

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thanks, once again, to all contributors for sharing your news with us. We couldn't produce this Newsletter without you!

Reports of conferences, both local and overseas, keep us all in touch with current issues in East Asian Librarianship and the broader perspective, while local news of collections, policies, library software solutions, etc., gives us a chance to compare notes and keep abreast of latest developments.

Asian studies in Australia currently has a low profile, with the Australian Government reducing the level of funding of Asian language teaching in schools. At university level, language teaching is seen as costly, needing more face-to-face tuition than other courses, and resources such as language laboratories and/or specialised computer language software. The importance of language skills, cultural awareness and cultural sensitivity for successful international interactions, including trade, in the global community is still not fully appreciated.

On a more personal note, I apologise for the late appearance of this issue of the Newsletter. As a result of the delay, the deadline for the next newsletter is not so far away. It is the end of October, 2002.

Susan MacDougall
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