



ALIA Research Advisory Committee: Terms of reference

These terms of reference set out the roles and responsibilities of the ALIA Research Advisory Committee (ALIA RAC).

Purpose

ALIA RAC is formed to provide advice to the ALIA Board on LIS research and related fields in Australia and internationally.

Responsibilities of ALIA RAC

ALIA RAC is to advise the ALIA Board on:

- The recipient(s) of the bi-annual ALIA Research Grant Award: including establishing assessment criteria, providing guidance on applicant eligibility, and evaluating applications.
- Key areas of research activity, priorities and gaps: including identifying and evaluating significant areas of research activity within the LIS sector, determining research priorities that align with national and international needs, and pinpointing critical gaps that require further exploration.
- Trends, issues and opportunities for LIS research in Australia.
- Responses to research infrastructure policy changes and consultations: the including changes in research infrastructure, funding models, or policies that affect the library and information sector research.
- Collaborative research opportunities: including opportunities for collaborative research within the LIS sector and across interdisciplinary fields, partnerships between libraries, universities, industry bodies, and government agencies to amplify research impact within the Australian LIS sector, and strategies to promote collaboration and facilitate the sharing of resources and expertise
- Research translation activities carried out by ALIA: reviewing and providing guidance on how ALIA translates research findings into practical applications and benefits for the LIS sector, including evaluating how effectively ALIA communicates research outcomes to diverse audiences, including library professionals, policymakers, and the general public.

ALIA RAC may also provide advice if requested on:

- Specific research topics and reports
- Other ALIA research grants and awards: including the development of research proposals and activities undertaken by ALIA and advising on whether ALIA's research initiatives address critical issues in the LIS sector
- Research proposals and activities for ALIA

- ALIA's responses to consultations

Membership

Up to nine (9) Members will be appointed by the ALIA Board.

New Members

An Expression of Interest process will be held when new members are sought, with membership open to all ALIA personal members. ALIA RAC members will assess the applications and make recommendations to the ALIA Board. The ALIA Board will consider the recommendations and make the final determination on appointments.

Members will serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms of three (3) years. Members may be re-elected after a period of three (3) years not on ALIA RAC.

ALIA RAC will elect one member as Chair or two (2) members as Co-Chairs. The maximum term for a Chair is six (6) years.

Relationships

RAC will work collaboratively with ALIA National Office and other ALIA Committees and Groups as required. Groups with a research focus will have a particular relevance.

Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed as required, but not less than three yearly.

