MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS, held in the Menzies Library, Australian National University on Wednesday, 3rd November, 1965, at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT:


CHAIRMAN:

The meeting met under the chairmanship of Mr. J.J. Graneek.

MEMBERSHIP:

There was some discussion about the presence at the meeting of both Mr. Metcalfe and Mr. Horton. Members felt that it was important for C.A.U.L. to continue to benefit from the advice and help of Mr. Metcalfe, but that the procedure for inviting non-members to meetings should be clarified.

Finally it was resolved that membership of the Committee should be restricted to the librarians of universities represented on the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, with the addition of the Librarian of the University of Adelaide at Bedford Park, but that the Committee should be able to invite any individual to be present at any or all of its meetings.

In response to a question the chairman ruled that if a Librarian could not attend personally then he had the right to send his nominated deputy to the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

The minutes of a meeting of C.A.U.L. held on the 22nd August 1965, were taken as read and confirmed.
BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

(a) Establishment of C.A.U.L.

The Secretary reported that a letter signed by the Chairman, Mr. Harrison Bryan, had been despatched to the Chairman of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee and to the Chairman of the Australian Universities Commission advising them of the formation of C.A.U.L. A copy of these letters is appended to the minutes.

(b) Establishment of new university libraries

The Secretary reported that he had not prepared a draft of a letter to the Australian Universities Commission as had been requested at the last meeting. He had postponed drawing up the letter in view of the imminent report by the National Book Resources Development Committee of the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services, in view of the appearance of volume III of the Martin Committee Report on Tertiary Education, and in view of the fact that the Chairman had only recently advised the Australian Universities Commission of the formation of C.A.U.L. and thought it might not be tactful to follow this immediately with various requests on policy matters.

After some discussion the Committee approved of the Secretary's views and resolved that no further action should be taken in the matter until A.A.C.O.B.S. had considered the National Book Resources Development Committee report towards the end of November. It was further resolved that a meeting of C.A.U.L. would be called on Saturday, 27th November, 1965, immediately following the completion of the A.A.C.O.B.S. meeting.

(c) Inter-library loans

Several Librarians reported that they had investigated inter-library loan costs and invoicing procedures since the last meeting. After considerable discussion it was resolved that the university librarians should maintain their existing policies on charges for inter-library loans, but that in those libraries which charged for copying services, effort should be directed towards achieving a position where charges for jobs which cost less than £1 each be abandoned.

(d) Standards of university library provision

It was resolved that no further action be taken in this matter. Mr. Horton referred members to the Report of the National Book Resources Development Committee which included some statements on standards.
(e) University library statistics

It was resolved that when members were providing statistics for publication in the University and College Library Section News Sheet, they should include, with the information about salary ranges, the number of library staff who were being paid the various salary rates concerned.

STATUS AND SALARY OF THE LIBRARIAN IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA:

It was reported to the meeting that the Librarianship at this new institution had been advertised at $4,550 Australian which was considerably below the level at which the first professorial positions in that institution had been advertised. Mr. Stockdale reported that he understood professorial salaries had been determined by taking the Australian professorial rate as the basic salary and adding the Public Service Territory loading. It was not known what was the basis of the salaries advertised for the Librarianship and the Registrarship.

It was resolved that the Secretary should write to the Chairman or Secretary of the Interim Council of the University asking for information about the reasons for not adopting the same practice as in Australia where Librarianships in all universities were equated with professorial positions as far as salary is concerned.

OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Central Cataloguing for Australian university libraries

Mr. Clark reported to the meeting that a report on central cataloguing had been prepared by the university librarians some years ago but that action on the report had not proceeded. He wished to advise the meeting that central cataloguing services were about to be reconsidered by the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

Mr. Metcalfe reported to the meeting that A.A.C.O.B.S. was considering central cataloguing in all its aspects and that a plenary conference was likely to be convened by A.A.C.O.B.S. in 1966 to discuss the whole question. He thought that hasty action by the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee would be unwise in view of A.A.C.O.B.S. action, and he urged Librarians to inform their own Vice-Chancellors of the A.A.C.O.B.S. deliberations.

(b) University and College Library Section Questionnaire on University Libraries

Mr. Fielding reported to the Committee that he had begun to tabulate for the Section the replies he had received from
Dear Mr. Bryan,

I am desired by the Chairman of the Australian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee to inform you that your letter of 30 September, addressed to Dr. Madgwick, was tabled at the recent meeting of the Committee, held in Western Australia. I am to inform you that the Committee noted the formation of a Committee of University Librarians, and it agreed that while it could not accept any financial commitment in consequence of the formation of your Committee it would be happy to avail itself of the services of the Committee of University Librarians where appropriate.

Yours sincerely

(signed) (R.G.H. Irving),
Secretary.