

Librarians in the Workforce: the Big Picture and the Personal

CAVAL Reference Interest Group Forum

May 2007

Date & Time Friday 11th May 2007 1.00 for 1.15pm start

Venue Meeting Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, La Trobe University
Transport details over page.

RSVP by 3rd May Kim Tairi, Victoria University – Kim.Tairi@vu.edu.au
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Program

- 1.15pm Welcome and Introduction**
Daryl Bailey, Australian Catholic University, and Chair of CRIG
- 1.20pm “The Big Picture”**
“And tell me, do I fit in the big picture? Reference librarians as a key component of the LIS workforce” – **Assoc Prof Gillian Hallam**, Faculty of Information Technology, QUT
- Drawing on the findings from the neXus research project which examined the characteristics of the LIS profession in Australia, Gillian will consider the personal and professional attributes required by reference librarians in the 21st century.
- 2.00pm Questions to Gillian & Open Discussion**
- 2.15pm “The Personal”**
Librarians at various stages of their careers will reflect on their own pathways and experiences within the librarianship workforce.
- Early & mid-career perspectives:
- **Zaana Howard**, Teaching & Learning Librarian, NMIT
 - **Jane Wilson**, Liaison Librarian, Swinburne University
- “Encouraging Gen Y Staff” (Manager’s perspective):
- **Philip Kent**, University Librarian, Victoria University
- 2.45pm Questions to all speakers**
- 3.15pm Close**
Daryl Bailey
- 3.20pm Walk to Library for Afternoon Tea & Informal networking** in Seminar Room (in Staff Area), La Trobe University Library.
See campus map for route from John Scott Meeting House to Library.
- 4.00pm Tours of the Borchardt Library**

Access Melways ref: 19 G7

Campus Map & Transport:

http://www.latrobe.edu.au/bundoora/maps_transport.html

Parking: \$4.00 all day in Car Parks 7 & 8. Coin operated machines (takes all coins except 5c).

The Speakers:

Gillian Hallam is Associate Professor in the School of Information Systems at the Queensland University of Technology, coordinating the library and information management courses. She teaches in the areas of information retrieval, reference and information services, collection and access management and professional practice. Gillian is also engaged in the area of teaching and learning research and has won a number of university teaching awards. She has a deep interest in professional development, mentoring and continuing education for information professionals. Prior to joining QUT, she worked as a librarian in the corporate sector, managing business and legal information. Gillian was CAVAL Visiting Scholar in 2006, coinciding with a sabbatical to research workforce planning issues in the LIS sector. Gillian is immediate past president of the ALIA and is a member of ALIA's Education, Research and Workforce Planning Standing Committee. Gillian is also a member of CILIP and SLA and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Research & Development Society of Australasia (HERDSA).

neXus research project:

<http://alia.org.au/employment/workforce/>

Zaana Howard completed a Bachelor of Fine Art in 2002 at Monash University. She began her library career in 2003, working as a library officer with Glen Eira City Council and worked within public libraries for 2.5 years in a variety of positions before completing her Masters in Information Management and Systems at Monash University in 2005. Zaana commenced working at Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE (NMIT) as a Campus Librarian in 2006. Her current position at NMIT is as the Teaching and Learning Librarian. This involves management responsibilities for a campus library, as well as coordinating and developing information literacy, and involvement in a number of Institute wide projects.

Jane Wilson has been a professional librarian since November 1977. She holds a BSc, Grad Dip Lib and MB (IT). She is currently undertaking the Graduate Certificate in Teaching & Learning (Higher Education). The number of librarians who have worked in local government, CSIRO, academic libraries, two dual sector universities and private enterprise is very small. Her workplaces have ranged from well supported collegiate environments to sole practice special librarian where networks had to be built outside of work for professional support, as well as and a stint as a Student Administration Officer. She has faced the daunting challenge of her role being made redundant and has rebuilt her career after a period of ill health. She was active in ALIA and other professional bodies until parenthood intervened. At this stage in her career she is pursuing, so called, work life balance.

Philip Kent, University Librarian at Victoria University, arrived at VU in April 2006 with 25 years of experience in higher education and research organisations. His early career was in university, technical and further education libraries in Queensland, followed by a variety of library, IT, knowledge and information management, risk and audit roles at CSIRO. Philip holds an MBA and has presented papers at national and international forums, been an active member of many professional associations and has published widely in a variety of disciplines.