CAVAL OPEN DAY

Stephen Abram—Panel at Open Day

With around 60 visitors attending, our inaugural Open Day event was a great success. Previously, we’d hosted an annual Member’s Day, but with a raising awareness of CAVAL’s services and activities across the wider information sector, and encouraging new and more widely varied members, we decided on an Open Day including all those interested in CAVAL’s activities.

The months of enthusiastic planning from staff, inspired to ‘showcase’ their roles and activities, brought a great final result. Everyone pitched in, from the big (and long-overdue!) tidy up, to designing and creating decorations, ordering promotional goodies and catering supplies, and setting up equipment and displays for the day.

Of course, the drawcard of the day, was our Guest Speaker, Stephen Abram, ‘Futurist’ from Sirsi-Dynix. It was standing room only, as he facilitated an interactive question and answer session with a panel of young adults, to allow us to glean an insight into a huge range of issues they deal with, how they think about things, and what their expectations are, and to reflect on that feedback and how it may affect how we cater to this generation as librarians. A rare and fascinating session, eliciting much animated conversation amongst audience members.

After Stephen’s session, visitors were invited to explore CAVAL. Tours of the CARM Centre were an obvious hit, and the information booths displayed by CAVAL’s various committees gave them a better idea of the activities we’re actively involved in aimed at improving our industry. Another focus for our visitors, was the Cataloguing department, generating lots of interest, particularly CAVAL’s multilingual capabilities.

Having planned a sausage sizzle outdoors, the weather was kind to us and the sun shone all day. Garden chairs outside encouraged people to sit and eat at their leisure, and provided a great opportunity for lots of networking with colleagues. It wasn’t all work though – our roving band ‘Jugularity’, with their Hawaiian shirts and catchy tunes, added just the touch of festive atmosphere which made the day.

We’re looking forward to our next Open Day, and whether you attended this year or not, if there’s something you’d like to see at CAVAL, let us know so we can plan for it next time!
Training Notice Board

Marketing fresh ideas:

In November, CAVAL Training is pleased to launch MARKETING FOR NON-MARKETING PROFESSIONALS, a dynamic one day program for library and information professionals presented by award-winning marketing strategist, Duncan McLachlan.

Duncan McLachlan is the Creative Leader of Futurecentric Ltd and the Strategic Marketing Manager at Wellington City Libraries, New Zealand. Duncan’s work focuses on developing libraries as market-led organizations and his workshops promise a refreshing, stimulating and a singularly unique way of thinking for libraries!

- SYDNEY, Tuesday November 6th, 2007 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
- CANBERRA, Wednesday November 7th, 2007 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
- MELBOURNE, CAVAL, Thursday November 8th, 2007 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
- BRISBANE, Tuesday November 27th, 2007 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
- ADELAIDE, Wednesday November 28th, 2007 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
- PERTH, Friday November 30th, 2007 9:30 am - 4:30 pm.

And NEW for VALA 2008:

LIBRARY IT: LEADERSHIP PERSPECTIVES AND STRATEGIES - a one day workshop for library systems and IT professionals presented by May Chang, Head of Library IT Services at the University of Maryland.

Information technology (IT) is in a pivotal position in libraries as we expand beyond computers, networks, and systems into the fluid and dynamic virtual world of social networking, Web 2.0, the NextGen OPAC, open source software, and other emerging technologies. Developments often seem to be at warp speed as library IT staff attempt to provide leadership while managing technology growth and user expectations. This one day course provides a broad overview of the perspectives, practices and strategies in leadership of library IT services.

- MELBOURNE, Monday 4th February 2008, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm - VALA conference delegates just $378.40 (GST inc)
- SYDNEY, Friday February 8th, 2008 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
- BRISBANE, Tuesday February 12th, 2008 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
- PERTH, Thursday February 14th, 2008 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

The CAVAL customised training advantage:

Need training not currently scheduled? Call the CAVAL Training team on 03 9450 5508 or email training@caval.edu.au and let’s see if we can make it happen!

For the latest course information, visit http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/calendar/
CAVAL Going Forward—CEO

In my first few months as CEO of CAVAL, I have spent time getting to know members and customers and understanding the wide range of activities that CAVAL undertakes on behalf of the library and information services sector. These include the extensive range of training courses, cataloguing and end processing services of library materials in over 70 languages, system support for ILL loan (VDX) and plagiarism detection software systems, storage and other member services such as Reciprocal Borrowing and Expert Committees. During these first months I have also been getting to know our staff and contractors and the wide range of experience brought to the needs of the library and information sector in Australia and now also to libraries in Singapore, Hong Kong and the U.S. I look forward to working with this talented team as we extend services to more libraries and knowledge organisations.

The most immediate challenge for the future has been the planning of the CAVAL Stage 2 repository CARM2. The original CARM store, built in 1996, is now at over 80% capacity and a study commissioned by CAVAL early in 2007 showed a demand for off-site storage for more than 3 million additional volumes over the next 2 decades. During 2007, CAVAL has commissioned a Schematic Design and Cost Plan for a second stage facility to be built adjacent to the existing store to take advantage of the staffing and services available from CAVAL. We are currently engaged in negotiations with member organisations regarding the funding for reserved space in the new facility. We hope to have this project under way early in 2008 and ready for occupation in 2009. For a description and drawings of the proposed building check our web site http://www.caval.edu.au/carm/pst/carm/carm2_proposal.shtml.

If you would like to discuss any further ideas you have for ways CAVAL can assist your library or information service, don’t hesitate to contact me at CAVAL.

Janette Wright  
CEO