



ALIA research agenda

ALIA conducts, commissions and contracts, supports, encourages and promotes research to move library and information services profession and industry forward.

In particular ALIA seeks through an evidence-based approach to

- Inform its policy development, strategic planning, marketing and advocacy.
- Underpin innovation and improvement in professional practice and professional development.
- Underpin innovation and improvement in service delivery in libraries and information agencies and in the information industry.
- Build the evidence base for the determination of the value and impact of library and information services in Australia.
- Provide input to curriculum design and development in schools of library and information studies.

ALIA's research agenda is informed by its strategic objectives and the [2014 Middleton report](#), and is currently focused on the following areas:

- Industry metrics and employment trends (workforce planning; employment trends, broad brush industry intelligence and statistics).
- Profession metrics and trends highlighting new skills and knowledge requirements e.g. data management, digital humanities, social media, digital literacies, bibliometrics, working with linked data, digital curation.
- Demonstrating the value of LIS research to parent organisations.
- Understanding how the evolving digital environment changes professional practice.
- Identification and remediation of skills gaps as professionals continue to transition within the digital environment.
- Research skills required in the 21st century.
- Professional development opportunities and emphases.
- Likely professional futures for LIS graduates.
- Requirements for LIS education programs to prepare graduates for their professional futures.
- Innovation in service delivery.



- Benchmarking of excellence and best practice in libraries and information agencies.
- Analysis of social demographics.
- Working with social data (new conceptual frameworks, new methodologies required for learning from social data; ethics of working with social data).
- Collaboration with related sectors such as the museum and gallery sector, business organisations, publishing and bioinformatics fields, new modes of scholarship, digital humanities.
- Demonstrating the value and impact of LIS professionals, making their invisible work visible.

Adopted 2015

