Presentation at LAA House

Warren Horton receives fellowship

General Council presented Warren Horton with his Fellowship at a small function on Friday 21 March at LAA House following the close of the day's business.

The presentation was made by the President of the LAA, Ian McCallum, who drew attention to the great contribution that Warren has made to the Association and the profession. Ian specifically mentioned Warren's role in the Sheldon Award, which established a clear professional path for librarians and a separate career structure for para-professionals at the State Library of NSW, and the LERN (Library of NSW: Enquiry Into Role and Needs) Report.

Above: Bill Linklater and Mike Fitzgerald showing that librarians can have a different image. Below: Jane La Scala, new Victorian State Librarian with Warren Horton who held that post before becoming Director General of the National Library.

Warren's work for the Association has been regularly reported in Incite and readers do not need a detailed account of this. His most recent achievement has been the Convenorship of the Corporate Plan and Review Committee whose report is currently under consideration by the General Council and the membership at large.

Executive Director

Conference News

Speaker Profile

Dr Ching-Chih Chen

1985 has been hailed as a milestone in the development of videodisc-based applications in information services. We have witnessed the explosive growth of CD-ROM and optical videodisc-based information products, which undoubtedly will change libraries' mode of operations and services.

Laser optical videodisc technology is unique in that it enables high-density storage of multimedia, multi-formatted and multi-dimensional information all on one disc.

Dr Ching-chih Chen (pictured), Professor and Associate Dean of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, Boston, and one of several keynote speakers at the LAA Biennial Conference in Darwin, will be discussing the characteristics of optical videodisc technology in relation to the potential for libraries.

In addition to her numerous journal articles, Dr Chen is author and editor of fourteen books in areas of information management and technology, including operations research, zero-base budgeting, online bibliographic databases, numeric databases and microcomputers. She has been active on many fronts of microcomputer and high-tech related applications, and has produced the Microdisc Software Directory.

Project Director...research projects...

Dr Chen has been Principal Investigator and Project Director of numerous major US Government-supported research projects, which include the well-known information need assessment study and the internationally known interactive videodisc project on the First Emperor of China and the Qin Terra-Cotta Figures of Warriors and Horses.

Dr Chen is a sought after international consultant, active in many professional organizations. Her presentation at the Conference will be vividly illustrated by an online demonstration of the interactive videodisc, entitled, The First Emperor of China, a product of PROJECT EMPEROR, to which she is the Principal Investigator and Project Director. PROJECT EMPEROR: 'China's Treasure Revealed via Videodisc Technology', supported by the Humanities Project in Libraries, US National Endowment for the Humanities, applies the latest in videodisc technology in order to present and interpret a major historic/archaeological period of China's past. The site and artifacts to be recorded and presented are from the period of the First Emperor of China, including the terra-cotta figures of warriors and horses near his tomb in Xian.

Valuable insight into new technology

As well as being visually stimulating, Dr Chen's session will certainly provide a valuable insight into a new technology which holds great promise for information organisation, storage, retrieval and transfer, and should have lasting effects on libraries and their future services.

Northern Territory Film Library

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