

LTAIG Annual Report for 2006

It was another eventful year for the Library Technicians & Assistants Interest Group. We met four times, once in February, once in April, once in June and once in October. At the June meeting, Rob Golbeck was elected Chair (Convenor), replacing Diane Walker who held the position for the previous four years. Diane has stayed involved with LTAIG as Association Liaison.

The members of the LTAIG Committee, and their respective roles in 2006 were:

Rob Golbeck - Chair & Website Administrator
Diane Walker - Past-chair & Association Liaison
Jennifer Brown - Secretary & Email List Manager
Emma Wood - Newsletter Editor & Social Coordinator
Courtney Walker - Survey Project Manager & Social Coordinator
Judy Johanson - Langara College Student Liaison
Lisa Morry - UCFV Student Liaison
Samantha Adams - Member at Large
Christine Hagemoen - Member at Large
John Alexander - Member at Large

Following is a summary of what we were up to this year:

LT Programs Listing. In May we published our Annotated Listing of Library Technician Programs in Canada. The listing includes information on 11 Library Technician training programs offered throughout Canada. Data was collected from the program websites and through correspondence with faculty from the various library technician programs. The annotated listing serves as a starting point for prospective library technician students researching the various educational opportunities that are available in Canada. The listing is available on the "Education & Training" page on our website.

LTAIG Newsletter. In June we published the premier issue of the *LTAIG Newsletter*. The newsletter features updates from LTAIG, information on events, member news, and other items of interest to the library support staff community in British Columbia. Three issues were published in 2006 and distributed via our email list: June, August and October. Each issue is archived on our website.

BC Library Conference. LTAIG sponsored two sessions at the 2006 BC Library Conference: *The RSS Revolution: Surf, Search, Subscribe!* and *Changing Times, Changing Roles: the Future of Library Technicians in Public Libraries*. Both sessions were well-attended and left their audiences talking.

On the evening of the last day of the conference, LTAIG took over a corner of the Chrystal Lounge at the conference hotel for our annual conference pub night. Sixteen library technicians and students from around the province came together to socialize, network and generally unwind after a weekend of steady conferencing. A summary of the evening is posted on the "Events" page of our website.

Speaking at Langara. LTAIG is often invited to speak to students in the Library & Information Technology Program at Langara College, and last year was no exception. In March, Rob Golbeck represented LTAIG on a panel discussion about the benefits of association membership. In September he was invited to speak at the Library & Information Technology Program's 40th Anniversary Celebration. Later that month, Rob spoke to a class about his experiences using computers in his career as a library technician.

Email Discussion List. As a primarily virtual organization, our email discussion list is one of the main vehicles for communicating with our members. The LTAIG email list has approximately 450 subscribers. The LTAIG Committee helped to maintain the email list by sending regular job postings and relevant announcements, and participating in discussion as it occurs on the list from time to time.

In June, after receiving some complaints concerning appropriate use of the list, the LTAIG Committee conducted a brief survey of the list subscribers. The results were used to help us write a formal list policy statement, which is posted on our website.

LTAIG Website. Our website is another means by which LTAIG is able to reach out to its members. In 2006 we continued to maintain the website and find ways to improve it. The website features information and resources such as: career information; sources for job postings; tips for writing resumes & cover letters, and preparing for job interviews; a calendar of events; information about LTAIG; and more.

Altogether, the LTAIG website received 3,933 unique visitors and 9,648 page loads in 2006. Visitors came to our website from all over the world. Besides BC and other parts of Canada, our website was viewed from the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Hong Kong, Turkey, Pakistan, and other regions.

The achievements outlined above are due to the efforts of the small, but dedicated group of volunteers.

The LTAIG Committee wishes to thank the British Columbia Library Association for their continuing support of the Library Technicians & Assistants Interest Group. We look forward to another exciting year in 2007!

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Golbeck
LTAIG Chair
<http://www.bcla.bc.ca/ltaig>