

## **Asia Pacific Library Advisory Committee Meeting (APLAC)**

Minutes of the APLAC meeting held on Monday 2 November 2009 at 2.00pm in the Library Meetings Room, RG Menzies Building.

**Present:** Dr. R Barz, Professor J Minford, Ms Amelia McKenzie, Professor K Anderson, Mr E Maidment, Mr M Churchman, Mr V Elliott, Ms K Collier, Ms Sue Kosse, Ms R Osborne (note-taker).

### **1. Welcome and apologies.**

- Apologies were received from: Dr R Maliangkay, Dr N Tapp, Professor J Corbett, Professor T Hull, Dr P Jackson, Professor A McIntyre, Professor R Cribb (Chair), Dr L Tana, Dr C Ballard
- In the absence of Professor Cribb, Mr Elliott acted as Chair for this meeting.

### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- 2.1. Vic Elliott provided an update on discussions between the Go8 libraries and major publishers on limiting price rises in 2010. Price caps of between 2% and 3.5% were successfully negotiated with publishers.
- 2.2. In relation to point 4 of the minutes on Access and Collections, R Osborne reported that arrangements for the KITLV to provide an acquisition plan for the Library of Indonesian language material was finalised and in operation.
- 2.3. The minutes of the meeting of 14 May 2009 were accepted.

### **3. Division of Information Report**

- 3.1. IIS (Information Infrastructure Services) Review 2009. Vic Elliott spoke to the 2009 IIS Review which focused primarily on campus-wide IT infrastructures and enterprise systems that underpin the University's core activities. Mr Elliott noted that while the Library was not under review certain recommendations emerging from the Review will affect certain aspects of Library administration, such as:
  - establishment of Planning Advisory Committees (PACs) – discussed as a separate agenda item 3.2
  - appointment of a Director, Information Services, Mr Rick van Haeften, who will coordinate University-wide planning and service delivery
  - the reduction of duplication of IT infrastructure and services between Colleges and Information Services
  - the appointment of a senior staff from each College as a contact person
  - the use of preferred suppliers for ICT purchases

Professor Anderson pointed out that it is important to include research resources and information services in planning meetings and that it is not sufficient to concentrate only on physical infrastructure.

#### **3.2 Scholarly Services Planning Advisory Committee**

- Mr Elliott spoke to his paper on Planning Advisory Committees, circulated prior to the meeting, and drew attention to their terms of reference. The

Scholarly Services PAC is one of 3 specialist advisory committees. Mr Elliott noted that the new committee structure gives academics greater opportunity to take initiate matters for discussions and make recommendations. Mr Elliott mentioned the importance of raising library-related agenda topics at these meetings in view of the direct link between Information Services planning and the University Budget processes. Mr Elliott drew attention to the circulated email on “Planning for Information Services and the link to the University’s Budget Process.”

- Membership of PAC will include representatives from all Colleges, and are nominated by the Deans. Professor Cribb and Professor Kompas are the representatives from CAP.
- The first meeting was held on 20 October, and the next meeting will be on 16 November 2009.
- Professor Minford asked the relation between APLAC and the PACs and how APLAC discussions fed into the strategic process. Mr Elliott confirmed the value he places on APLAC discussions and conceded that in his view there was a gap between the aspirational views at the “top level” and real benefits at “ground level”.

### 3.2 Outsell Library Cost Benefit Study

- Mr Elliott outlined the purpose of the Study which was commissioned by the Go8 Universities and involved the survey of members of 3 universities - the University of Queensland, Adelaide University and the ANU. Participation rate was good and Mr. Elliott thanked everyone who responded to the questionnaire.
- Mr Elliott reported that preliminary data showed great consistency between the findings from the 3 universities, and there was strong indication that library services represented value for money.
- The Study is expected to be released by the end of the year.

## 4. Access and Collection

### 4.1. Asia Pacific Access and Collection Budget 2009

- Ms Osborne tabled the Asia Pacific Budget summary as at October 2009, and highlighted that all budgets were in credit with the exception of the Western South Asia fund which was slightly in deficit.
- Mr. Maidment asked about the large amount of free money still available in the Pacific budget. It was suggested the Pacific Focus Group look into it.
- Professor Anderson remarked on the fact that China/Korea was a combined fund in the A & C budget while they were separate entities at the College. No suggestion was made to change this.

### 4.2. Major Acquisitions to date in 2009

Ms Osborne tabled a list of major purchases endorsed by APLAC and being acquired by the Library. Special mention was made of the 40% funding support received from the Korea Foundation for the Library’s subscription to the “E-Korean studies” database. Ms Osborne mentioned that there was the possibility of the continuation of support from the Korea Foundation.

#### 4.3. Proposed Expensive Items

- The meeting endorsed the purchase of the new proposals. Ms McKenzie noted that the National Library will not duplicate these items but will concentrate on other resources
- Professor Minford asked about obtaining access to the rare materials being digitised by Harvard Yenching Library. The Library will investigate the possibilities of accessing this resource.
- Professor Minford commented on the need for the Library to maintain its level of collection of Asian resources, and in particular the coordination of post-graduate resource needs. He added that academics have little time to devote to this work. Ms Collier pointed out that inter-library loan requests offered a method of assessing research needs

### **5. Report from the National Library of Australia**

- 5.1. The NLA was purchasing Asian resources at the same rate. Planning processes for the 2010/11 budget are underway and a small reduction in funding is possible due to the changes in structure.
- 5.2. A new public interface will be launched soon to replace Libraries Australia and will include Asian records. The likely name of this discovery is "Trove".
- 5.3. Gale and Informit will provide metadata for article level searching, and newspaper digitisation will be included in it.

The date of the next meeting in 2010 - to be determined.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.30pm