DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LIBRARIES AUSTRALIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 18 April 2007

National Library of Australia

The meeting commenced at 10:00 a.m.

Present:

Chair
Ms Linda Luther
University Librarian
University of Tasmania

Deputy Chair
Mr Chris Taylor
Executive Manager, Information Access Services
University of Queensland

Members
Dr Warwick Cathro
Assistant Director-General, Innovation
National Library of Australia

Ms Elizabeth Ellis
Mitchell Librarian and Director,
Collection Management
State Library of New South Wales

Ms Pam Gatenby
Assistant Director-General
Collections Management
National Library of Australia

Mr Lindsay Harris
Library Manager
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, South Australia

Ms Anne Horn
University Librarian
Deakin University

Ms Joan Moncrieff
Manager, Access and Information Resources
Deakin University

Ms Monika Szunejko
Manager, Access
State Library of Western Australia

Dr Naida Tattersall
Manager, Libraries Social & Cultural Branch
Gold Coast City Council
A summary of action items and resolutions is included at Attachment A.

Agenda Item 1 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Ms Luther welcomed members of the Advisory Committee to the meeting, and extended a special welcome to Ms Anne Horn University Librarian, Deakin University, who was elected as the second CAUL representative in March, to replace Mr John Arfield.

No apologies were received.

Agenda Item 2 Election of the new chairperson and deputy chairperson

An election was not required at this meeting. The Advisory Committee had previously nominated Ms Linda Luther be the new Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson be Mr Chris Taylor.

Mr Boston congratulated and welcomed Ms Luther and Mr Taylor to their positions.

Agenda Item 3 Draft Minutes of the Previous Meeting, Teleconference and Business Arising (LAAC/2007/2/1)

Mr Boston reported on actions arising from the Previous Meeting on 2 November 2006.

Agenda item 7 Libraries Australia Business Plan Development
**ACTION:** Mr Taylor’s suggestion that Libraries Australia consider the option to personalise Bookseller lists to be added to the Libraries Australia enhancements list. Completed.

**ACTION:** Libraries Australia to contact Curriculum Corporation to discuss options for acquiring school library holdings for addition to the ANBD.

It was indicated that the SCIS database records do not contain holdings notations. Records are therefore of use for copy cataloguing, but not for resource sharing. A possible option would be to investigate whether a federated search would be of use. Mr Boston reported that he will be meeting Ms Anne Camfield the manager of SCIS next month.

**ACTION:** Libraries Australia to undertake another survey of Australian libraries’ holdings on the ANBD to get a better indication of the currency and coverage of the ANBD and discover important gaps in coverage.

The last survey was in 1999-2000 reported on material types and specific formed collections. Libraries Australia is investigating the scope of another survey.

**ACTION:** Libraries Australia to ensure that all LAAC members are subscribed to the librariesaustralia-l email list.

Libraries Australia is reviewing current member details, and will add details of new LAAC Members after this meeting.

**ACTION:** Libraries Australia to develop a strategic plan for the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2010, encouraging input from and disseminating results to the Australian library community.

Libraries Australia is developing a draft plan which is to be presented for discussion at the next LAAC face to face meeting. It was suggested that the Libraries Australia Directions for 2007 paper (LAAC/2007/2/5) would provide some useful items to include in the draft strategic plan.

Agenda Item 9 Australian National Bibliographic Database: Quality issues

**ACTION:** Libraries Australia Database Services to advise users on ways to keep their ANBD holdings up-to-date and avoid large global refreshes.

Completed. Libraries Australia has commenced a regular bimonthly email to librariesaustralia-l to advise users on ways to keep their holdings up-to-date.


**ACTION:** Mr Taylor undertook to forward the URL of a site addressing such standards which vendors are trying to implement. Completed.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting of 2nd November 2006 be accepted.

Mr Boston reported on actions arising from the Previous Meeting on 27 March 2007
Agenda item 3 Libraries Australia Agreement with OCLC

**ACTION:** Libraries Australia to seek further advice, which is to be brought to the LAAC meeting on September 5th in Brisbane, in relation to the OCLC Consortia and how Libraries Australia will fit within the OCLC governance model.

Mr Boston reported that OCLC had recently appointed a governance advisory committee. OCLC representatives have been informed of the LAAC advice that the Asia/Pacific group was not sufficiently representative of Libraries Australia and Te Puna.

It was suggested that an Australasia or Oceania group would be more appropriate. Further discussion detailed the current OCLC governance model which will allow every member (ie one representative of each Libraries Australia subscribing library) to have individual OCLC membership privileges and be entitled to vote.

