

## From the President...

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Term 3, 2010

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

1. From the President — Barbara Combes
2. WA Teacher Librarian of the Year
3. Rural Roadshow
5. SLAV/IASL Conference
6. Forthcoming Events
7. Library Tourism
8. Professional Development Calendar 2010
9. Library Officer/Technician of the Year Award
10. WASLA Membership
11. Great Websites for Library Staff

*From the (very messy) desk of the WASLA, WA Operations President*

Hi Everyone,

Well! What a busy first half of the year we have had at WASLA and it isn't finished yet! First the submission for the Australian (National) curriculum for K-10, followed by the National Inquiry into Teacher Librarianship (ongoing), feedback for the draft ASLA Constitution and following on from the K-10 curriculum is the Upper School curriculum. Members of the committee have also been involved in professional development (PD), the Library Officer Mentoring Program, the state conference for 2011 in partnership with AISWA and improvements to the WASLA website.

#### For WASLA members only

The Committee would like to build a WASLA membership database. In this way, we can email members information, certificates from professional development sessions and updates on important issues such as those mentioned above. These email updates will not replace the WASLA Newsletter, but provide an additional way of getting information out to members, rather than posting on WATLnet which goes to a much wider audience. Such a database will also enable our Executive Officer, Rosemary Burton, to submit the required information to WACOT so members attending WASLA PD sessions can use these as part of their recertification. To assist in this process could members please email Rosemary with the following information:

- Name
- School affiliation
- Email address
- WASLA number
- Postal address (optional)

**Email:** waslaeo@gmail.com  
rosemary.burton@det.wa.edu.au

In conjunction with this database, the Committee is also in the process of building a members only section on the WASLA website. The Library Officer Mentoring Program and resources will be located here, plus PD presentations, useful resources and access to online PD.

#### National Inquiry

The National Inquiry panel will be arriving in Perth on 13 July. Initially the panel indicated they wanted to visit a BER school and Cottlesloe Primary kindly offered to host the visitors. WASLA would like to thank the principal and school for agreeing to be willing participants, even though the timing falls during the school break. Unfortunately, the visit has been cancelled, as the panel voted to spend more time with the witnesses. As President WA Operations and the ECU representative (as one of only three universities offering courses in teacher librarianship) I have been called as a witness. Val Baird and I will be working on the Inquiry submission on 5 July and will post our final thoughts to WATLNet for members to review. While all these momentous events will fall during the school break, the Committee will try to keep members informed at all times and appreciate any feedback and/or suggestions from members.

Part of our work on the Inquiry will be an investigation of previous submissions and members' case studies sent to Mary Hookey, WASLA President, National Strategy and Policy, earlier this semester. Western Australia is the 'last cab off the rank' for the Inquiry, so we have an opportunity to leave a lasting impression on the panel members about what it means to be a teacher librarian and the importance of our role in the education of future generations.

#### Draft ASLA Constitution

Led by Mary Hookey, the Committee has

spent a considerable amount of time working on the draft constitution released on the 2 May. Initially, the constitution was to be voted on at a Council meeting held on the 31 May. The Committee met twice before this date and decided that the draft constitution presented a number of fundamental changes to the structure of ASLA and future operations that required more investigation and consolidation. Mary successfully led the vote to have the draft constitution removed from the agenda for that meeting. Unfortunately, the Council would only give WASLA and the other states voicing concerns about the draft a further two weeks to submit revisions.

The Committee would like to officially thank Mary Hookey for leading this process and acknowledge the enormous amount of work and time she has devoted to this issue, which is fundamental to the future of WASLA and ASLA operations. The Committee spent some long hours grappling with 'lawyer speak' and then sent the revised constitution to Peter Murray, from Marks and Sands Lawyers (thanks to Jo Critch for organising this connection). As a result of WASLA's intervention, the draft constitution will now be discussed at the face-to-face ASLA Council meeting in August, but will not be voted on until a later date. The Committee will keep all members informed of future developments.

