



Australian  
Library and  
Information  
Association

# ALIA SPECIAL LIBRARIES SURVEY

REPORT  
DECEMBER 2010

**ALIA SPECIAL LIBRARIES SURVEY**

Report  
DECEMBER 2010

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2010 the ALIA Special Library Advisory Committee (SLAC) determined to undertake a statistical study of special libraries in Australia.

The purpose of the study was to enable ALIA, special libraries members and employers (management) to gain a better understanding of the current state of specialist information services in Australia.

An online survey was designed, piloted and then distributed by SLAC members to over 1400 library email addresses in November 2010.

## Survey Responses

Responses were sought from service managers and individual library staff in Australian special libraries. 73% (266) of the respondents are managers of a special library service. In total 380 responses were received covering all states and territories, 81% (307) of these responses were completed.

## Snapshot of Survey Findings

- 74% of responses came from libraries based in capital cities
- 52% of responses came from government based libraries
- The types of libraries covered in the survey are diverse – the largest response rate (28%) was from health/medicine sector
- There is no clear pattern of where libraries are based within their parent organisation or the seniority of the person they report to
- 87% of respondents reported that their library gathered feedback on its service informally at the time of service delivery – this was the most common method of gathering feedback
- 34% of respondents have KPIs for their library service
- 63% of respondents indicated their library service did not cost its services or was able to demonstrate the value of the library to the organisation.
- 15% of respondents regularly benchmark their service against other library services
- 70% of respondents worked in libraries which employ 1-3 staff and only 12 respondents worked in libraries that have more than 10 staff
- 18% of respondents have volunteers working in their library service
- 76% of respondents said their library is a corporate member of ALIA and 71% are members of Libraries Australia
- 80% of respondents said there has been no change in the number of library service points in their organisation over the last 5 years
- Internal users (97%), Other libraries (57%), Researchers (52%) External Organisations (45%) and Students (43%) were the most frequently identified client bases identified by special libraries
- 86% of respondents reported that their library had a budget of < \$1.5 million while 43% reported an annual budget of < 200,000. 10% of respondents did not know what their library's annual budget was
- Collection sizes ranged from less than 5,000 to more than 1 million items
- 140 responding libraries hold collections of specialist material
- 71% of respondents indicated their library service participates in networks or resource sharing
- Cataloguing (91%), document supply (90%), ready reference enquiries (87%), research (86%) current awareness services (84%), and central ordering (84%) were the most frequently identified services provided by special libraries

## Profile of Survey Respondents

60% have worked in the special library sector for more than 10 years  
46% moved to special libraries from another library sector  
73% are managers of the library service  
92% have formal library qualifications  
52% are personal members of ALIA  
88% are female  
54% are 50+  
64% work fulltime  
32% earn \$61-\$80,000  
23% earn \$81-\$100,000

## Recommendations

- ALIA broadly publicises the results of this 2010 survey of Australian Special Libraries.
- ALIA Special Library Advisory Committee (SLAC) develops a small set of interview/focus group questions to elicit expectations of non-library senior managers of their organisation's library service, especially those who have line responsibility for the library service. The set of questions could then be distributed to Australian special library managers to use in their interaction with the senior managers of their parent organisation.
- Conduct another shorter version of this survey in 3 years time in order to monitor the development of special libraries in Australia

# INTRODUCTION

ALIA Special Libraries Advisory Committee is interested in gathering information and data about special libraries from parent organisations, employers (management) and staff of special libraries via a survey. This information will enable ALIA, special libraries members and employers (management) to gain a better understanding of the current state of specialist information services in Australia.

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The purpose of the study was to enable ALIA, special libraries members and employers (management) to gain a better understanding of the current state of specialist information services in Australia.

An online survey was designed, piloted and then distributed by SLAC members to over 1400 library email addresses in November 2010.

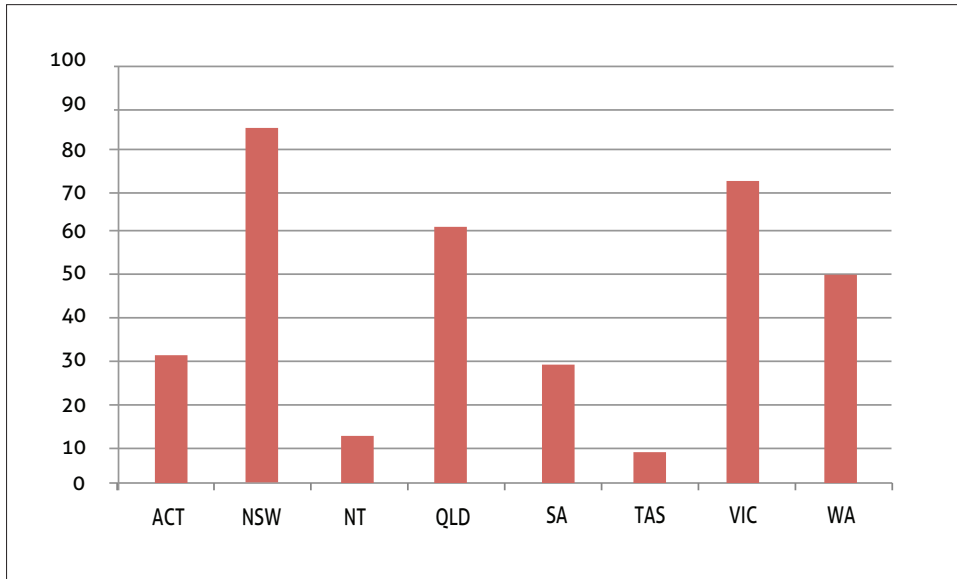
This report summarises the results of the survey and provides recommendations for future research.

The Committee had originally planned to survey non-library senior managers in the parent organization as well as library staff in the same survey but on the advice of the consultant agreed to limit the distribution of the survey to the managers and library staff in Australian special libraries.

The database of library contact emails was developed by committee members bases on their special library networks. Further details about the survey methodology are included in Appendix A.

