

12 **LIBRARIES REVIEW - RECOMMENDATION FOR AN AVCC
STANDING COMMITTEE**

The Board considered a recommendation that a Standing Committee on Information Resources be established, noting the input from the Standing Committee on Planning and Development, the Standing Committee on Libraries, the Australian Academic and Research Network (AARNet) Advisory Board and the Committee of Australian Libraries.

The Board supported the view that library issues were of great importance to the function and mission of universities, and that, particularly in view of the pressing needs of newer universities, the issue should be addressed within the context of wider information technology facilities. It was agreed that there should be close interaction between libraries and information technologies to facilitate joint planning and cooperative mechanisms and that, for this reason, it should be recommended to the AVCC that a Standing Committee on Information Resources should be established.

The Board agreed that the AARNet Advisory Board would become an advisory body to the new Standing Committee. The intent was that both kinds of information, hard-copy and electronic, would be drawn together - as is occurring in many institutions.

The Executive Director highlighted the resource implications in that it was likely that a further staff member would need to be appointed to service the new standing committee and its working parties. The Board accepted the need for this development and the attendant resource implications.

It was resolved:

that the Board recommend to the AVCC the establishment of a new integrated Standing Committee on Information Resources with the following membership and terms of reference:

Membership

The Standing Committee should include in its membership, at senior levels, representation from the Committee of Australian University Libraries, computing services, academic staff and administration.

Terms of Reference

To act as the coordinating and advisory body to the AVCC on university information resources and services, liaising with Commonwealth and State bodies with related terms of reference;

To develop cooperative mechanisms between universities in order to maximise access to information by the university community in the most efficient and cost-effective way. Such mechanisms should encompass:

- (i) resources and their appropriate housing and preservation in all formats; and*
- (ii) delivery*