### **Australian (National) Curriculum Senior Years**

Yes, I know, we have just managed to come to grips with the K-10 curriculum! It is important however, to take a look at the senior curriculum. Feedback was due

## **WA Teacher Librarian of the Year**

WASLA congratulates Jane Graham, the 2010 Australian Teacher Librarian of the Year for Western Australia. Jane is the Teacher Librarian at Wesley College, Perth, and in the past has served on both the ASLA National Conference Committee and the WASLA committee.

Jane is a dedicated professional who leads by example, exhibiting impeccable work habits, reliability and a commitment to helping others. Jane is committed to the profession through sharing her wealth of knowledge.

Commendations from her fellow staff members suggest Jane is:

*passionate about books, literature and its promotion ... Her enthusiasm, supported by her extensive knowledge, energises even the most reluctant student and the most wearied staff member.*

**David Gee, Headmaster, Wesley College**

At the forefront of education, Jane is able to provide teachers and (students) alike with the most up to date information regarding research processes and the most engaging literature. She employs a variety of reading programs to sustain students' interest and to cater for differing age groups.

Jane is now in contention for the national Australian Teacher Librarian of the Year Award. We look forward to the result, announced later in the year.

by 30 July and available through the ACARA website at [http://www.acara.edu.au/home\\_page.html](http://www.acara.edu.au/home_page.html)

I urge everyone, including primary school TLs and teachers, to look carefully at the senior curriculum since curriculum in the earlier years is leading up to years 11 and 12. The policy spin for the development of a smarter Australia endorsed by the previous and current Federal governments is to have a minimum of 40% of the population with a tertiary qualification. The Australia curriculum model is the cornerstone of this policy and is connected to the research agenda for higher education, designed to make Australia a world leader in innovation and research. Smart information use is one of the Federal government's major research areas. To ensure the Australian Curriculum actually delivers these educational outcomes, input from people working in the schools at all levels is essential. I urge everyone to take the time to look at the website.

WASLA submitted feedback to the site on behalf of members and TLs in schools and an update will be part of the City RoadShow PD to be held on 31 July.

My thanks to everyone on the Committee, for their tireless efforts and willingness to respond to some very tight timelines. While it has been stressful and eventful at times, it has certainly been an interesting six months! No doubt there will be more of the same in the ensuing six months, so we will keep you all posted.

**Barbara Combes  
WA Operations President**



## Rural Roadshow

On a dark and stormy night (well it was a bit wet and cold), three intrepid travellers — Val Baird (PCTWA & WASLA), Dr Judy Clayden (ECU) and Barbara Combes (ECU & WASLA) — set out for the wilds of the Western Australian southwest on a mission. Judy and BC left work at approximately two thirty to pick up Val from the Curtin campus. At this point we learnt a valuable lesson — never trust those balloon thingies on Google Maps, because they are often wrong! A frustrating hour ensued trying to find Val on the Curtin campus when she was actually waiting at the Bentley TAFE campus which adjoins Curtin. By this time the Friday night traffic was in full swing and nerves were frazzled, so a vote was taken and the first of many coffee stops ensued. Finally, on their way, the three took the new highway to Bunbury (what a magic run and so easy compared to pre-highway!) and arrived with the drizzle around seven o'clock, just before the motel front desk staff retired for the night. They then had a lovely Chinese meal and celebrated BC's birthday (number to remain unmentionable) and discussed strategy for the following day.



The first stop on the RoadShow was with Esme Kidd at Newton Moore SHS. Fortunately, the circuitous route taken via Google Maps again did not prevent the team from arriving on time in the early hours of Saturday morning. A committed group of TLs and Officers turned up for a very interesting and convivial morning (wonderful morning tea and lots of coffee), where the team presented sessions on ebooks, cybersafety, the Australian curriculum, advanced searching and updates from WASLA. The WASLA team also received feedback from delegates and with a fond farewell, left Bunbury around two o'clock in the afternoon and headed for Albany. Many thanks to Esme for organising the session in Bunbury.