- It was resolved that National Library of Australia approach the National Library of New Zealand to discuss the options for a more suitable OCLC membership group based on cultural and demographic relationships, rather than a strictly geographic one. It was suggested that it would be preferable for Australia and New Zealand to make this approach together to OCLC.

- Particular points to be investigated for members’ information at the September LAAC meeting would be the proposed OCLC membership model, membership rights and to emphasise to members their voting rights and encourage them all to exercise these rights.

- It was recommended that Libraries Australia create an email list for Libraries Australia subscribers, for contact, and as a means of disseminating OCLC governance and other information. This list could be based on the contact list used for the recent mail out of information to subscribers.

- It was suggested that OCLC representatives be invited to attend the Libraries Australia Forum.

- It was suggested that a discussion of OCLC services and governance issues be included in the Libraries Australia Forum agenda.

- After the OCLC agreement is signed, a letter will be drafted and sent for review by the Chair, then sent to inform all Libraries Australia subscribers of the agreement with OCLC. Information will also be taken to the next CAUL meeting.

Agenda Item 4 Libraries Australia subscription model for CAUL libraries

**ACTION:** NLA Executive to meet with CAUL in May to explain the new Libraries Australia subscription model.

Information will be sent to CAUL before this meeting to inform participants of the OCLC governance model, and the Libraries Australia Subscription model detailing its costing and revenue base as well as some emphasis on the significant saving to members passed on in recent times as a result of the Kinetica Redevelopment.

Agenda Item 5 Call for nominations for new LAAC Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.
ACTION Completed.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the teleconference of 27 March 2007 be accepted.

Agenda Item 4 Director-General’s remarks (oral)

Ms Fullerton provided a summary of the National Library’s activities since the 2nd November meeting, including:

- Progress on the Newspaper Digitisation Project. The supplier contract has been completed for the digitisation of records over the next 4 years. A new project manager, Rose Holley has been appointed and a pilot to test digitisation of a sample of newspaper titles, production of files, and Lucene search functionality is underway. By mid 2008 there should be a significant number of pages in production, and available for searching.
- Metadata from DESTRA Music is available on Music Australia where users can order music downloads from DESTRA. The availability of these resources increases access to contemporary music (including in copyright materials) via Music Australia. DESTRA is looking into making available content retrospective to the 1960’s, as well as unsigned artists, and additional biographical information on people and organisations.
- The National Treasures Exhibition is currently at the Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory 14 April - 11 June 2007.
- The National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) National Site Licence project is advancing. Contracts will be final soon. The 4th National Licensing Forum will be held on 9th May, when NSLA members will be informed on products and will be able to meet with vendors.
- The NLA’s IT architecture plan has been completed, the report is presented to this meeting for comment.
- The People Australia project is progressing, and the pilot should be available mid 2007. This is based on the ANBD Name Authority file and will provide a valuable source of biographical information.
- Libraries Australia is now compliant with the OpenSearch search protocol and is registered as an OpenSearch target at A9.com. Picture Australia, Music Australia, Australian collecting institutions such as The National Film and Sound Archive, and members of the Collections Australia Network such as the Powerhouse Museum are presently involved. The National Library of Australia is encouraging Australian collecting institutions to support the OpenSearch protocol through its federated search project.

Following Ms Fullerton’s report, there was a discussion of strategies to encourage institutions at state level to contribute to OpenSearch. It was suggested that NSLA could be approached to initiate this process.
Mr Boston spoke to the report and highlighted the following:

- A new release of Libraries Australia Search was made available in late November 2006, which included relevance ranking of search results, a Libraries Australia search box able to be embedded in any external search page, as well as the availability of OpenSearch to enable federated searches of collections of participating cultural institutions.
- Testing of an upgrade to the CBS software that supports the Libraries Australia Cataloguing service will commence in mid April with production implementation expected mid year. A new release of the Cataloguing Client (WinIBW) is expected later in the year.
- 344 Libraries are registered to use the Record Export Service.
- 80 Libraries now contribute to the ANBD using the Record Import Service.
- Trans Tasman Interloan Service use is growing. 1,928 items have been supplied to NZ libraries, and 1,027 items were supplied to Australian libraries.
- There were 20 new registrations comprising school and public libraries, the only 2 cancellations were due to library closure.
- The Libraries Australia Customer and Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey online survey closed on 28 February. 1,100 emails were sent on the advice of Nielson Net // Ratings with 600 responses received. This is a very notable return of almost 60%. Draft reports are due in mid April.
- New projects were outlined, including a website refresh for information on Libraries Australia pages. Kinetica discussion lists will be archived, and participants are being encouraged to subscribe to Libraries Australia lists.
- The Customer Services team is also overseeing the integration of The Australian Libraries Gateway (ALG), and the Interlibrary Resource Sharing (ILRS) directories into the Libraries Australia Administration system. This integration could also be enhanced by participation in OCLC’s recent project to commence a WorldCat Registry.
- Libraries Australia users have been invited to explore the Lucene software functionality which is demonstrated in the Library Labs project.

