *Training with the Web: Internet training in an academic library environment* presented by Steve Ryan and Dean Leith, a useful starting point. *The Australian Library Journal. Vol. 44, No. 1 February, 1995. p:22*.

Kay Poustie, Chair of the ALIA Board of Education gives a brief review of the recently released *Framework for continuing professional development in InCite. Vol.16, June 1995. p:5*. This evolved through the belief that a structured approach to CPD will assist members maintain their professional standards while remaining competitive in the job marketplace.

NEWS

FROM CURRICULUM CORPORATION

New Phone and Fax Numbers.

Schools will be aware that phone numbers are gradually changing in each state over the next two years. Melbourne has just changed over with the addition of the number 9 added to the existing phone and fax numbers. Schools will be able to ring the existing number until October 30 this year, but after that date the old numbers will not work.

The new numbers to contact Curriculum Corporation are as follows:

PHONE: 03 96390699

FAX: 03 96391616

HELPLINE: 1800 337405

The change of phone numbers will also affect schools dialling into the existing Dobis system and the new Voyager system, however Online Users will be notified separately when they will be required to change the phone number in the SCISLINK software. Users should contact Information Program staff if they are experiencing difficulty in accessing the Online service, Victorian schools would be the first schools affected by the change.

HELPLINE Support. Phone: 03 96930699 or 1800 337405

The policy of the Helpline support for the Information Program of Curriculum Corporation is that we will endeavour to attend to your requests as soon as possible. When schools phone the Helpline it will assist Reception at Curriculum Corporation if you briefly explain your request so that these requests can be directed to the most appropriate person within the Information Program. If the staff member who is responsible for that area of support is not available, then Reception will offer to take a message for the person so they can return your call or transfer you to another staff member within the program.

Subscription Enquires:

ask for SCIS Administration Assistants.

ASCISRECON:

ask for SCIS Client Service Officers

Online Support:

ask for SCIS Client Service Officers

Scis on Disc Cd ROM:

ask for SCIS Catalogue Coordinator

Cataloguing Enquires:

ask for SCIS Catalogue Coordinator

Policy Issues:

ask for Assistant Manager: Information Program.

It will assist Information Program staff if schools are able to quote the **SCIS User Number** when requesting Helpline support. This is particularly important when requesting subscription information.

Changes of Address.

Many of the Helpline subscription requests relate to schools believing that they have not received a subscription renewal for the following school year. Subscription renewal forms are forwarded to ALL schools in October-November each year.

Curriculum Corporation would appreciate it if schools, amalgamating or having a change of address, remember to notify the Information Program of the change so that regular subscription products such as microfiche are sent to the correct address. SCIS products are supplied in good faith as per the supplied subscription address.

What's new

'School library automation in Australia: issues and results of the first national survey'

This title turns out to be a little misleading with only the first section relating to the survey. The book actually contains four reports on various aspects of library automation: the National Survey results, *Crucial factors in online enquiry*, *MARC for Teacher-librarians* and *Providing access to fiction in school libraries*.

For many T/Ls the issue of **library automation** is still on the agenda. Some will be searching for a replacement system with perhaps capabilities different

to their current system. Others are still deciding on their first - 4276 school libraries have automated systems out of 9865 schools! This Survey provides an overview of the school library automation scene Australia wide with a brief history of some of the most common systems in use. It was concerned with integrated systems where at least three of the usual five functions are combined into a single database - cataloguing, OPAC and circulation. The systems were all cross analysed highlighting modules available,

operating systems and the number of installations. The results have been tabled for quick reference and a list of suppliers provided for further information.

In *Crucial factors in online enquiry: OPAC design for school library users*, Paul Drayton draws on recent research which emphasises the interaction between school children and OPAC facilities, and the relevance to future interface development and information skill instruction.

Request to Return / Change SCIS Products and Services.

The Information Program is beginning to receive regular requests from schools to return/change SCIS products and services. Schools are encouraged to read carefully the product description attached to the subscription renewal forms each year. If schools are still not sure of a product, please contact the Information Program, before ordering.

Products such as ASCISRECON, SCIS on Disc, Full and Abbreviated microfiche are supplied as per a subscription payment or direct order. Curriculum Corporation will consider returning SCIS Products and Services on a "case by case" basis. Schools wanting to return products, and seeking a refund, will need to contact the Information Program and request a **Return Advice Number** from the SCIS Administration Assistants.

Schools need to be aware that Curriculum Corporation has contracted and *pre paid* external suppliers to produce the products for each user for a 12 month period. Consequently a refund of a product may not be always possible.

Lance Deveson
Assistant Manager: Information Program

For those not familiar with what MARC records are all about, Ellen Paxton gives a detailed and clear explanation in *MARC for teacher-librarians: an introduction*. While it doesn't affect day-to-day management of the library, it does become a concern when installing a new automated system.

Ashley Freeman examines how T/L's can improve access to fiction in *Providing access to fiction in school libraries: some thoughts and observations*. The diversified and extensive use of fiction within the curriculum has prompted Ashley's comments which are derived from practicing T/L's and years of personal experience. Card catalogue access to fiction was always limited, SCIS now provides extensive subject headings: this Paper looks at other options.