On advice from one of the Bunbury delegates we decided to take the Franklin-Cranbrook road to Albany. Certainly, this drive was interesting for the scenery, but also reminded us just how isolated children and teachers who live in these communities are, even though they live within driving distance from Perth. After a small skirmish with a kangaroo on the Franklin road, we finally headed into the outer



suburbs of Albany just on six o'clock, found the motel and set out for an evening session with Peta Harrison at Albany SHS. This session provided an opportunity for the team and delegates to discuss cybersafety issues in depth and to explore new developments in technology that will have an impact on our students and school communities.

The following morning started early and delegates also delved into ebooks where we discussed new developments and implications for school resourcing and collection development. We then explored the GiggleIT Project, an international collaborative literacy program free to schools via the International Association of School Libraries, advanced searching and current events that concern WASLA. Again delegates provided feedback and added information to the team's presentations. After another wonderful morning tea, hugs and a promise to return next semester, the WASLA team headed home around one o'clock.

We arrived back in Perth at seven o'clock, tired but elated after what had been a great road trip. We discussed life, the universe, the WASLA constitution, the National Inquiry and the Australian curriculum ad nauseum in the car. While we didn't arrive at any solutions, it did provide valuable time for f-t-f discussion, something we don't often get time for due to busy work schedules. We also gained some valuable insights and feedback from our rural colleagues which we will include in our future plans for rural PD.



The next RoadShow will be on the 31st July at ECU for city members. The Committee also has plans to take a RoadShow to the wheat belt as well as a return to the Southwest next semester. All members who attended have had the PD accredited with WACOT and received copies of the presentations to use in their schools. All in all, feedback was extremely positive and the WASLA Committee looks forward to future RoadShows.

Please consider volunteering to be a Roadshow presenter to share your expertise, ideas, programs that worked, conference experiences and more. Email Rosemary Burton with your expression of interest. It is a great experience.

**WASLA Rural RoadShow (1) Team  
Val Baird, Judy Clayden & Barbara Combes**

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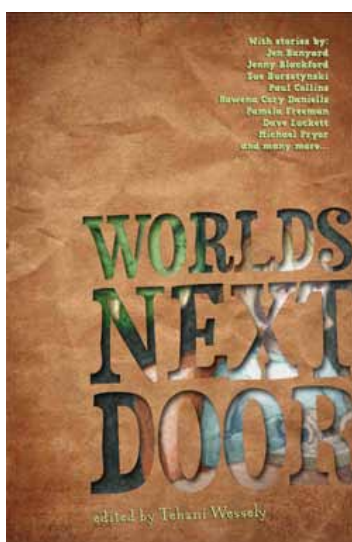
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## Diversity Challenge Resilience: School Libraries in Action Joint Conference of SLAQ & IASL

Anticipation is building as planning is finalised for the 2010 joint conference of the School Library Association of Queensland and International Association of School Libraries. Diversity Challenge Resilience: School Libraries in Action will be held in Brisbane, Queensland from September 27 — October 1. It promises to be a conference experience that will engage, enthuse, inspire and transform. Special features from both parent organisations combined with a distinctive Brisbane flavour will be sure to create a memorable learning and social event.

**We are pleased and excited to have attracted the following cutting edge keynote speakers:**

**Dr. Michael Hough AM** (Professorial Fellow at the University of Wollongong) will provide an overview of the societal and economic pressures that are driving change in post industrial economies and their schools, review the characteristics of selected societies such as Australia, USA and Hong Kong, summarize the current trends in information and communication technologies and their impacts on learning and schooling, review the impacts of generational differences on schooling, and provide focused advice on the features of a school and its library that fully incorporate digital technologies.