There was some discussion on the Libraries Australia Customer and Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey report methodology, and the possibility of reporting on the levels of satisfaction from libraries by sector. This could be a good means of assessing marketing and promotion needs and strategies for Libraries Australia development.

There was some comment on the need to retain ALG information pertaining to libraries not subscribing to Libraries Australia. It was also emphasised that the ALG integration would involve reviewing less useful information on static web pages, with a view to migrating some pages to another agency such as ALIA.

There was a suggestion that Libraries Australia consider marketing the Libraries Australia search box to all libraries for inclusion in home pages.

**ACTION:** Collaborative Services Branch to liaise with ALIA regarding possible information transfer.

**Report Noted**
Mr Boston spoke to the report. Following discussion it was agreed that in future the statistical report will be publicly available.

**ACTION**: Remove the Confidential status from this document, and make it publicly available.

There was interest in the Search Activity statistics, with suggestions to include and indicate Free Search activity. There is also interest in hits resulting from searches originating from Google searches and other search engines. Web site statistics can be found for Libraries Australia Search and other NLA public websites at the following link [http://stats.nla.gov.au/cgi-bin/reports.cgi](http://stats.nla.gov.au/cgi-bin/reports.cgi).

**Report Noted**


Ms Campbell spoke to the paper, which outlined the proposal to develop separate subscription models for different sectors. An implementation strategy was also outlined.

There was discussion on what value libraries from different sectors place on services and features of Libraries Australia. Libraries need to be able to identify the value added functions offered by Libraries Australia, and their own Libraries Australia needs, so that the financial impact of the subscription model fits well with the perceived full value of services received by each library.

The National Library of Australia needs to make explicit the financial support it gives to Libraries Australia.

Library budgets are not increasing each year as desired, so libraries need to be made aware of how Libraries Australia can save money for libraries. An example could be made of the duplication of the cost of subscribing to services already available through Libraries Australia.

Libraries Australia is unique in the world, and there have been decades of investment in the ANBD which may not be recognised often in the library sector. Ms Horn noted that “costs to support” the service should be included in the model.

Consideration should be given to the difficulty some of the less financial libraries have in meeting their subscription costs. Recognition also needs to be given to sectors that are already major contributors of resources, and of the value they give Libraries Australia. These dimensions add to what value/cost will apply to the new subscription models. Mr Taylor noted that the sector-by-sector basis for the new models is appreciated.

**Report Noted**

**Agenda Item 8 Libraries Australia Directions for 2007 (LAAC/2007/2/5)**

Mr Boston spoke to this paper which described and discussed possible strategic directions for Libraries Australia. The paper provides a possible scope for new
directions and services to be addressed in a Strategic Plan for the period July 2007 to July 2010. The National Library will make the Directions document available to the library sector for feedback. The resulting plan will be made available towards the end of 2007.

Major points made are listed as follows.

**International business relationships**
The new agreement with OCLC gives unlimited search and cataloguing access to WorldCat for Libraries Australia subscribers. This agreement ensures that Libraries Australia records will have exposure to search engines through WorldCat.

Australian libraries who contribute cataloguing and holdings to the ANBD will become governing members of OCLC.

The results of this agreement will be the increased world wide visibility of our records, and streamlining of retrospective cataloguing workflows.

Libraries Australia is working with Google. To date about 1.2 million records have been matched to records in Google Scholar, and all ANBD records are exposed to Google Book Search.

Prominent Australian indexing services are being explored as potential database targets.

The National Library is exploring ways to improve access to journal literature including a model for the national pooling of metadata for free search discovery and shared indexing.

There is a need to add potential new targets, and to develop criteria and guidelines to identify these, e.g. Wikipedia, Open Search etc. This needs to be done with a user’s perspective and with constant consideration as to how useful it is. There will be a need to manage information about these targets.

**Products**

The products service will be enhanced by identifying further datasets for the Australian Electronic Collections Datasets service.

