

BCALS Executive Meeting
May 17, 2021, 10:00 am (via Zoom)

Present: Jennifer Bancroft, Estelle Frank, David Gill, Ean Henninger, Janet Hiltz, Sajni Lacey, Reba Ouimet, Melissa Smith, Ashley Edwards (guest speaker)

Agenda:

1. **Called to Order** at 10:01 am
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
 - a. Adopted with no additional items.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meetings (April 19)**
 - a. Adopted with no amendments.
4. **Discussion with Ashley Edwards (25 min.)**
 - a. Partnering on Indigenizing/decolonizing activities
 - Following participation in a lightning talk panel on the topic of decolonization in LIS and library tech education at the 2021 BC Library Conference, Ashley Edwards reached out to a number of library interest groups to continue the conversation on decolonization.
 - Ashley reached out to BCALS, the Public Libraries Interest Group, and the First Nations Interest Group to bring the broader library community together in order to collaborate on efforts towards decolonization and indigenization.
 - There's been a lot of decolonization work done in academic libraries around collection development and classification but not enough work around programming, terminology to use during reference interviews, and supporting colleagues undertaking such work.
 - BCALS sent members a survey a few years ago asking what they saw as priorities for BCALS; one response was that BCALS should collaborate with other library interest groups.
 - The exec discussed with Ashley what BCALS specifically can do. The following ideas were suggested:
 - Adopt a leading role in breaking down silos and facilitating collaboration between libraries and library interest groups
 - Facilitate a journal club
 - Host a meeting (perhaps the Winter Event) on building capacity for decolonization
 - Organize a curated round table to allow participating library workers to share what is happening at their institutions; can then plan for future meetings to discuss specific topics raised

- Organize ongoing annual events and invite library workers from across Canada to speak at them
- Extend BCALS' partnership with IDEAS@UBC
- The theme of the 2021 Keeping it ReAL Conference will be building capacity; Ean and Sajni will speak with the organizing committee about collaborating with BCALS on the event.
- Ean and Sajni will follow up with Ashley to further the conversation of collaborating with other library interest groups on decolonization and indigenization work.

5. Continuing Education Updates (David, Melissa, and Reba)

a. Resume/CV Clinic feedback?

- The CECs shared with the exec feedback on the Resume/CV Clinic.
- They received 24 responses from participating students: 71% of responses from library tech students and 29% from MLIS students.
- The student feedback included the following comments:
 - Participants mostly enjoyed the event (only one participant was not satisfied with the experience)
 - Most were happy participating in a virtual event (one wished the event could have been held in person)
 - Some wished the event could have been longer
 - Many expressed appreciation that their mentors gave them additional time to discuss their resumes
 - 96% of respondents said they would recommend the event to others
- The CECs organizing the event felt that matching students with mentors was quite challenging; students were sometimes vague about their interests and sometimes the CECs were not able to exactly match the interests of students and mentors.
- This year a few non-students applied to be mentored; in future, BCALS needs to clarify that the event is for students only.
- A mentor suggested that in future, BCALS should send event participants Zoom etiquette tips, such as participants turning on their cameras while meeting one-on-one with their mentor/mentee.
- Next year BCALS should aim to hold the event in February before MLIS students get too busy applying for jobs.

6. Social Media Updates (Estelle and Janet)

- a. Estelle and Janet met their goal of increasing BCALS' Twitter followers by 100 (they currently have 440 followers).
- b. Put together a working list of resources and publications on academic librarianship and antiracism work; Estelle will share some of these resources in several tweets.

- c. Janet will reach out to an instructor at Langara College's Library and Information Technology Program to try to recruit a student
- d. Tried to reach out to someone at Langara to recruit a student to join BCALS' executive.

7. Old Business

- a. Awards committee update (Ean)
 - The awards committee received four nominations and will meet to decide on a nominee.
 - The winner will be presented at the June 23 BCLA AGM.
- b. Further feedback on [BCALS Anti-Racism Action Plan](#) (Ean)
 - Ean added BCALS members' feedback to the draft Action Plan.
 - Members of the exec should send Ean any feedback they received on the draft Action Plan.
 - Suggestion to add to the Action Plan facilitating an affinity space for Indigenous librarians to meet to speak together.
- c. Further feedback on Constitution and Bylaw revisions (Ean)
 - Ean will send the final version in a message to the BCALS listserv along with a call for nominations to the BCALS exec.
- d. Elections (Ean/Sajni)
 - The task of filling BCALS exec positions falls to Sajni as the Chair-Elect.
 - Sajni will send a message calling for nominations to the BCALS listserv; will give two to three weeks for library workers to send their nominations and confirm their interest in positions on the exec.
 - Members of the exec will encourage colleagues, including library assistants and library techs, to apply for positions.
- e. Finalizing action plan (all)
 - Ean will collate the feedback on the Action Plan, have the final version ready for the next BCALS executive meeting, and present the Plan at the June 23 BCLA AGM.

8. New Business

- a. Annual report for AGM (last year's report [here](#))
 - Ean as Chair will deliver the annual report at the June 23 BCALS AGM.
 - The annual report will summarize membership statistics as well as BCALS events and initiatives of the past year.
 - Ean plans to finalize the annual report by the June 21 BCALS executive meeting, so is asking that the CECs and student reps send him their highlights by June 16.
- b. Partnering with Keeping It ReAL?
 - BCALS plans to partner with Keeping It ReAL on the 2021 virtual Winter Event (Sajni will be working on both events).

- The theme will be building staff capacity.
- The BCALS and Keeping it ReAL events may take place on the same day or a week apart.

9. Meeting Adjourned at 10:58 am