**Dr. Nancy Everhart** (President of the American Association of School Librarians) will discuss successful and not so successful national school librarian involvement to infuse 21st century skills and what this means for professional practice. Nancy's research focuses on the leadership role of the school library media specialist. She recently co-chaired the Standards Writing Committee for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in Library Media.

**Professor Erica McWilliam** (co-leader of the Creative Workforce Program in the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries and Innovation, based at the Queensland University of Technology) will explore the ways in which the professional dimensions of school librarianship are being challenged in Australia and elsewhere as we move into a second decade of a new century.

**John Marsden** (author and principal of Candlebark School) will share the notion that the more we understand fiction, the more chance there is we can gain some meaningful understanding of life. He aims to explore some of the truths commonly found in fiction, and to argue that their ubiquity is a message in itself, at the same time as these truths help illuminate the world for us.

The home centres of the concurrent session presenters sound like the itinerary of a world trip — Singapore, Malaysia, India, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Portugal, United Kingdom, Ireland, United States, Hong Kong, New Zealand and back to Australia. What a great opportunity this presents to embrace a global perspective of teacher-librarianship — its challenges and some solutions. Curriculum, excellence through standards, the digital agenda, and literate communities — all the strands synonymous with teacher-librarians will be presented to inform and inspire participants.

Literature too is a highlight of the conference program. The Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre will be the venue for our *It's the people who make the place — come and meet our locals* breakfast. Talented Brisbane authors who have written books for children and young people will be seated with participants so all can enjoy a delicious meal and stimulating conversation. Each of these authors will be introduced, new books launched and a presentation made by the Australian Children's Television Foundation. There will also be the opportunity to purchase the latest offerings by these authors and have your copies signed.

Authors and illustrators also feature in our pre-conference bus tours. The morning tour offers a unique chance to get to know Brisbane through the city's resident peregrine falcons. Frodo and Frieda, who nest atop a 27-storey riverfront skyscraper, are portrayed in the picture book, *Home*. Narelle Oliver, author and illustrator of their story, will guide participants to many of the locations featured in this realistic portrayal of life in the city. The afternoon bus tour will visit the studios of three leading local illustrators where participants will gain insights into the process followed by each artist in the creation of their award winning picture books.

Discounted accommodation has been sourced and rates negotiated for the conference period. Ozacom Pty Ltd has been appointed the official accommodation, air travel and post/pre conference tour agency for the conference.

Registration is now open, with information and online registration available on our website at <http://www.slaq.org.au/events/2010/>. Further details about the conference program and accommodation options can also be accessed from this site.

Plan now to join us in Brisbane in September!

## Forthcoming Events

The **Western Australia's Library Officers Big Day Out** is being held in Wyalkatchem again on August 4th. Speakers include Bev Blackwell, Westbooks, Meter Office Products and WA Library Supplies with around 20 library officers from around the rural remote wheatbelt region also attending. This event was a great success in 2009 as much needed regional professional development and get-together.

Contact Wendy Chapman at Wyalkatchem District High School for more information.

**Phone:** 089692 1500  
**Email:** wendy.chapman@det.wa.edu.au

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### WASLA Library Officers' Day

**The venue** — Schools of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE) — Oxford St Leederville.

**The date** — Friday October 8 2010 — the last day of the school holidays.

**Cost** — \$60 per person.

**The programme includes:** Web 2.0 tools; social networking; and, Edna.

**Numbers limited to 60 participants.**

**Contact Rosemary Burton to book your place!**

**Email address:** [Rosemary.Burton@det.wa.edu.au](mailto:Rosemary.Burton@det.wa.edu.au)

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## Library Tourism

I have a confession — I enjoy visiting libraries during my holidays, especially when I travel overseas. Many of my friends think this is a downright weird past time, but fortunately I have heard of a few other people who do the same thing. Alyson Darby, the ALIA NSW Local Liaison officer, wrote an article in May Incite about “library tourism” (among other topics), and in my reading, I discovered the following post online: <http://answers.unshelved.com/questions/3379/library-tourism-what-have-you-observed>. So I am obviously not alone!