**Marketing**

Libraries Australia will find additional ways to publicise its services e.g. via the discussion lists.

**Libraries Australia Cataloguing**

Ms Luther noted her concern about the accuracy, currency and coverage of the ANBD. For example, are libraries updating their holdings details? Formed collections are not always added and usage will increase, as shown historically, when they are added. It was noted that contributing libraries need to maintain cataloguing quality to keep the database effective.

Libraries Australia now checks to ensure that users of the Record Import Service (RIS) are contributing data regularly. When contributions aren’t received Libraries Australia staff follow-up with the subscriber.
There was general discussion about the need to increase content on the ANBD. Discussion focussed on a review of indexing services undertaken by Mr Cathro and Ms Gatenby.

The National Library intends to allow free access to index metadata. There is a need to have a forum regarding this issue. RMIT and others have been consulted. Duplicated indexing of articles will need to be addressed.

Ms Ellis advised it may be advantageous to start the Directions paper with a value statement for Libraries Australia.

Most records on the ANBD are loaded via RIS, 20% are added online, and the remainder are via copy cataloguing/holdings. Libraries Australia plans to trial loading of new National Library authority records through RIS without matching later in the year.

**Libraries Australia Search**

Mr Taylor suggested that the Million Book Project, Project Gutenberg, and the Open Content Alliance be added as search targets. Discussion continued on journal articles, how searches on them can be increased and how Libraries Australia can provide better access to them. Ms Quinn commented that the organisations paying indexers who create metadata for journal articles should be part of the dialogue on future directions. Members concluded that the National Library needs to think of how to encourage comments from users on this issue.

Ms Horn stated that tagging is an issue and it will need to be considered for broader discussion in the future. Annotations of Picture Australia image records, Newspaper articles etc will start soon with a trial in the Newspaper Search and Discover system. Australia Dancing has tried this in the “Take Part” service. There are good Australian examples of this, e.g. in services hosted by the Powerhouse Museum and State Library of Victoria.

Ms Fullerton has noted the interest that there has been to discuss and workshop Web 2.0 functions in person.

The National Library of Australia could draft a paper on this issue for the LAAC. Mr Taylor noted that RSS feeds had not been mentioned by Mr Boston. This is because RSS feeds are not possible with Teratext. They may be possible in the Lucene environment.

**ACTION:** The areas which have been identified as work priorities during 2007 (see LAAC/2007/2/5 pages 3 & 4) will be given dates for completion and then be presented chronologically in the Directions paper.

**ACTION:** Add the suggestions from LAAC committee members. Make the Directions paper available for comment on the Libraries Australia and NLA web sites.

**ACTION:** Draft a Web 2.0 technologies paper for discussion at the next LAAC meeting.

**Libraries Australia Administration**

ALG is to be redeveloped and branded as part of Libraries Australia.
The directory integration project will result in amalgamation of customer data in one directory, Libraries Australia Administration.

Libraries Australia Document Delivery

A pilot project for end user access to ILL functionality is currently being scoped.

Agenda Item 9 IT Architecture Project Report (LAAC/2007/2/6)

Mr Boston spoke to the report outlining: the change to adopt a service oriented architecture; the creation of a single business approach to services; and the proposal to move to an open source development model.

The concept of logical data views was elaborated on, indicating that there would be cost savings if infrastructure was rationalised and data repositories were brought together via logical views. Mr Taylor commented that the single business model could be interpreted for multiple businesses being developed with a single business approach, i.e. an integrated business.

With regard to open source developments, Mr Boston indicated that the open source software, Lucene, is currently being tested. It meets most of the National Library’s functional requirements. There is some development needed, however the cost of development is cheaper than the cost of licenced software. A separate development would allow Z39.50 access to the Lucene platform.

National Library projects such as the Register of Australian Archives and Manuscripts, People Australia and the Newspaper Digitisation project will be the first to use the new IT architecture model.

Report Noted.


Ms Campbell presented an evaluation report on the Libraries Australia Forum of 2006 (LAF06) and reported on the progress with planning for the Libraries Australia Forum in Brisbane on 6th September (LAF07).

Key points were that the Libraries Australia website contains information, including the draft agenda, registration form and information to assist potential participants with accommodation and transport options in Brisbane.

There was comment on the feedback given on LAF06 sessions, particularly the End User Session. It was suggested that there be a follow up session at LAF07. Participants also indicated high interest in the Future Directions session.

Mr Boston invited suggestions for forum session topics.

ACTION: Ms Campbell to seek library input into forum sessions.

Report Noted

Mr Walls spoke to the report.

