

2019 ANZREG Chair's Report to INUG

August 2019

Introduction

ANZREG is a recognized forum for the International Group of Ex Libris Users (IGeLU) and Ex Libris. The group, led by a committee, strives to promote communication among users of Ex Libris software product at different institutions in Australia and New Zealand. ANZREG provides feedback locally and internationally to IGeLU. Membership is free to Australian and New Zealand libraries and institutions using one or more of Ex Libris products.

Snapshot

- ANZREG has 65 institutional members across Australia and New Zealand
- 327 members of the ANZREG-L mailing list (list is currently hosted by the State Library of Queensland)
- Activities coordinated by the ANZREG Committee – elected by the membership every 2 years.

Current Status

We have had a number of committee changes this year with new roles and an increase in the number of committee members to ensure a better spread of portfolios and workloads. The current ANZREG Committee is comprised of the following:

Chair	Cate Bardwell	University of Otago
Co-Deputy/Chair elect	Amelia Rowe	RMIT University
Co-Deputy/Chair elect	Stacey van Groll	University of Queensland
Secretary	Lynne Billington	State Library, New South Wales
Financial Officer	Annette Schryver	Macquarie University
Programme Coordinator	Sue Harmer	University of New South Wales
Communications Officer	Stacey van Groll	University of Queensland
Web Manager	Deborah Fitchett	Lincoln University
NERS Voting Coordinator	Amelia Rowe	RMIT University
2019 Conference Organizer	Peta Hopkins	Bond University
General Member	Julie Wright	University of Adelaide
General Member (past Chair)	Megan Lee	Monash University

Activities to Date

Creation of new Committee Role NERS Voting Co-ordinator

The Committee actively encourages the ANZREG region to be actively involved in NERS. To support this, a new committee role of NERS Voting Co-ordinator was established (filled by Amelia Rowe).

Amelia will be leading discussions with members at the 2019 ANZREG Conference to develop a regional strategy around NERS voting.

2019 Webinar Series

The Committee made the decision to run webinar series June to mid-November annually. To date there have been two webinars:

- Feedback from ELUNA - presented by Dave Allen, Anna Clatworthy and Alison Neil. Attracted 31 participants, including Israel and Lingnan University (Hong Kong)
- Leganto Librarians' Dashboard Webinar – presented by Jessie Donaghey (Bond University)
- Alma Fulfilment Network - presented by Matt Hooper (Flinders University), Julie Wright (University of Adelaide) and Renae Anderson (University of South Australia).

ANZREG website

In 2018, the Committee considered the news that IGeLU were setting up a wordpress server to host national UG committee websites. The decision was made to migrate the ANZREG website to the IGeLU server – ANZREG is the first group to have made the move. The Committee took the opportunity to update and streamline content prior to migration. Many thanks to the ANZREG Web Manager Deborah Fitchett (also a new Committee member) and Mark Dehmlow for his support in the migration.

Support for IGeLU 2019

When the first IGeLU conference in the APAC region was announced the ANZREG Committee made support for this event a priority to ensure good representation of the region. To encourage and support as many Australian and New Zealand ANZREG community members as possible to participate in IGeLU 2019, the ANZREG Committee and Ex Libris offered ten, \$1,000 AUD sponsorships to attend IGeLU 2019. Nine sponsorships were awarded.

Planned Activities

ANZREG Conference October 23-24 2019

The ANZREG annual conference showcases customer adoption of Ex Libris products and provides members with the opportunity for face-to-face discussion and dedicated time to consider the prioritization of common customer technical requirements. It is also the venue for the Annual General Meeting.

Typically senior Ex Libris staff attend from the US, Australia and Israel providing detailed system developments; they use the conference as a key means of engaging with the Australasian user community. Owing to the far larger number of Australian customers, the conference is usually held in an Australian main centre. The conference this year will be held at Bond University across 2 days in October and live-streamed via Zoom.

Best Practice & Developers Days October 25 2019

There are two separate days to follow directly on from the Conference; both days provide opportunities for interactive discussions and foster the community's ability to design and share the most effective ways to work with Ex Libris applications.

2019 Upcoming Webinar Series

- Feedback from IGeLU
- Moving to Primo VE

Issues

Alma Release Dates

There is real concern about the January dates across a number of ANZREG institutions. Staff availability is an issue as many institutions e.g. Otago, UNSW and UQ enforce a lengthy close down from December 23 – January 6 for the Christmas and New Year holidays. At other institutions, staff opt to take leave and don't return to work until the end of the first week in January. Based on the current schedule, Alma and Leganto Jan 2020 releases would be applied to Sandbox on Sunday 22 December (which gives staff a maximum of one day to check it) and Production on Sunday, 5 January (staff would return to work after the release had been applied to Production). On a positive note it's good to see the 2020 Alma and Primo release dates available ahead of the calendar year.

ANZREG requested that the January 2020 Production release date be moved from 5 Jan to 12 Jan (following week) and release update moved to 19 Jan. The request was not supported by Ex Libris. The ANZREG committee would like ExLibris to consider changing the January release dates in future release schedules (such as 2021 onwards) to help the ANZREG community better manage the January release.

Micro-languages in Primo

Australian sites are interested in this for their indigenous languages; to date there are 8 cases listed in ANZREG-L discussion: 700084 UNSW, 708362 SLQ, 709160 USQ, 709165 SLNSW, 689637 UQ, 709135 RMIT, 708767 MQ, 710022 Bond. ANZREG would like to see support for ISO 639-3 and Austlang codes on the Primo roadmap, for customers across all deployment models.

CDI Rollout

ANZ institutions have expressed concerns about the CDI rollout coinciding with the start of teaching periods. Many fall into the Phase 2 rollout, Feb 2020 – May 2020.

IGeLU Membership Invoices and renewal process

ANZREG members wish to query the IGeLU invoicing/renewal process. Some Directors have expressed that they will only pay when an invoice is received which might explain why some IGeLU memberships are left unpaid and lapse. The Committee believes that IGeLU should review their invoicing process and send out invoices for payment.

Cate Bardwell

Chair ANZREG

August 2019