

Convenor's Focus | 2025

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Has your 2025 been as fast paced as mine? It seems health libraries are more in demand than ever before with staff being asked to contribute across their organisations to new and exciting initiatives embedding evidence-based practice and highlighting the essential roles of health librarians.

ALIA HLA has also been extremely busy. After a hectic 2024 with a fabulous face-to-face-conference in Queensland and a myriad of online events, award presentations and projects it feels like we haven't stopped! The strength of HLA is its volunteers who give tirelessly to help our profession. Thank-you! We must also thank our speakers for sharing their work and our fantastic vendors who support us throughout the year. Vendors play an essential role in the work we undertake and library-vendor relationships are imperative to ensure clinicians are getting access to the right information, where they need it to make patient outcomes better.

We love passionate health librarians. Last year we held an event that focused on "Why I love being a hospital librarian" which was inspired by our friends at MLA. You can watch both the US and Australian recordings here: <https://hla.alia.org.au/why-i-love-being-a-hospital-librarian-recording-transcript-courtesy-of-mla/>

If you are after more PD to upskill also check out events page to find the most current information: <https://hla.alia.org.au/>

A review is underway to align the existing ALIA HLA Competencies with the new ALIA Skills, Knowledge and Ethics Framework. If you have feedback on the current competencies and how they might need updating or readjustment please reach out: <https://hla.alia.org.au/publishing-and-communications/#guidelinescompetencies>

HLA has been continuing on with its advocacy efforts which included a submission to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) consultation on the draft Good Institutional Practice Guide to highlight and promote hospital librarians' contributions to research culture and research quality. You can find a copy of the submission here: <https://read.alia.org.au/alia-hla-submission-national-health-and-medical-research-councils-consultation-draft-good>

We are also working on some other initiatives behind the scenes so hope to share these with you in the coming months. Many of these ideas come from members external to the HLA committee so please do send through anything that you think may be of relevance via hla@alia.org.au

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