



## President's Letter

13 August 2018

I hope you were one of more than 600 delegates who joined us on the Gold Coast at the end of July for the Asia-Pacific Library and Information Conference (APLIC). The event was held on the land of the Yugambah peoples, to whom we paid our respects and offered our deep gratitude for making us so welcome on their country. Both of our morning welcome-to-country events were informative, moving and greatly appreciated by all delegates.

I found it to be a stimulating three days, based on the energetic conference theme of 'roar, leap, dare'. Our keynote speakers ranged from the deeply moving to the frankly hilarious. Their presentations were intellectually stimulating and they urged us to think differently, to be even more aware of the power of stories and the inherent strength of our library sector.

In between the keynotes, we had enlightening panel discussions, fascinating concurrent sessions, lightning talks and lunchtime poster sessions. We were joined by writers and publishers, and delegates staggered out of the exhibition hall, their arms full of books signed by their favourite authors.

By the last day, I had a full note book and a head full of ideas to take back and share with colleagues.

It's at a conference like this one that I realise how much we rely on partnership and collaboration across the library world. APLIC highlighted ALIA's international focus, partnering with the Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (LIANZA) and the Library Association of Singapore (LAS), and welcoming speakers and delegates from all over the Asia Pacific. It highlighted the importance of our industry partners, without whom the conference could not have taken place.

APLIC didn't happen by accident. It took the creativity and hard work of the conference program committee, chaired by former ALIA Director Marian Morgan-Bindon, to create an environment that made learning, networking and intense professional development feel like fun. I am sure delegates returned to their organisations re-energised and ready to roar.

If you couldn't join us at APLIC, please consider joining us at the Information Online conference at the Hilton in Sydney, in February. Registrations are now open. And if you did make it to APLIC, you won't need any convincing that attending an ALIA conference is an unmissable career-enhancing opportunity.

Best wishes

Lyndall Ley Osborne