



## **Sharing the future – ALIA and ASLA working together**

### **Agreement between the Australian Library and Information Association and the Australian School Library Association**

#### **Introduction**

The governing bodies of the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and the Australian School Library Association (ASLA) acknowledge the importance of working together, now and in the future – to better meet the professional and representational needs of those within, or interested in, the school library and information sector.

To achieve this the two governing bodies have agreed to co-operate and collaborate on the initiatives outlined herein and to pursue further opportunities as they arise. In general, collaboration and co-operation will focus on areas:

- being of mutual benefit to each organisation and its membership, and representing equity of membership;
- having a current and future practice focus;
- emphasising library and information services within the school community

#### **Reciprocity**

ASLA and ALIA will offer membership reciprocity for:

- membership of e-lists and e-newsletters where appropriate; and
- member rates for professional development programs and conferences

#### **Local co-operation**

ALIA and ASLA groups are encouraged at the local level to co-operate in areas of mutual interest and benefit and for professional development and networking activities.

#### **Policy advice**

ASLA and ALIA have established a joint policy advisory group comprising equal representation from each organisation. The joint policy advisory group will adhere to the terms of reference as stated. See Appendix 1.

#### **Membership**

Membership shall comprise members from ALIA and ASLA with expertise in library and information services within the school community. There shall be no more than three members from each organisation. In the appointment of members, the two governing bodies shall seek to ensure a range of experience and knowledge. The policy advisory group may co-opt expertise as needed in particular areas and which is not available through its members. The advisory group shall appoint a convenor from within its membership.

*Terms of office*

Members will be appointed for terms of two years except where the governing bodies seek to establish an overlap of terms in which it may appoint members for less than two years. Members may serve no more than two consecutive terms. However, if no other volunteer/s for exiting members are forthcoming, the governing bodies may opt to extend the term of office of an existing member:

*Communication*

The policy advisory group shall meet electronically, or face-to-face where an opportunity presents to meet without travel cost for either organisation. The policy advisory group shall report regularly on matters to the governing bodies. The group may refer matters of interest or concern to the governing bodies for consideration.

*Review*

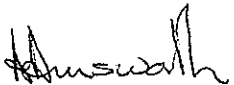
The policy advisory group shall be subject to the review requirements of the governing bodies and no more than every four years.

*Administration*

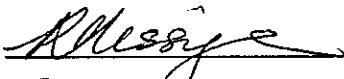
ALIA National Office will provide administrative support as required. Financial or administrative support may be sought from ASLA and as agreed between the ALIA executive director and ASLA president.

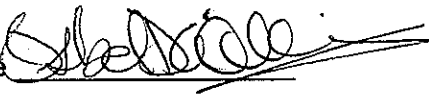
ASLA and ALIA commend this significant partnership.

**ASLA**

Signature   
Name ANETTE AINSWORTH.  
Position PRESIDENT.  
Date 4 October 2007.

**ALIA**

Signature   
Name Roxanne Missingham  
Position President  
Date 4 October 2007

Signature   
Name Isabel Williams  
Position Vice President - operations  
Date 4th October 2007

# Appendix 1

## Terms of reference

### *Purpose*

The ALIA/ASLA policy advisory group is to advise the ALIA Board of Directors and the ASLA National Council on:

- submissions to governments and other bodies on matters relating to library and information practice within the school community. Submissions may be in response to a call for submissions or at the instigation of the ALSA/ALIA for lobbying or advocacy purposes;
- the development and review of policy statements or documents relating to library and information practice within the school community;
- policy and practice matters of interest and concern for members. Such as matters may be referred from or to the ASLA/ALIA governing bodies;
- representation on appropriate bodies;
- other matters as determined by the ALIA Board of Directors and the ASLA National Council;
- mechanisms for collecting statistical data and research information on the sector;
- articulating and promoting the role of library and information services and staff within the school community
- Adhere to the relevant ALIA and ASLA guidelines.