# DEMOGRAPHICS

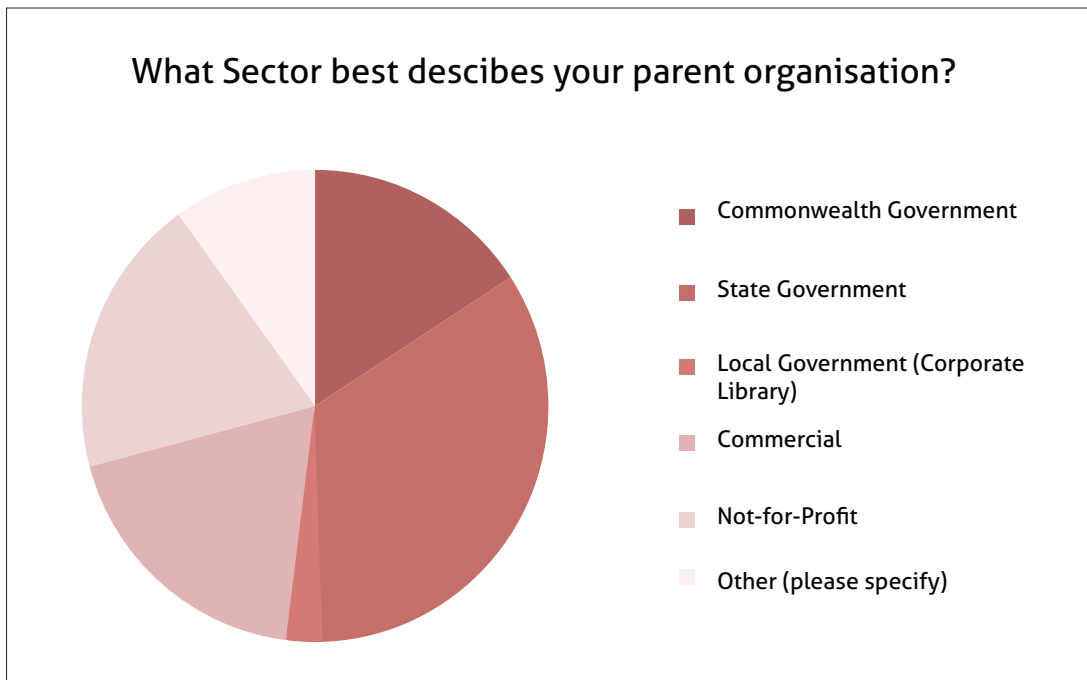
## Respondents by State/Territory



answered question 358

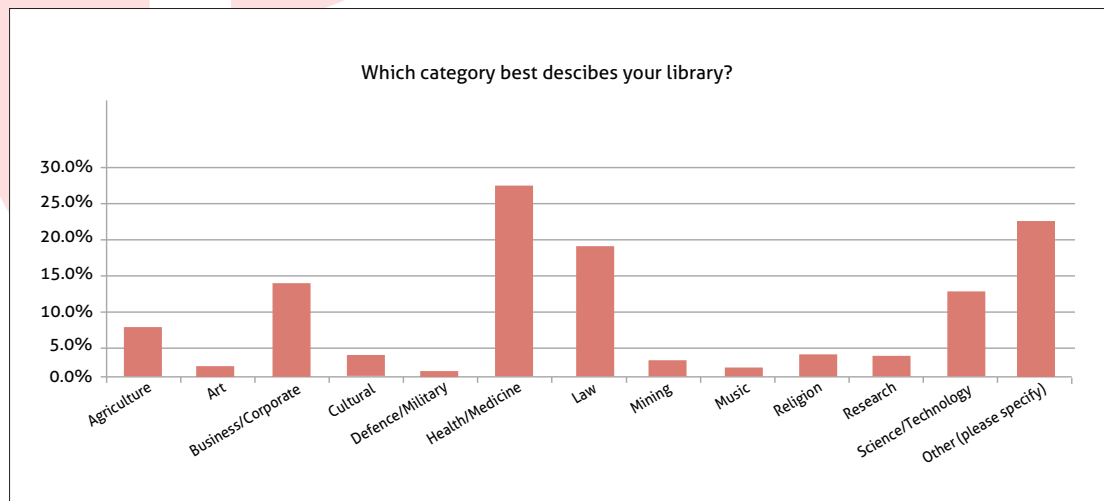
- Special libraries in all states and territories responded to the survey
- 74% (265) responses came from library services located in capital cities
- 13% (46) are based in regional areas & 4% (13) in rural libraries services

## Parent Organisations



- Over 50% (187) responses were from government funded special libraries.
- Commercial and Not-for-Profit were equal at 19% of responses
- 'Other' included government entities, peak bodies and education institutions.

## Type of Library



answered question 362

- 28% (101) respondents were from health/medicine libraries
- 'Other' types of libraries accounted for 22% (81) of responses and included engineering, education, emergency management, disability, social welfare and trade unions. See Appendix 2 for full list of library type

## Corporate Membership of Library Organisations

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Australian Library & Information Association     | 76.3% |
| AGLIN  | 20.2% |
| Australian Law Librarians' Association           | 20.9% |
| Health Libraries Inc                             | 11.9% |
| Australian Geosciences Association               | 1.6%  |
| Special Libraries Association Austn & NZ Chapter | 7.1%  |
| VALA   | 7.1%  |
| Other (please specify)                           | 23.3% |

answered question 253

- 76% of respondents libraries have ALIA Corporate Membership
- 'Other' corporate memberships included: Australasian Libraries in the Emergency Sector (ALIES); Australian Society of Archivists; Australasian Parliamentary Libraries Association; Australia & New Zealand Theological Library Association; and WAGLIN.

## Staffing

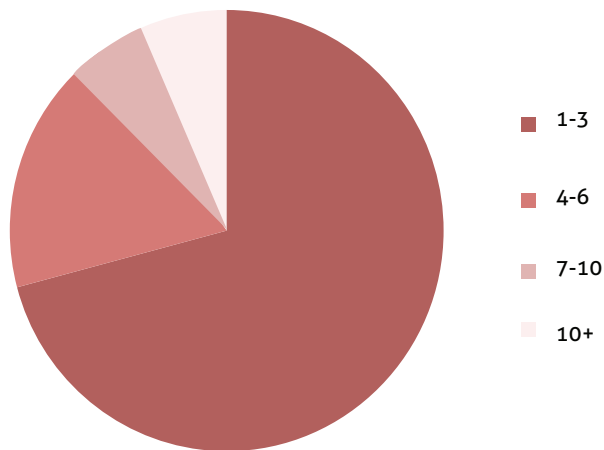
Questions were asked about paid staff, qualifications, volunteers and any changes in staffing levels over the last 5 years.

### Number of Paid Staff

- 70% of respondents work in libraries with 1-3 paid staff
- Only 12 respondents worked in libraries that had more than 10 staff and their numbers ranged from 16-65 staff.



### How many paid staff are currently employed in your library, including part time?



According to survey respondents there has been little change in the number of staff employed in the libraries over the last 5 years.

