
ALPSP appoints Jill Tolson as Business Manager

The Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers announced on 28 November 2001 that it has appointed Jill Tolson as Business Manager. Jill will be responsible for running the day-to-day business of the Association, acting as second-in-command to the Secretary-General, Sally Morris. She will join ALPSP in March 2002.

Jill is well known and respected in the world of learned and professional publishing. She ran the UK Serials Group from 1989 to 2000, developing the organisation into a significant force in the field of scholarly communication, with some 600 members worldwide. Since 2000 she has been Business Manager of Cranfield University Press.

Sally Morris said: 'We are delighted to welcome Jill to ALPSP. Her experience and her reputation will be invaluable in helping the Association to grow and develop.'

Jill is very pleased to be offered the opportunity of joining ALPSP and is looking forward to working with Sally and her team on developing their future plans for the Association.

LISU Annual library statistics 2001

The 2001 edition of the LISU annual library statistics series, published in December, summarises trends in provision and performance of libraries of all types throughout the UK, drawing together data of interest to librarians and library managers from a wide range of sources. This edition features trend analyses of libraries in institutions of higher education from 1991-92 to 1999-2000. It also includes summaries of the most recently available statistics on NHS and Government Department libraries and the three UK national libraries.

Overall, library spending in higher education libraries is increasing faster than general inflation, both in total and per FTE student. Expenditure on information provision accounts for around one third of the total, and has risen by 31% over the last five years, to £145 million over the sector as a whole. In 1999-2000, electronic resources accounted for 11% of this total. The total number of libraries is falling, as facilities are concentrated on major sites.

In contrast to the picture for public libraries, staff numbers in academic libraries are increasing, although not sufficiently rapidly to keep up with the increase in student numbers. Staff costs have gone up in line with the increase in staff numbers, and now account for around half of all academic library expenditure. Average opening hours are also increasing, and are now above 60 hours per week in all sectors. The increasing emphasis on electronic resources is matched by increasing numbers of workstations available in the library – over the sector as a whole there is now one library workstation for every 45 students, compared to one for every 86 students just five years ago.

LISU Annual Library Statistics 2001, Creaser, C *et al*, 213 pages, A4 half Canadian bound, ISBN 1 901786 46 3 (LIC research report 125), is published at £35.00 (post paid UK) and is available from LISU, Loughborough University, Loughborough, Leices LE11 3TU, Tel: 01509 223071, Fax: 01509 223072, E-mail: lisu@lboro.ac.uk and through Tele-Ordering.