The report covered the terms of reference, membership of the expert advisory group and a summary of the progress of the group.

The draft Electronic Resources Cataloguing Guidelines were made available for comment from Libraries Australia users, and many comments were incorporated in the final version in January 2007. These are available on the Libraries Australia website, and were publicised via email lists in February 2007.

The guidelines revise, combine and consolidate the three previous sets of guidelines. Specific policy changes are currently being reviewed by Libraries Australia. These changes will be noted on the Libraries Australia website, and in the Cataloguing Client Manual.

There were eight recommendations from this report. These recommendations would see Libraries Australia support improvements to library workflows in relation to accessing e-resources.

Report Noted

Agenda Item 12 Australian National Bibliographic Database: Data Quality Report (LAAC/2007/2/9)

Mr. Walls introduced the paper, reporting on current initiatives aimed at improving the data quality on the Australian National Bibliographic Database (ANBD). He noted that the report includes more detail than previously of the work done by the NBD Section on behalf of Libraries Australia subscribers to improve database quality.

The ANBD Quality Improvement Plan was revised in October 2006 and made available on the Libraries Australia website. The plan highlights activities including duplicate record removal, maintenance of subject headings, data validation and matching.

The Record Import Service (RIS) has expanded, with a number of libraries now testing or contributing data. Other libraries are refreshing their holdings with large data imports. RIS has been trialled with systems able to provide Unicode output.

The backlog of records awaiting review has been reduced from 60,000 to 28,000. There were a significant number of libraries performing large numbers of holdings deletions. Holdings transfers were also carried out for libraries transferring large numbers of holdings to other libraries.

There were also a significant number of global changes to records, resulting in more reliable bibliographic data and improved search results.

The ability to include Non Roman scripts in bibliographic records is now available for Cyrillic, Greek and Tamil. Testing is underway for Arabic and Hebrew.
Ms Ellis said that it is worthwhile following up on acquiring the community language collections for inclusion on Libraries Australia. Mr Walls reported that he has recently contacted a number of Sydney public libraries that have strong community languages collections. Records for these collections are already being contributed to the ANBD however often the vernacular script is not included in the records. This is because the cataloguing of these resources is outsourced and inclusion of script would cost more.

Ms Rajapatirana advised the committee on the testing and implementation of the CBS automated de-duplication program. It is expected that testing will commence in mid April.

**Report Noted**

**Agenda Item 13**


Noted. There were very positive comments on the relevance of this item, and the need to keep up to date with these developments in relation to Libraries Australia.

**Agenda Item 14**

Conclusion and Review of Resolutions

Conclusion and review of resolutions

It was agreed that the next Libraries Australia Advisory Committee would be held in Brisbane on 5 September 2007. The next Libraries Australia Forum would be held in Brisbane on 6 September 2007. The venue is the new State Library of Queensland.

*The meeting closed at 4.00 p.m.*
## Attachment A – Summary Table of Recommendations and actions

Libraries Australia Advisory Committee meeting  
18 April 2007

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<tr>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
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| **Agenda item 3**  
Draft Minutes of the Previous Meeting, Teleconference and Business Arising | Libraries Australia to contact Curriculum Corporation to discuss options for acquiring school library holdings for addition to the ANBD. | Libraries Australia to undertake another survey of Australian libraries’ holdings on the ANBD to get a better indication of the currency and coverage of the ANBD and discover important gaps in coverage. |
| | Libraries Australia to ensure that all LAAC members are subscribed to the librariesaustralia-l email list. | Libraries Australia to ensure that all LAAC members are subscribed to the librariesaustralia-l email list. |
| **Agenda item 5**  
Libraries Australia Status Report | Collaborative Services Branch to liaise with ALIA regarding possible information transfer. | Collaborative Services Branch to liaise with ALIA regarding possible information transfer. |
| **Agenda item 6**  
2006/2007 Libraries Australia Statistical Information | Remove the Confidential status of this document and make it publicly available. | Remove the Confidential status of this document and make it publicly available. |
| **Agenda item 8**  
Libraries Australia Directions for 2007 | The areas which have been identified as work priorities during 2007 (see LAAC/2007/2/5 pages 3 & 4) will be given due dates | The areas which have been identified as work priorities during 2007 (see LAAC/2007/2/5 pages 3 & 4) will be given due dates |
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for completion and then presented chronologically.

Make a draft of suggestions from LAAC committee members. Make the document available for comment on the web.

Draft a Web 2.0 technologies paper for discussion at the next LAAC meeting.