### Effective Fulltime Equivalent (EFT)

| EFT range | No. of responses |
|-----------|------------------|
| < 1       | 53               |
| 1-3       | 148              |
| 4-6       | 38               |
| 7-10      | 6                |
| 10+       | 14               |

- 53 have an EFT of 1 or less staff
- The most common EFT of respondent libraries is in the range 1-3 EFT.

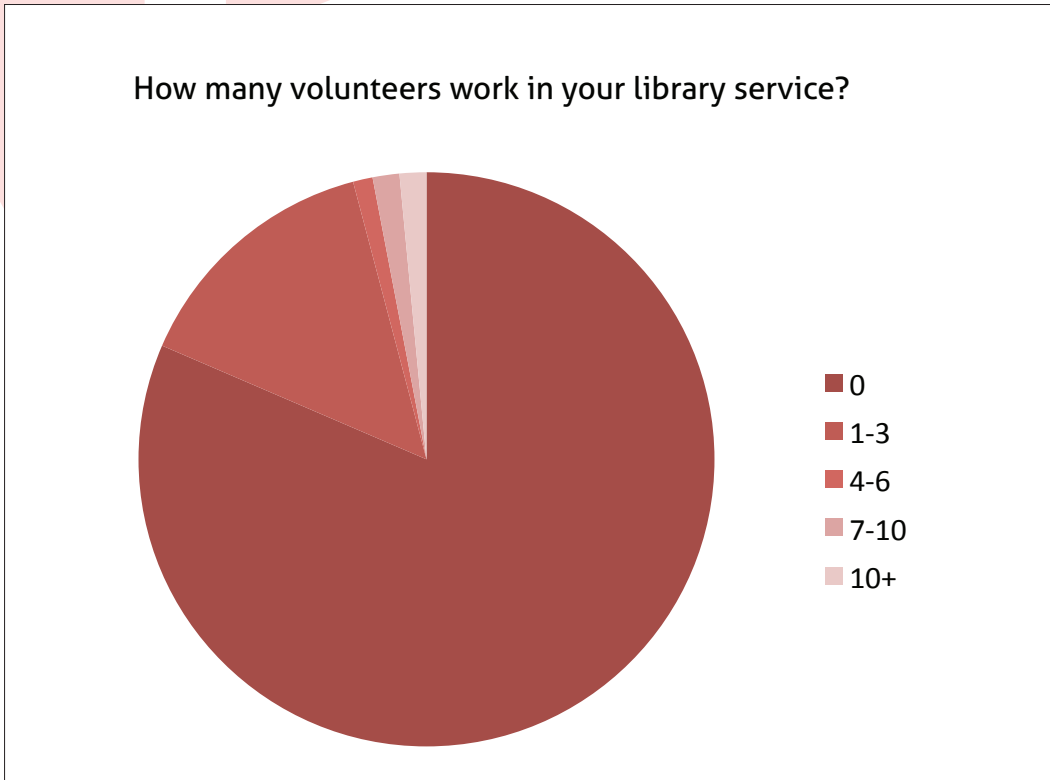
### Staff Qualifications

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Number of Librarians          | 95.4% |
| Number of Library Technicians | 56.7% |

answered question 263

- 98% (258) respondents had at least 1 staff member with a library qualification
- 39% (102) respondents had 1 qualified librarians and no qualified library technician
- 5 respondents reported that they had no qualified staff in their library service
- 11 respondents had 1 qualified technician and no qualified librarians

## Volunteers



answered question 263

- 19 % (49) of respondents have volunteers in their library service
- 5 libraries had volunteers only and no paid staff
- 42% (20) volunteers had library qualifications

How many days per week do volunteers work in your library service? (total days not per volunteer)

| Answer Options         | Response Percent | Response Count |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1 day                  | 37.5%            | 18             |
| 2 days                 | 16.7%            | 8              |
| 3 days                 | 6.3%             | 3              |
| 4 days                 | 4.2%             | 2              |
| 5 days                 | 6.3%             | 3              |
| Other (please specify) | 29.2%            | 14             |

answered question 48

- Some volunteers work on demand when required rather than a set time.

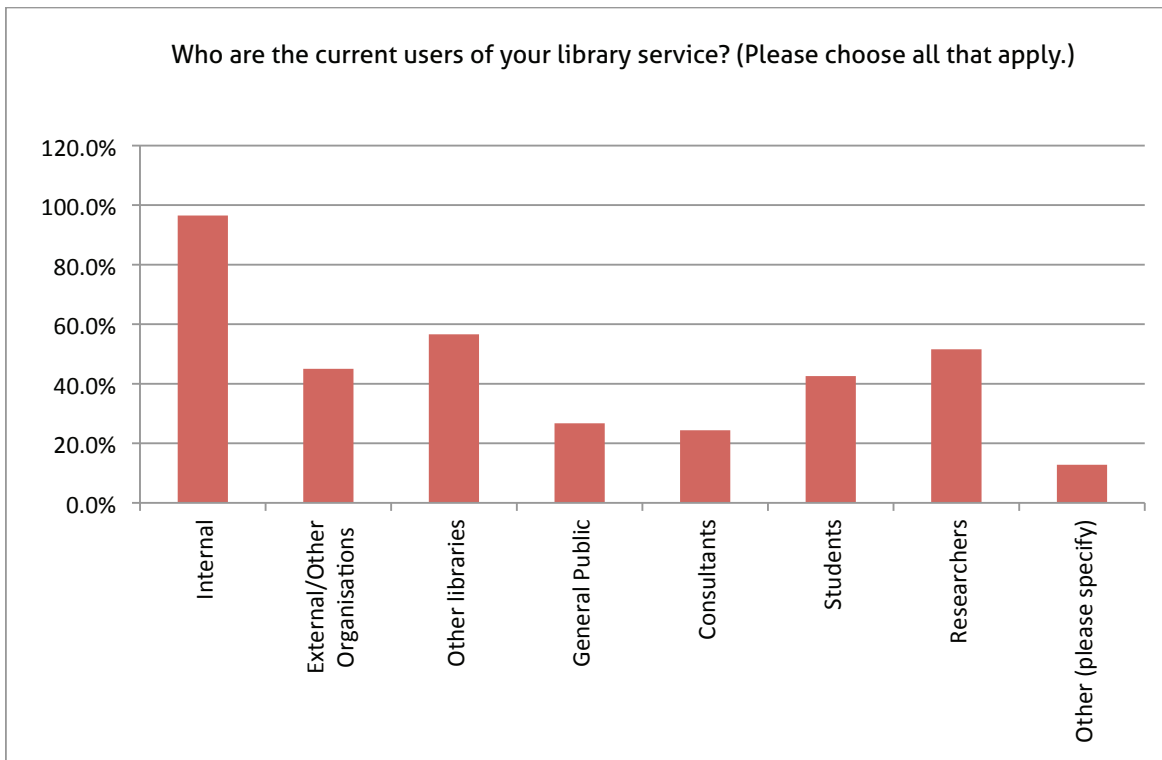
### Reasons For Changes in Staffing Levels Over Last 5 Years

