

ALIA Specialist Information Professionals group from South Australia

The membership of the ALIA SIP group in South Australia represents a wide range of professional librarians largely working in special libraries. Many of the members have also worked in TAFE, University and public libraries.

We believe that there are many sound reasons for librarians having a University undergraduate degree followed by a Graduate Diploma in Librarianship/Library Studies.

In addressing the first dot point of Issue 4 - Basic Professional Qualifications, we believe that the basic qualification to be a professional librarian is an undergraduate degree followed by a Post Graduate Diploma.

We are concerned that Graduate Certificates as entry level qualifications to a Graduate Diploma will give us librarians with insufficient academic skills and knowledge. This particularly concerns us where some Graduate Certificates are of less than one year's duration.

We have serious concerns that if a Graduate Diploma or Masters awarded without an undergraduate degree, the diploma graduate does not bring sufficient academic skills and knowledge to the workplace. We feel that this will undermine and weaken our professional standing.

Silvia Muscardin
Convenor ALIA SIP (SA)