Recently I was fortunate to travel to Canada and the US on holiday. Libraries were a definite item on my itinerary. I'd like to share with you my impressions and photos of some of the libraries I visited.



### Vancouver Public Library

I had heard that this was a fantastic new library, so it was one of the first places I visited when I arrived in Vancouver. The central library is situated in “Library Square”, which contains other businesses and government departments. I really loved it! I couldn't believe how big the building was (seven levels!) and I later found out that it was the Provincial Resource Library (similar to our State Library) which explained the breadth and depth of their collections.

### New York Public Library

This library was one of the main reasons I wanted to visit New York City and understandably my intent was to book accommodation close by. Enter the Library Hotel (<http://www.libraryhotel.com>) — a hotel with rooms organised by the Dewey Decimal System in midtown Manhattan. I thought it was a fantastic concept and thus booked a room. When I arrived, my room theme was Germanic languages (402), complete with its own book collection. I really liked the hotel as free continental breakfast, wine and cheese nights were included in the price of the room. In my opinion, the price wasn't that expensive (for New York anyway).



I arrived in New York on a Saturday evening. As guided tours run from Monday to Saturday, I chose to wait until that following Monday to visit the library. I was very glad I did as I discovered many fascinating things about the history of the library and got to have a peek at their special collections.

Whilst I was away I also visited a few more public libraries in Canada including Charlottetown, Whitehorse and Banff. Banff was my favourite, not because the library was architecturally designed or particularly noteworthy, but because I found numerous books I wanted to borrow. In my opinion, I thought whoever was in charge of collection development was doing a great job.



Lastly I wanted to share a story about my discovery of the Grande Bibliotheque in Montreal. I decided to venture out to the Quartier Latin for dinner one night. Walking down the main road (Rue St Dennis) for a place to eat, I encountered a sign for “Grande Bibliotheque”. My French is not the best, but I do know that bibliotheque means library. Intrigued I went down the little alley, thinking that the library would be shut. To my delight, I discovered that it was open and decided to come back after dinner to explore it. It was much like the Vancouver Public Library — quite a few levels and an interesting collection. I was also pleased to see a few English books too, as I am sure there must be some people in Montreal who speak English.

My advice to travellers, check out the local libraries — you never know what you might find!

Claire Stokes

## Western Australian School Library Association Professional Development Calendar

Dates, venues etc to be confirmed — for Term 3 events, watch for information on WATLnet

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
<b>Term 3</b> Sat July 31, 8.30am-1.00pm Aug 31 Sep 27– Oct 1	City Roadshow for the whole library community <b>Venue:</b> ECU Mount Lawley, Building 13 Staff room Nominations for Library Officer/Library Technician Award close SLAQ/IASL Conference, Brisbane
<b>Term 4</b> Oct (TBC)  Fri Oct 8  Thurs Oct 14 Mon Nov 15 Wed Nov 24  Mon Dec 13	International School Library Day Dinner. Presentation of Teacher Librarian & Library Officer/Library Technician of the Year Awards. <b>Venue:</b> TBC Library Officer's Day 2010 <b>Venue:</b> Schools of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE) WASLA Committee Meeting, ECU, Building 13, Room 13.102 WASLA Committee Meeting, ECU, Building 13, Room 13.102 WASLA AGM <b>Venue:</b> Millpoint Bookcaffe including talk by Celia Cole. WASLA Committee Meeting, ECU, Building 13, Room 13.102

### **WASLA Website Update: Members Only section**

The WASLA website is now being upgraded to include a 'members only' section. By registering and logging into the site, WASLA members will have access to materials from professional development sessions. To register, please head to the website

**<http://www.wasla.asn.au/>**

and use your name and the email address you included on your registration form (for cross-referencing with the WASLA membership list). The new section will become visible in the menu on the left once you have logged in.