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Reasons given for reduction in staffing levels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• budget cuts</li> <li>• staff not being replaced on retirement</li> <li>• amalgamation of services</li> </ul>           |
| Reasons given for increased staffing levels    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• expanded role of the service</li> <li>• additional service point</li> <li>• increased staff in organisation</li> </ul> |

answered question 31

## Clients

### Current Users



answered question 258

- Internal users (97%), Other libraries (57%), Researchers (52%) External Organisations (45%) and Students (43%) were the most frequently identified client bases identified by special libraries.

### Frequency of Use by Client Groups

| Answer Options               | Daily | Weekly | A few times a month | Monthly | A few times a year | N/A |
|------------------------------|-------|--------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|-----|
| Internal                     | 224   | 18     | 6                   | 1       | 1                  | 2   |
| External/Other Organisations | 30    | 46     | 25                  | 8       | 27                 | 26  |
| Other Libraries              | 43    | 49     | 35                  | 14      | 31                 | 16  |
| General Public               | 15    | 14     | 21                  | 7       | 29                 | 51  |
| Consultants                  | 13    | 14     | 18                  | 6       | 29                 | 41  |
| Students                     | 42    | 15     | 24                  | 8       | 36                 | 35  |
| Researchers                  | 39    | 19     | 31                  | 5       | 52                 | 29  |
| Other (please specify)       | 12    | 8      | 2                   | 2       | 6                  | 34  |

answered 258

- Internal users are by far the most frequent users of special libraries

### Changes In Client Base

- 60% (154) of respondents did not think their client based had not changed over the last 5 years
- Growth in the number of clients / staff in the parent organisation, machinery of government changes and increase in the number of students are some of the reasons respondents gave for the change in their client base over the last 5 years

# SERVICES

## Library Services

| <i>Current services</i>                              | <i>Response %</i> |
|--|-------------------|
| Cataloguing  | 91.40%            |
| Document supply (including Interlibrary loans)       | 90.60%            |
| Ready reference enquires                             | 87.10%            |
| Research   | 85.50%            |
| Central ordering books/aquisitions                   | 84.00%            |
| Current awareness service (e.g. bulletins or alerts) | 83.60%            |
| Remote searching of databases/journals               | 77.00%            |
| Desktop delivery                                     | 70.30%            |
| Journal circulation                                  | 65.20%            |
| Information literacy                                 | 62.50%            |
| Virtual Library (Internet)                           | 46.90%            |
| RSS Feed   | 17.20%            |
| Other (please specify)                               | 16.40%            |
| Business intelligence analysis                       | 16.40%            |
| Blog   | 11.30%            |
| Wiki   | 7.00%             |

answered 256

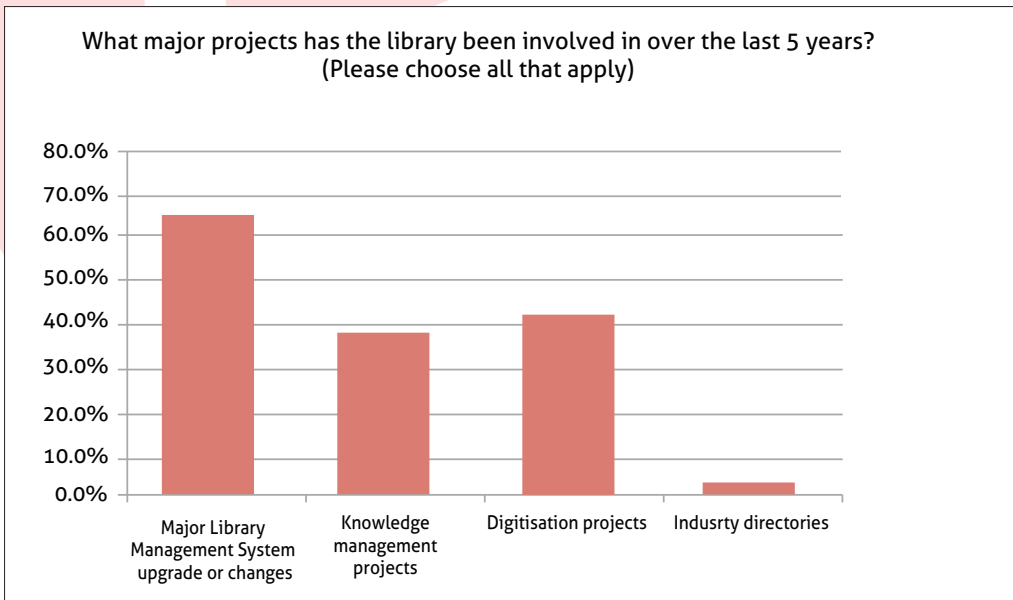
- Cataloguing, Document Supply, Ready Reference, Research, Central Ordering and Current Awareness Services were the most frequently identified library services.
- Library intranets are the most common 'Other' service identified by respondents and a couple mentioned social networking.

## Other Business Services Provided By The Library Service

- 25% (64) of respondents said that their library managed no other business services.
- 35% (90) respondents libraries managed their organisation's publications
- 32% (82) managed an Archive
- 23% (58) provided Knowledge Management
- 19% (51) served as the Photographic repository
- The library intranet was a service mentioned by some in the 'Other' category.

