

Issues paper of first qualifications available on Summit website

In preparation for the ALIA Education and Workforce Summit to be held on 28 March 2008, the Education and Professional Development Standing Committee has prepared several issues papers. One of the papers addresses the matter of educational pathways to professional membership of the Association.

This issue is currently at the centre of thinking for many professions as a result of the 'Bologna process', a major reform to higher education in Europe that includes a move towards graduate education for many professions. The influence of these changes is being felt in Australia, with DEST looking towards implementing compatibility with outcomes of the Bologna process, and Melbourne University already beginning to introduce similar reforms.

This is therefore an ideal time to reconsider the place and duration of graduate education in Australian librarianship. The current situation where most Australian librarians are not qualified for professional employment in the United States is looking increasingly unsustainable in a globalised marketplace. It is possible that the same undesirable situation may apply in Europe.

The issues paper briefly considers this and other factors that are currently leading to changes in the patterns of employment and education in Australia. It also presents several options for ALIA and the profession to consider, as

they try to develop a range of ILS courses that will deliver the number and quality of graduates required by the 21st century workforce.

The Education and Professional Development Committee welcomes your feedback.

The issues paper can be found at <http://www.alia.org.au/education/summit08>

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Australian Library Journal



A double edition of *ALJ* is now available for purchase. *Unfinished business: papers from the Forum on Australian Library History* is the complete set of papers from the Forum on Australian Library History 2007, held at the State Library of NSW, 27-29

September last year. With a forward by guest editor, Dr David Jones convenor of the Forum, the journal includes chapters written by prominent members of the library sector, such as Professor John Levett, Professor Wallace Kirsop, Dr Leanne Day, and Alan Ventress to name a few.

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