



Troy Grant
Deputy Premier of NSW
Minister for the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW PRESIDENT OF THE NSW LIBRARY COUNCIL

Former Minister for the Arts and champion of public libraries George Souris has been appointed President of the NSW Library Council through to the end of 2018.

Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts Troy Grant said Mr Souris has been a tireless public servant for many years and we are privileged to have secured his services. The role is an unpaid position.

“Through his time as Minister for the Arts, Mr Souris fiercely campaigned for library digitisation and introduced grants for all 111 country councils to install Wi-Fi at their libraries,” Mr Grant said.

“Mr Souris also secured vital funding for the State Library to acquire the TAL & Dai-ichi Life Derby Collection of 745 drawings and watercolour paintings of Australian flora and fauna from the 1790s which had been considered a missing part of Australia’s colonial past.”

Mr Souris said he was delighted to take on the role and will be calling on his previous experience as Minister for the Arts.

“I’m a staunch advocate for local libraries and I believe the State Library holds the most amazing and historically significant collection in the country. I will work to conserve and improve it throughout my tenure,” Mr Souris said.

Mr Souris also holds positions on three other voluntary boards: Chair of the Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association, a Director of the Australian Film Institute and a Director of the Australian Rugby Foundation.

Mr Grant also thanked outgoing President Andrew Tink for his service. Mr Tink resigned from the role in March this year for personal reasons.

“Mr Tink has made valuable contributions across this and other NSW Government roles and I wish him and his family all the best in the future.”

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