## Major Projects

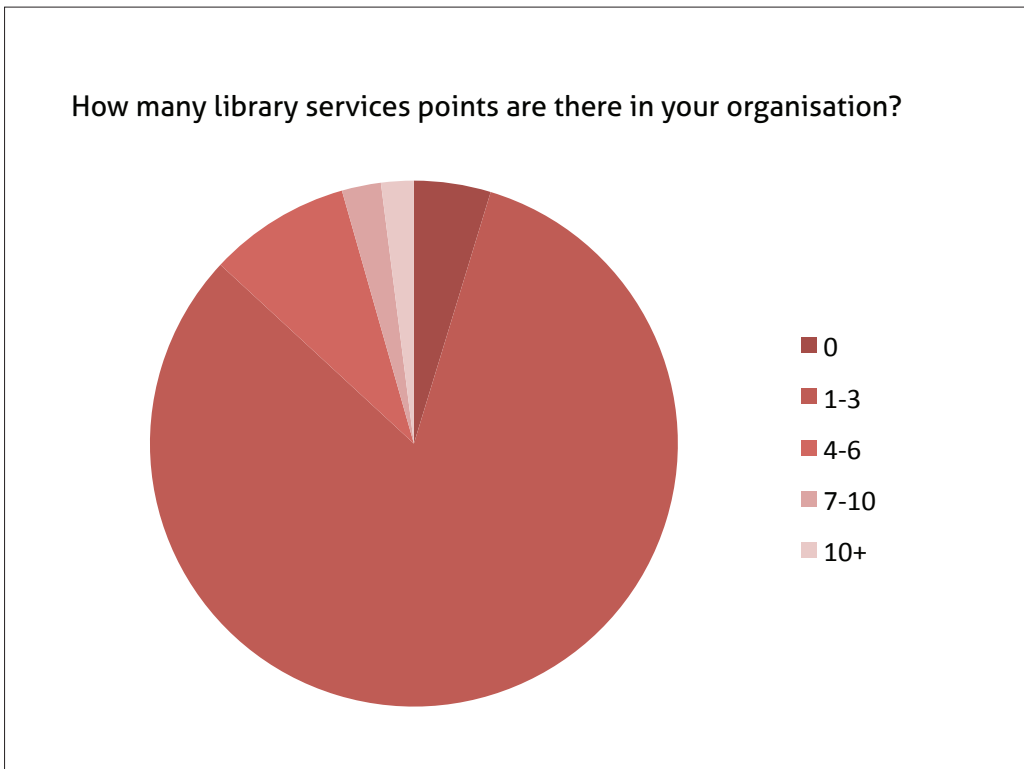
- In addition to system upgrades, digitization and knowledge management projects a number of respondents indicated their service had renovated or relocated.



answered question 187

### Number of Library Service Points

To determine whether the increasing availability of electronic delivery of information services had impacted on the delivery of special library services the survey included questions about library service points.



answered question 253

- The 2% (5) respondents that had more than 10 library service points were part of large government or global business networks.
- 80% (204) respondents indicated there has been no change in number of service points in their library service over the last 5 year
- 20 respondents indicated the number of points at their library service had been reduced by one.

# BUDGETS

## Annual Budget For Library Service

| Annual budget including staff costs | Response % | No. of responses |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Less than \$50,000                  | 13.6%      | 34               |
| \$50,000 - \$99,999                 | 15.6%      | 39               |
| \$100,000 - \$199,999               | 14.0%      | 35               |
| \$200,000 - \$299,999               | 10.4%      | 26               |
| \$300,000 - \$399,999               | 8.8%       | 22               |
| \$400,000 - \$499,999               | 6.8%       | 17               |
| \$500,000 - \$599,999               | 6.0%       | 15               |
| \$600,000 - \$699,999               | 2.0%       | 5                |
| \$700,000 - \$799,999               | 1.2%       | 3                |
| \$800,000 - \$899,999               | 3.2%       | 8                |
| \$900,000 - \$999,999               | 0.4%       | 1                |
| \$1m - \$1.5 m                      | 3.6%       | 9                |
| \$1.5 m +                           | 4.4%       | 11               |
| Don't know                          | 10.0%      | 25               |
| Other (please specify)              |            | 10               |

answered question 250

### Library budgets varied significantly

- 53.6% (134) reported a budget of less than \$300,000 including staff costs
- 13.6% (34) reported a budget of less than \$50,000
- 8% (20) respondents had library budgets of \$1million +
- 10% (25) respondents did not know what the budget was
- 'Other' responses included: confidential, part of larger network so detail unknown
- 30% (76) respondents did not know what the budget was 5 years ago



# COLLECTIONS

## Current Subscriptions

| Subscription                                 | less than 10 | 10-29 | 30-49 | 50-79 | 80 + | N/A | No. responses |
|--|--------------|-------|-------|-------|------|-----|---------------|
| Journals (hard copy)                         | 24           | 69    | 42    | 32    | 51   | 6   | 224           |
| Journals (electronic)                        | 71           | 55    | 21    | 18    | 39   | 12  | 216           |
| Electronic database services (i.e. Proquest) | 133          | 35    | 5     | 4     | 7    | 21  | 205           |
| Other  | 17           | 5     | 2     | 0     | 5    | 18  | 47            |
| (please specify)                             |              |       |       |       |      |     | 41            |

answered question 233

## Collection Size

Respondents were asked to provide a total number for the size of their library service collection.

- 50% of respondents provided an estimate of the size of their library's collection.
- 4 respondents reported the size of the collection was unknown and 187 others skipped this question.

| No. of items in collection | No. of responses |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| < 5000                     | 38               |
| 5000-10000                 | 43               |
| 10000-20000                | 42               |
| 20000-50000                | 43               |
| 50000-100000               | 15               |
| 100000+                    | 11               |

answered question 188

## Breakdown of Collections by category

| Monographs | Journals | Standards | Other |
|------------|----------|-----------|-------|
| 49%        | 28%      | 3%        | 20%   |

answered question 200

## Special Collections

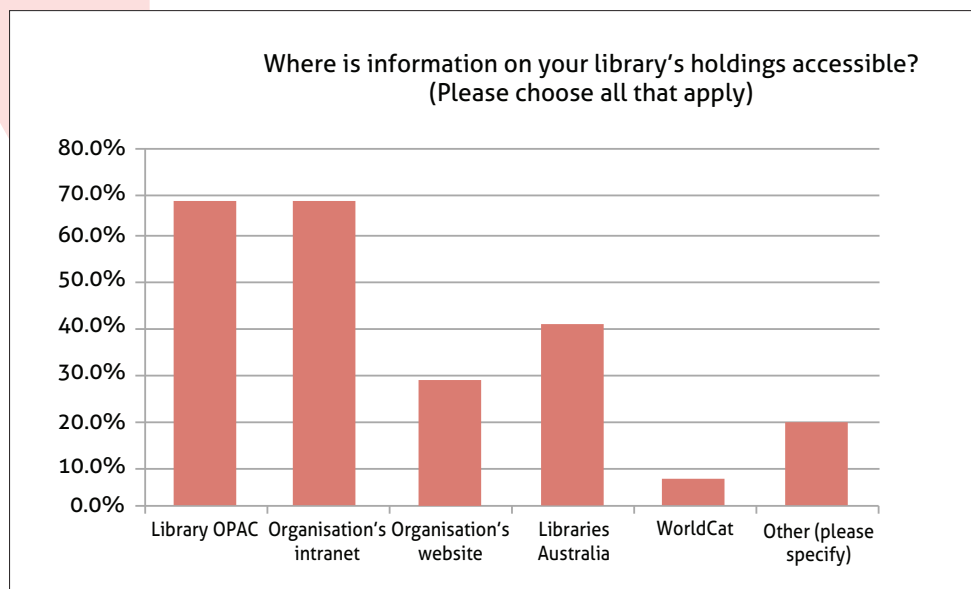
- 140 of 148 respondents indicated their library service held special collections.
- The special collections included unpublished material; rare historical material; photographs and ephemera .