## SLAQ / IASL 2010 Conference

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

Brisbane, Qld, Australia

27 September — 1 October 2010



*Diversity Challenge Resilience*

**SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN ACTION**



# Nomination form for the Library Officer/ Technician of the Year Award

This form is to reach The Executive Officer — WASLA, PO Box 1272, WEST PERTH 6872, by 31 August, 2010.

Name of Nominee

Current Position

Principal/Employer's Name

Address

Email address

Contact phone numbers

## QUALIFICATIONS and RATIONALE for NOMINATION

Formal qualifications of nominee (if applicable)

Work History

Areas of outstanding service to school libraries in WA

Reasons for nomination

Other supportive information

Actions initiated/undertaken for the benefit of the school library

Testimonials enclosed

## ENCLOSURES

Curriculum vitae of nominee (compulsory)

Support documentation (optional)

Photograph(s) (optional)

This nomination has been forwarded by:

Full name of nominator

Address of nominator

Phone number of nominator

Nominator's email address

The candidate described above has my official support.

I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the information supplied on and with this form is correct in every detail.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Call for Newsletter Items

The WASLA Newsletter relies on input from WASLA members to look great and be informative and interesting to readers.

If you have any library-related news and events, articles, tips and suggestions that you would like to share with WASLA members, please email Tehani at:

**editormum75@gmail.com**

We really love to see photos accompanying your articles. Please send these as separate files, rather than embedded in your document.

I look forward to seeing your innovations, ideas and thoughts!

Many thanks,

**Tehani Wessely**  
**WASLA Newsletter Editor & Publications Councillor**

The WASLA Committee would like to encourage all members to consider rewarding the tireless work of **Library Technicians** and **Officers** by nominating a staff member for the Award.

The nomination form is available on the preceding page.

Recognise the support these library staff do, and nominate today!

**[www.wasla.asn.au](http://www.wasla.asn.au)**

The newsletter is now available to members via email.

If you would like to receive the email version of this newsletter, please forward your email address to our Executive Officer at **[ceo@wasla.asn.au](mailto:ceo@wasla.asn.au)**

## WASLA Membership

### WA School Library Association Electronic Payment Details

**Account Name:** WASLA

**BSB:** 306107

**Account Number:** 4198265

**Bank/Branch:** BankWest

**Contact Person:** Rosemary Burton, Executive Officer

**Remittance Advice:**

**Email address (preferred):** [Rosemary.Burton@det.wa.edu.au](mailto:Rosemary.Burton@det.wa.edu.au)

**Remittance Advice**

**Post:** WASLA, PO Box 1272, West Perth WA, 6872

Please annotate the deposit clearly with the name of the depositor, and if possible, what it is for. On the remittance advice, please give the amount deposited, receipt number and date of the deposit as well as details of depositor and reason for deposit.

With thanks

**Rosemary Burton**  
**Executive Officer, WASLA**

## Great Websites for Library Staff



**BOOK LEADS:** A great wiki on all things to do with books eg book blogs, reading promotion programs, reading lists, ebook portals, author websites, trailers/videos.

<http://bookleads.wikispaces.com/>

**Bright Ideas:** An award winning blog by the School Library Association of Victoria (SLAV) “where school library staff can share ideas on how they can use Web 2.0 tools in their library and in their school. We hope that it inspires you to think about how you can use some of the tools in your school”. Definitely full of good tips and new technologies and worth subscribing to.



<http://slav.globalteacher.org.au/>



**CMIS:** The CMIS team produces three informative blogs which are always worth checking for current events and good ideas: Primary Focus Blog, Fiction Focus Blog, Tech Focus.

<http://www.det.wa.edu.au/education/cmisis/eval/>

**Skerricks:** Ruth Buchanan, NSW TL on the ground, gives us ideas and inspirations for school libraries.

<http://skerricks.blogspot.com/>



**Hey Jude; learning in an online world:** Judy O’Connell examines emerging technologies and the impact on schools and school libraries.

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