

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Flat out like a lizard drinking - is how **Margaret Maes Axtmann**, the 1999-2000 President of the *American Association of Law Libraries (AALL)*, sums up her impressions of the IALL 18th Course in International Law Librarianship in Melbourne, Australia, in the *November 1999 AALL Spectrum*. In another *AALL* publication, the February 2000 issue of the *FCIL Newsletter*, **Margareta Horiba** of Tulane University School of Law Library enthusiastically concludes her report: "With this course the Australian law librarians have raised the standards for what a meeting of this kind can be like - a true learning experience in a delightful setting. It was a privilege to attend."

The credit for the success of the 18th Course goes to the two coordinators, IALL Board liaison **Jacqueline Elliott** and Monash University Law Librarian **Nicholas Pengelley**.

Jacqueline Elliott has been the Court Librarian at the High Court of Australia for the past 14 years. Previously, she worked as Law Librarian at the University of Papua New Guinea; Deputy Law Librarian, University of Adelaide; and Assistant Law Librarian, University of the West Indies. During the years at UPNG she made two collecting trips to the Pacific Islands to start up the Pacific Law Collection in the Law Library at UPNG, Port Moresby. She maintains her interest in and contacts with the Pacific jurisdictions and is currently Coordinator of the Pacific Twinning Project of the *Australian Law Librarians' Group*. Jacqui was the Editor of the *Australian Law Librarian* from 1993-95 and has published widely, both books and articles, on Pacific law and legal bibliography. She has been a member of the Board of Directors of the *IALL* since 1995.

Nicholas Pengelley added drama to the closing banquet by his surprise announcement that he not only was about to leave his current position as the Law Divisional Librarian of Monash University Law School, but that he also was leaving his native Australia: he had just accepted the position of *Center for Innovation Law and Policy Librarian* at the University of Toronto in Canada. Nick's prior job experiences include Director of the Australian

Taxation Office's Library Network, Senior Reference Librarian at the High Court of Australia, and Librarian of the South Australian Legal Services Commission. Nick was also Convenor of the ALTA University Law Librarians' Interest Group from 1993-1999. He is qualified in both law and librarianship and has completed an LLM at Monash and is currently working on his PhD thesis on a topic of private international law.

Inasmuch as this issue is entirely devoted to the proceedings of the 18th Course in Melbourne, I am particularly indebted to the coordinators for their organizational skills and for their exemplary preparation of the speakers: most of the papers were in final form in time for the Conference. Below follow biographies, in alphabetical order, of the contributors to this issue. The high caliber of the faculty speaks for itself and is another tribute to Jacqui and Nick.

Marie-Louise Bernal