## Collection Strengths

The strengths of library collections are as varied as the business of their host organisations.

- 187 responses to the question about collection strengths are so varied there is no clear pattern of collection strengths.

## Access to Library Holding Information



answered question 225

- Less than 30% of respondents reported that their library's holdings were accessible via their organisation's website.
- 'Other' responses included the desktops of staff in their organisation.
- A few respondents indicated their journal holdings listed on Gratisnet and some others had plans to make their holdings accessible through their organisations website or Trove.

## Collection Management Systems

The most commonly used library systems are listed below

| Collection Management System | No. of responses |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| DBTextworks                  | 78               |
| Softlink Liberty             | 20               |
| FIRST                        | 15               |
| Horizon 7                    | 15               |
| SirsiDynix                   | 11               |
| Voyager                      | 7                |
| Athena                       | 6                |
| Koha                         | 6                |
| Exlibris                     | 2                |
| In house                     | 4                |
| No system                    | 4                |
| Other                        | 59               |

answered question 227

- 4 respondents reported using in-house systems and Access databases
- Others indicated their library service had collections too small to warrant having any management system.

## Networks and resource sharing consortia

- 71% (160) respondents participated in networks or consortia
- More than 50 respondents indicated their library service participated in Gratisnet.
- Respondents listed over 50 library resource sharing groups – some are subject based.
- Informal resource sharing within sectors was also mentioned by a number of respondents

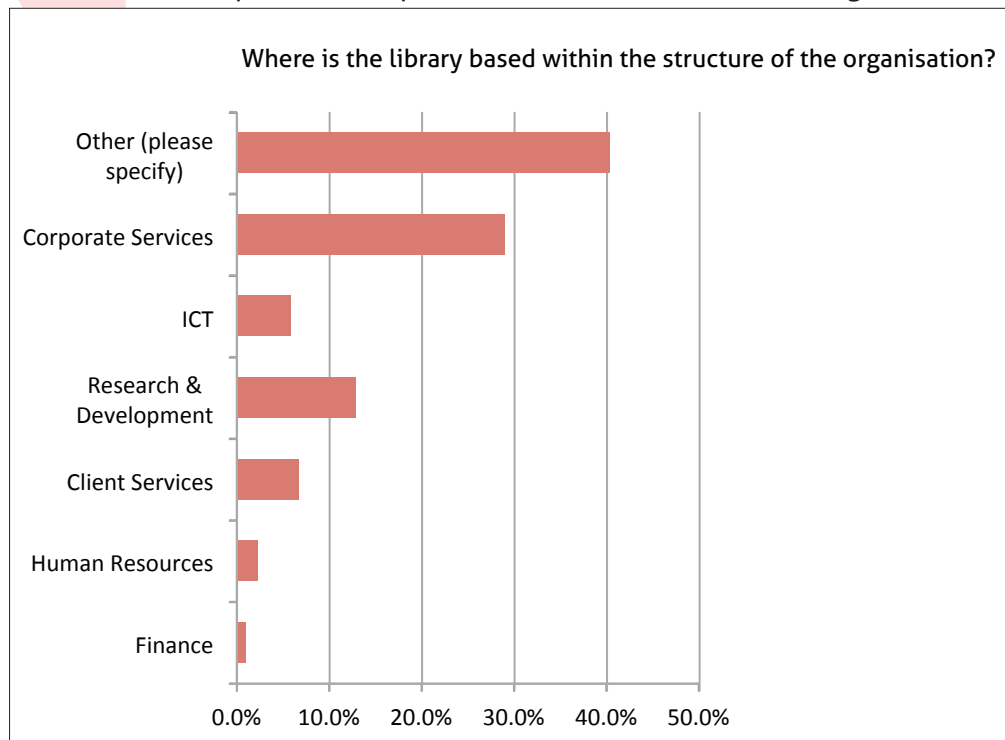
## Libraries Australia membership

- 164 (71.3%) respondents' library was a member of Libraries Australia
- 137 provided their library service NUC symbol

# GOVERNANCE

## Where the library is based within the structure of the organisation

There is no standard place where special libraries fit within their host organisations.



answered question 256

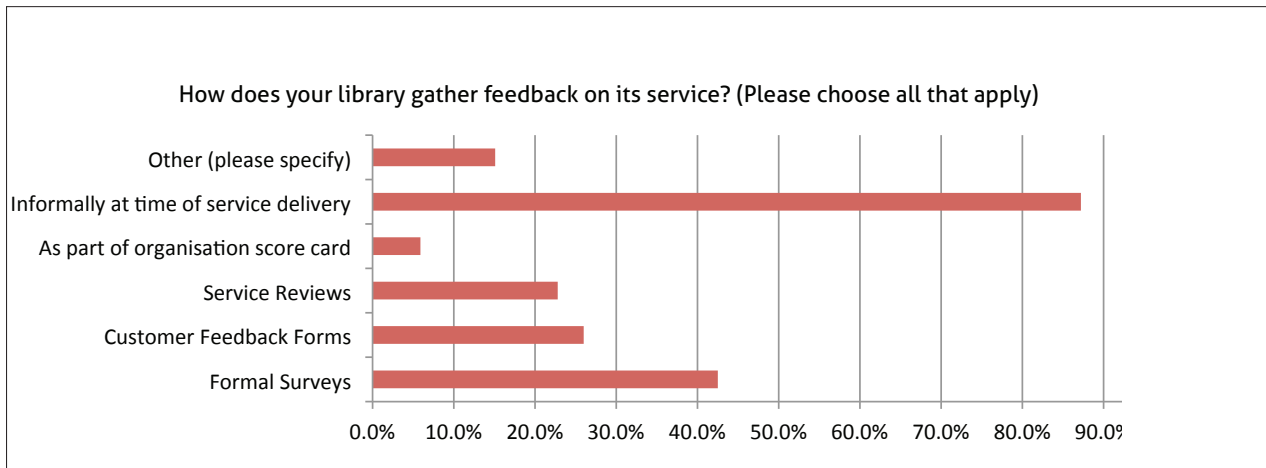
- 28% (71) respondents reported their library service was based within Corporate Services
- 'Other' responses included ICT, Information Services, and Education.
- Who library managers reports to in their organisation is evenly spread between executive, senior management and middle management.
- In smaller organisations library managers are more likely to report directly to someone at the executive level of their organisation.

