

“LIS talk”

The dark tragedy of our age is that, at the point where we need leadership from librarians and teachers to negotiate our way through an information-thick – rather than -rich – age, Web 2.0 has replaced expertise with experience and scholarship with consensus. The impact on students is – frankly – devastating.

Professor Tara Brabazon

'As seagulls to chips', *The Author*, Spring 2008

Some people say to me, 'I would rather train people to be librarians than train librarians to be people.'

Gwenda Sippings

Independent Consultant
'Go to the business meetings', p. 7

It is extremely important to fight extremism by cultural means. It isn't an Iraq war. It's a world war, against extremism.

Dr Saad Eskander

Archivist of the Year 2007 and
Director of the Iraqi National Library & Archives
'Call for US to return Iraqi documents', p. 9

The [MLA] Action Plan has become, yet again, a discussion between government departments and quangoes about the conventions of English Government... It does nothing to correct the obvious and now enormous problems of an average public library.

Perkins (the cat)

'Perkins puts her paw on it',
Good Library blog, 17 May
www.goodlibraryguide.com/blog
see *Update* story, p.2

If you've spotted a striking LIS-related quote, please email it to matthew.mezey@cilip.org.uk

Diversity

Pilot to improve BME percentage in workforce

Encompass, an affordable positive action trainee pilot scheme for black and minority ethnic employees, was approved by CILIP Council in April. This will enable recruitment to begin in time for the new academic year in September.

It represents a breakthrough for CILIP's Equal Opportunities & Diversity Panel, which has been frustrated in the past by lack of funding.

Encompass will be run in partnership with Path National Ltd, a skills development agency which seeks to address the under-representation of black and minority ethnic groups in management and the professions, including the LIS sector.

The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 gives public authorities a statutory duty to promote racial equality.

Traineeships will last for two to three years. They will include part-time or distance learning at a university department of information and library studies, and result in an MCLIP professional qualification. On average a trainee will spend four days a week at work and one day a week studying.

The costs can be covered by an employer converting an existing post to a trainee post. The trainee receives an allowance rather than a salary. This is an attractive

arrangement for employers because it saves National Insurance and pension contributions. This releases funds for payment of a fee to Path National, which will provide support and mentoring for trainees from the time of recruitment to completion of the traineeship.

The fee will also include the cost of CILIP membership, and attendance for the trainee at a one-day CILIP training course (or conference), registration for the MCLIP qualification and a mentor during the chartership process.

A steering group from the LIS sector will include representatives from Path National and LLUK (Lifelong Learning UK).

The scheme is also likely to benefit CILIP's outreach work with employers, and represents a major opportunity for advocacy.

Path, which has operated for 20 years, provides training, career opportunities, motivation and support to individuals and organisations wishing to create a workforce that reflects our diverse communities.

Ninety-five per cent of the agency's candidates secure permanent and senior positions at the conclusion of their training.

■ *More from CILIP Council on p.16*

Copyright

Strong online copyright community is the aim for KWtL

Building a thriving interactive online copyright community will be at the heart of CILIP's new Keeping Within the Law website, run by Paul Pedley, Head of Research at the Economist Intelligence Unit.

The site promises to let subscribers 'manage any legal risks, assess potential hazards and implement sound risk management policies and procedures'.

'The aim,' says Paul, 'is to build up a community of people interested in copyright and other information rights issues, who can help the site develop.'

'They can ask questions which I will then make into a Q&A if they are going to be of interest to a wider audience.'

'I want to encourage them to let me know if there are topics which they want more coverage of.'

The site offers around 1,600 items, and features include a blog, factsheets, case studies, a monthly newsletter and PowerPoint presentations. It also uses a 'tag cloud' for each of its four channels, as well as one for the site as a whole. PDFs of any of these can be created on the fly.

The service is available on an annual subscription basis only.
www.kwtl.co.uk