Knowing where to go for particular information saves hours of *surfing*, so lets share worthwhile WWW sites and e-mail addresses....

<http://www.aust.emb.nw.dc.us>

Australian Embassy in Washington provides information on Australian economic and trade matters, history, government and culture.

<http://www.nla.gov.au/aec/aec.html>

Data on current by-elections from the Australian Electoral Commission.

<http://www.who.ch/>

World Health Organisation

<http://clinet.fi:80/grn/>

Global recycling network

<http://www.christusrex.org/www1/vaticano/0-Musei.html>

The Vatican Museum art collection.

<http://icair.iac.org.nz/>

Antarctica - environmental concerns and educational resources.

<http://commsun.its.csiro.au/csiro/index.html>

CSIRO information service

<http://www.nla.gov.au/finance/budget95/budget95.html>

1995 Budget

<http://www.aph.gov.au/library/trial.html>

Australian government containing Notice Papers for both Houses, Daily Programs, Order of Business, profiles of members, Hansard...etc.

<http://www.bvis.uic.edu/museum/>

The Field Museum, Chicago: on-line dinosaurs

FOR MORE: e-mail your request to tss@iplabs.ins.gu.edu.au

Recommended reading on the Net:

PHELPS Katherine. *Surf's up: Internet Australian style*. Port Melbourne: Mandarin/Reed, 1995. isbn:1863304401 Available through Reed Library. fax: 07 8440900

EBBS Geoff & HOREY Jeremy. *The Australian internet book: your information highway toolkit*. Warriewood, NSW: Woodlands Press, 1995. isbn:1875889000

Both books are useful reference guides for staff and students, containing simple directions for accessing the Net and listing many sites covering a wide range of topics. Happy surfing....

Heather Kelsall
Editor

Dear Heather,

I am the Senior Library Co-Ordinator at Swan Hill Secondary College, a dual-campus country secondary school with an enrolment of approximately 1150 students.

Since my appointment to the Co-Ordinators position, I have seen my role as T/L in charge of a large well-resourced library change quite markedly. No longer do students need only access print and non-print resources within their own school. Now, with the changing curriculum and the new direction brought about by the *information superhighway*, students and staff are looking for resources farther afield via online access.

For the past twelve months the Senior Library has had online access to the State Library of Victoria and also via *Nexus* to many and varied databases within Australia. Now our focus is changing again with Internet the word on everybody's lips. I have read a great deal about the Internet and purchased the



Oz-Email Ednet package, as well as undertaking a short inservice about it.

Wishing to develop this area I am not entirely certain of the direction to take. Many schools I know are well advanced on this path and have policies in place re Internet use etc. The purpose of this letter is to request you run an article in "Connections" on school libraries and the Internet with a view to compiling a list of schools in various stages of

'Internet implementation'. Hopefully, a Victorian inservice/conference could be organised in the near future to allow novices and beginners the opportunity to learn from the experiences of schools already on the way.

Judith A. Wilkes
Swan Hill Secondary College.

Dear Judith,

There is a conference scheduled in Melbourne for July on the Internet and its application to education – but I don't have a contact. Perhaps an e-mail message around some Melbourne schools would produce the details. I'm sure many T/L's share your dilemma, and *Connections* would be pleased to collate directions already in place and publish them next issue. Any school wishing to share such information could e-mail me at tss@iplabs.ins.gu.edu.au

Editor.

Rosa-Jane French sends greetings from the School Library Network of New Zealand and writes of

1995 HAPPENINGS:

Most schools are now relaxing on holidays at the end of a busy first term, whilst those on a four year term are hard at it again and preparing for internal senior exams.

A number of school libraries have recently purchased *Index New Zealand* CD-ROM which came onto the market at the end of 1994. Produced by the National Library of New Zealand, INNZ as it is known, provides an index to many New Zealand journals and includes some articles with New Zealand content published in major overseas journals. Originally available on microfiche and then on-line, INNZ is heavily used by secondary school students (Years 8 to 12) for research in a variety of curriculum areas. The CD-ROM version is so easy to use and the students are experiencing



greater success in finding material than in the past.

This means that school library journal collections are getting more use, and there are more requests being made to local networks by fax and to the National Library.

School Library Network, a voluntary organisation which corresponds with

just over 300 secondary school librarians, is surveying the current use of technology in New Zealand school libraries. We are expecting to find growth in the number of schools with automated systems, as well as an increasing number of CD-ROM data-drives and modems. Another initiative this year has been to establish a *Listserv* so that school library staff can post messages via e-mail to everyone who subscribes. We anticipate that this will be another way of overcoming the isolation of school library staff and provide a quick communication link between newsletters.

We are all wearing our red socks in support of "Black Magic"!

Rosa-Jane French
President, School Library Network.

The socks obviously worked, congratulations NZ from all of us!

Editor

CONNECTIONS JOURNAL PHOTOCOPY REQUEST

Curriculum Corporation
PO Box 177
Carlton South VIC 3053
Telephone (03) 9639 0699
Helpline (008) 337 405

Please forward photocopies of the following journal articles reviewed in the issue of **Connections** newsletter. To obtain several articles, complete all postal details, photocopy the required number of sheets, and then fill out the remaining details for individual articles and copyright.

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