## Library Reference group /committee

- 82% (185) respondents do not have a reference group or committee for their library service
- The most common role of committees/reference groups that do exist is to provide advice to the manager of the library service.

## Feedback On Library Service

- The most common method of obtaining feedback on the operation of the library service is informal at time of service delivery 87% (191)



answered question 219

## Policies

| Documents produced by the library service | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Strategic Plan                            | 25.8%            | 58             |
| Business/ Operational Plan                | 33.8%            | 76             |
| Marketing Plan                            | 11.1%            | 25             |
| Collection Development Policy             | 57.8%            | 130            |
| Service Level Agreements                  | 18.7%            | 42             |
| Customer Service Charter                  | 11.6%            | 26             |
| Risk Management Plan                      | 9.8%             | 22             |
| OH&S Policy                               | 2.7%             | 6              |
| Annual Report                             | 22.2%            | 50             |
| Standard Operating Procedures/Manual      | 53.8%            | 121            |
| Other Policies                            | 19.6%            | 44             |
| Other (please specify)                    | 17.8%            | 40             |

answered 225

- Over 50% of respondents reported their library service produces a Collection Development Policy and Standard Operating Procedures/Manual.
- 38% produced a business/operational plan and 22% an annual report.
- 11% of respondents indicated their library has a marketing plan.
- 'Other' documents reported include: monthly statistics, some others reported producing none of these documents.

## Development and Planning Activities

- 59% (129) of respondents indicated they participate in organisation planning and development activities.
- Information management, knowledge management and organisational committees are some of the areas where library staff are involved.

## Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

- 34% (74) of respondents indicated their library has KPIs.
- Of these the most common KPIs described are statistically based: including data on numbers of loans, searches etc.
- Timeliness of service delivery is another measure cited by some respondents.
- Some others had library KPIs tied to those of their organisation.

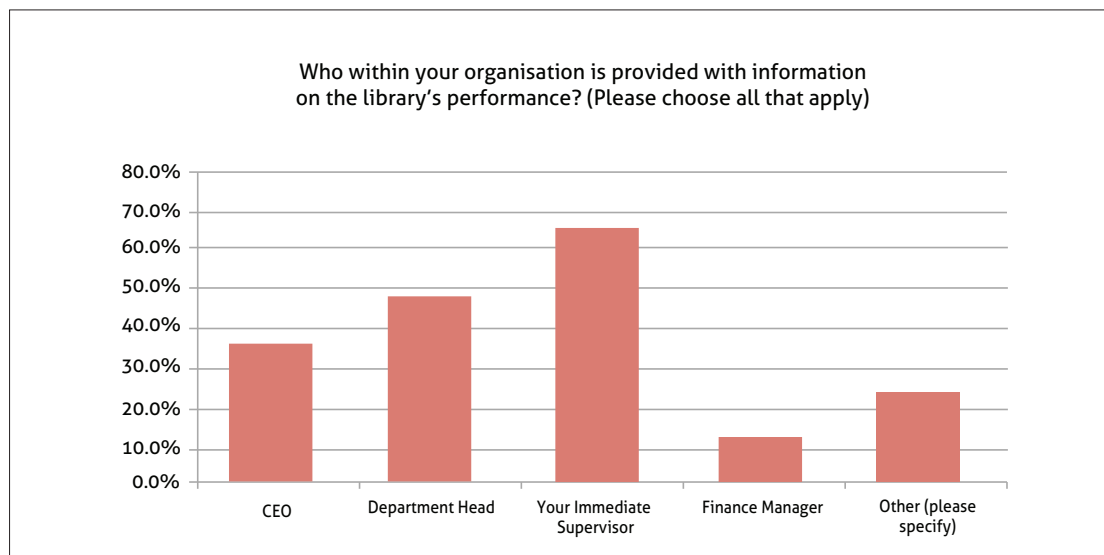
## Costing Services & Cost Benefit

- 64% (141) respondents reported that their library service do not cost services
- 66% (141) are unable to demonstrate the value of the library service to the organisation.

Responses which showed the measurement of library service benefit included:

- Comparing the cost of the library performing the research as opposed to the cost of a professional researcher, or even the client themselves, given the efficiency we have in finding and evaluating information sources.
- Keeping statistics on articles obtained via Gratisnet – can calculate cost if had to purchase these online, plus staff time
- Benefit calculator – comparing our services to what staff would pay if they had to go to an external supplier

## Reporting on library performance



- 'Other' included providing information on the library's performance to the Chief Operating Officer, the Board, and in some law libraries to the partners.
- A number of respondents do not provide information on the library service to anyone.

**Benchmarking Services**

- 84.5% (186) responses do not benchmark their service against other libraries or service providers.
- Of the 15% who did benchmark the Australian Health Libraries Benchmarking Group, Parliamentary Libraries and AGLIN were mentioned by a number of respondents.
- A few others indicated they benchmarked on an ad hoc basis if their library service was under review or the department they worked in was being restructured.

# GENERAL

## Profile of Survey Respondents

- 60% have worked in the special library sector for more than 10 years
- 46% moved to special libraries from another library sector
- 73% are managers of the library service
- 92.3% have formal library qualifications
- 52% are personal members of ALIA
- 88% are female
- 54% are 50+
- 64% work fulltime
- 32% earn \$61-\$80,000
- 23% earn \$81-\$100,000

## Views of Survey Respondents

### Importance of Skills and Knowledge for Special Librarian

Respondents were asked to rate the important of a list of skills and knowledge for special librarians.

By combining responses of 'extremely important' and 'very important' the table below ranks the most important skills and knowledge for a special librarian.

| <i>Ranking</i> | <i>Skill &amp; Knowledge</i>           |
|----------------|--|
| 1              | Information & Communication Technology |
| 2              | Library qualifications                 |
| 3              | Resource Management                    |
| 4              | Strategic Planning                     |
| 5              | Marketing                              |
| 6              | Subject specialisation                 |

answered question 315

### Job Satisfaction and Confidence Levels

By combining responses of 'strongly agree' and 'agree' the percentages below show the satisfaction and confidence levels of respondents.

