

Dear Exec members

Earlier this week along with a range of library managers from various sectors I participated in a "Course Advisory Panel" for the TAFE Diploma Library Tech course. It was a very interesting session and one that I think is worth reporting to you all, with the hope that between TAFE, Uni SA and PLSA there may be ways of progressing some options for further study for public library staff.

TAFE appears to be designing an Advanced Diploma course which will still confer a Library Tech certificate on the graduate, but will also allow them to articulate straight into some post graduate Library courses run by Uni SA. The Advanced Diploma will be offered to people who have a minimum of 5 years work experience, at least 3 of these years being in a relevant work area. It will be offered part time over two years.

TAFE is also designing a number of electives around web design, multimedia management, network management etc. It may be that staff may go & do some of these electives as one off units for professional reasons, and over time through a combination of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and doing some modules staff may be well on the way to completing the Advanced Diploma course.

Uni SA was at this session, and they are keen to find ways in which their courses (either as individual modules for professional development or full courses) can be useful for employers etc

I have been asked by TAFE & Uni SA whether the public library managers would like to meet with them to exchange information – the educators informing managers of what they have to offer and managers discussing their needs for their staff.

I see this as being a small part of Hanlie's discussion re the needs of libraries to have effectively skilled staff etc.

Can you please consider this at the next Exec meeting and if you consider this to be a good idea I am more than happy for PLS to arrange a meeting.

regards

Geoff Stempel

*Associate Director, Public Library Services
State Library of South Australia*