- 96% of respondents enjoy working in the special library sector
- 85% are satisfied in their current role
- 62% are confident about the future of the special library sector
- 68% are confident about the future of the library they work in now

### Future Work Plans

- 65% (204) respondents plan to continue in the same job over the next 3 years
- 12.5 % (39) respondents would like to be working in another special library
- 11.5% (36) respondents plan to retire in the next 3 years
- 10% (32) respondents would like another job in the library they are currently working in.



## SUMMARY

The purpose of this study was to enable ALIA, special libraries members and employers (management) to gain a better understanding of the current state of specialist information services in Australia.

The data collected provides an extremely valuable picture of the operation of 300 special libraries in Australia. The survey supports the aim of the ALIA Special Library Advisory Committee (SLAC) to provide a better understanding of the current state of specialist information services in Australia.

The majority of respondents to this survey work in libraries where there is at least one library professional and less than 3 staff. The services they provide are primarily traditional library services.

Most reported little change in the client base or staffing over the last 5 years. Very few used a structured method to monitor the performance of their library service and even fewer were able to measure the cost benefit of their library service to the host organisation.

A summary of the statistical results of the survey are listed below:

- 74% of responses came from libraries based in capital cities
- 52% of responses came from government based libraries
- The types of libraries covered in the survey are diverse – the largest response rate (28%) was from health/medicine sector
- There is no clear pattern of where libraries are based within their parent organisation or the seniority of the person they report to
- 87% of respondents reported that their library gathered feedback on its service informally at the time of service delivery – this was the most common method of gathering feedback
- 34% of respondents have KPIs for their library service
- 63% of respondents indicated their library service did not cost its services or was able to demonstrate the value of the library to the organisation.
- 15% of respondents regularly benchmark their service against other library services
- 70% of respondents worked in libraries which employ 1-3 staff and only 12 respondents worked in libraries that have more than 10 staff
- 18% of respondents have volunteers working in their library service
- 76% of respondents said their library is a corporate member of ALIA and 71% are members of Libraries Australia
- 80% of respondents said there has been no change in the number of library service points in their organisation over the last 5 years
- Internal users (97%), Other libraries (57%), Researchers (52%) External Organisations (45%) and Students (43%) were the most frequently identified client bases identified by special libraries
- 86% of respondents reported that their library had a budget of < \$1.5 million while 43% reported an annual budget of < 200,000. 10% of respondents did not know what their library's annual budget was
- Collection sizes ranged from less than 5,000 to more than 1 million items
- 140 responding libraries hold collections of specialist material
- 71% of respondents indicated their library service participates in networks or resource sharing
- Cataloguing (91%), document supply (90%), ready reference enquiries (87%), research (86%) current awareness services (84%), and central ordering (84%) were the most frequently identified services provided by special libraries

## Profile of Survey Respondents

60% have worked in the special library sector for more than 10 years  
46% moved to special libraries from another library sector  
73% are managers of the library service  
92.3% have formal library qualifications  
52% are personal members of ALIA  
88% are female  
54% are 50+  
64% work fulltime  
32% earn \$61-\$80,000  
23% earn \$81-\$100,000

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- ALIA broadly publicises the results of this 2010 survey of Australian Special Libraries.
- ALIA Special Library Advisory Committee (SLAC) develops a small set of interview/focus group questions to elicit expectations of non-library senior managers of their organisation's library service, especially those who have line responsibility for the library service. The set of questions could then be distributed to Australian special library managers to use in their interaction with the senior managers of their parent organisation.
- Conduct another shorter version of this survey in 3 years time in order to monitor the development of special libraries in Australia

# APPENDIX 1 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The survey was designed by SLAC in September – October 2010 with the support of an external consultant. ALIA provided access to its corporate Surveymonkey account.

Topics covered by the survey included: demographics; services; budgets; collections; governance and general information on library staff.

A pilot survey was tested by members of SLAC in late September.

The survey was designed to enable respondents who are not managers of their organisation's library service to skip questions about the operation and management of the library service.

The final survey was emailed by members of the committee (Louise Segafredo and Andrew Meier) to special libraries in Australia on the 5 November 2010.

An email link to the survey was sent to individuals email addresses provided by members of SLAC. A reminder email was sent to individuals email addresses on 11 November. The advertised closing date for the survey was 19 November and the final close off was on 24 November.

## APPENDIX 2 TYPE OF LIBRARIES

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Accounting                                 | Health/ Medicine                                    |
| Agriculture/Environment                    | Higher Education Sciences and Ministries            |
| Anthropology/native title/land rights      | Intellectual and developmental disability           |
| Architecture and Town Planning             | International development and foreign aid           |
| Archival                                   | Justice   |
| Art  | Law   |
| Astronomical                               | Metaphysical, philosophy, occult, religion, science |
| Audit/Tax/Accounting                       | Mining  |
| Australian history                         | Museum  |
| Botanical                                  | Music   |
| Business                                   | OH&S and Workers Compensation                       |
| Communications                             | Ornithology   |
| Conservation                               | Philatelic  |
| Consulting Engineers                       | Planning – urban, regional                          |
| Criminology                                | Policing / Criminology                              |
| Culture                                    | Politics and current affairs                        |
| Current affairs                            | Public  |
| Defence/Military                           | Public housing                                      |
| Disability                                 | Public Sector/Auditing                              |
| Education & Training                       | Recreational  |
| Education and Religion                     | Religion  |
| Education                                  | Research  |
| Emergency Management                       | Science/Technology                                  |
| Emergency services - training and research | Social policy                                       |
| Engineering                                | Social Sciences                                     |
| Fisheries                                  | Social Welfare                                      |
| Foreign Language                           | Socio-legal research                                |
| Freemasonry & related areas                | Public administration                               |
| Gay studies                                | Speleology  |
| Government                                 | Sport / Research                                    |
| Government - Statistical Organisation      | Trade union   |
| Government, Public sector, Treasury        | Transport   |
|  | Victimology / Social work                           |
|  | Welfare and social justice                          |

## Disclaimer

The information contained in this report is based on the data provided in the ALIA Special Library Survey November 2010.

While the information is provided in good faith the author does not warrant the accuracy of the information nor assume legal responsibility for it, or any damage resulting from reliance on, or the use of the information provided. Neither is the author responsible for any negligence of the client or other persons with respect to any use of the information.

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*Note: This is a standard disclaimer used for consultancy reports*



**ALIA SPECIAL LIBRARIES SURVEY**  
Report DECEMBER 2010