

BCALS Annual Report: 2018-2019

Delivered at the BCALS 2019 AGM - May 8, 2019

By Allison Sullivan

BCALS EXECUTIVE FOR 2018-2019

- Chairperson: Allison Sullivan (Langara College)
- Chair-Elect: Adena Brons (SFU)
- Education Coordinator, 2nd Year: Peggy Lunn (UBC)
- Education Coordinator, 1st Year: Kate Shuttleworth (SFU) and Ioana Liuta (SFU)
- Recording Secretary: Chloe Riley (SFU)
- Student Representatives: Adair Harper (UBC iSchool) and Michelle Ng (UBC iSchool)

BCALS EVENTS

Keeping it ReAL 2018

Keeping It ReAL 2018: Add It Up was held on **Friday, October 26, 2018** in the new Digital Scholarship Commons at UVic Libraries. The focus for the day's discussion was devoted to the middle stage of research: the gathering, collection, management and analysis of data.

Keeping It ReAL 2018: Add it Up was chaired by Christine Walde, UVic Libraries, with support from planning committee members Aditi Gupta, UVic Libraries; Julia Bullard, UBC iSchool; Dean Giustini, UBC Library; Ali Moore, SFU Library; Ryan Kyle, LaSalle College Vancouver; Ioana Liuta, UBC iSchool student and BCALS representative; Karine St-Onge, a Young Canada Works intern at UVic Libraries; Helen Brown of UBC Library.

BCALS Winter Meeting @ University of the Fraser Valley

BCALS Annual Winter Meeting Continuing Education Event took place on **Friday, November 30, 2019**, 9:00am - 3:30pm at University of the Fraser Valley, Abbotsford Campus 33844 King Rd, Room A259, Abbotsford; **34 attendees** total.

The event's topic was **Serving on Committees / Hosting and engaging in better meetings.**

The event consisted of an introduction and brief panel discussion, followed by 30 minute breakout table sessions. Attendees each visited 3 of the 5 breakout sessions.

The full event description is below:

Serving on committees or working groups as member, co-chair or chair is a growing expectation for academic library workers.

There are professional competency documents from ALA and other professional associations that explicitly outline the specifics of traditional skills needed to perform public services roles. However, few tools exist to help library workers prepare to navigate the structure and culture of committee work, or to seek out more efficient and inclusive ways of managing and participating on committees.

Library professionals frequently find themselves serving on internal committees or working groups such as Library Diversity and Inclusion committees and Health and Wellness committees, or external groups such as Faculty or Professional Associations. Approaching these committees with little experience can be intimidating, can lead to feelings of imposter syndrome, or may cause misunderstandings with colleagues.

It's the age old question, how do you get good at something you've never done before? What does it mean to be "good" at committee work, anyway?

How can newly serving committee members navigate committee dynamics to contribute in meaningful ways? What structures and strategies might be useful for making space for less experienced voices? And how might this be balanced with the need to "get stuff done"?

Facilitated by experienced academic library professionals, this half day learning session offered hands on opportunities to engage with peers in learning about the role of committees and working groups in the academic library, and discussions around ways of contributing to productive, harmonious, and respectful groups.

Copyright: The Card Game Pub Night

17 persons participated in BCALS Copyright the Card Game pub night on **February 26, 2019**. Jennifer Zerkee, SFU Copyright Specialist facilitated the event. Lower Mainland academic librarians gathered at a pub in downtown Vancouver (Tap & Barrel in Coal Harbour) during [Fair Dealing Week](#) to play [Copyright the Card Game](#), a free game that can be downloaded from the web and played in teams.

The pub night and game were hosted by the [BC Academic Libraries Section](#) (BCALS) of the [BC Library Association](#) (BCLA). The game is played in 5 rounds, with the first four rounds each using its own "suit" of cards, and the final challenge round using all four suits.

Copyright the Card Game is available for download here: <https://copyrightliteracy.org/resources/copyright-the-card-game/>. The cards and accompanying slides are openly licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 ([CC BY-NC-SA 4.0](#)).

UBC iSchool Resume and Cover Letter Clinic

19 students and 8 volunteer librarians attended this event, held at SFU Harbour Centre on **Thursday April 11, 2019**.

Each librarian met with 1 to 3 students for 25 minute sessions and offered feedback and advice on the student's application materials.

We received great feedback from iSchool students, including some constructive suggestions about timing and location.

BCALS Pub Socials

-September 21: A pub night to celebrate the start of the school year was held at St. Augustine's pub on Commercial Drive.

-April 11: The Resume clinic event was followed by a successful Pub Social afterwards at Steamworks.

BCALS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Established in 2002, the BCALS Outstanding Contribution Award is presented to an individual who works in an academic library or a team of academic library personnel whose professional achievements have made a real difference to students, faculty, or colleagues in British Columbia.

The 2019 BCALS Outstanding Contribution Award was presented to Chris Reimer, Liaison Librarian at University Canada West at the BCLA Awards Lunch at the BCLA Conference on May 10, 2019.

RETIREMENT OF ALPS LINK

In June 2018, BCALS was approached by Scott Leslie from the BC Libraries Coop about the possibility of moving content from ALPS LINK (a repository of learning objects to support academic libraries in their instructional role begun by ALPS around 10 years ago) to the more current Library Toolshed repository. BCALS Executive conducted an investigation into the digital content that was stored in the BC Campus SOL*R database. The Executive found that many of the objects were links to guides that appear on library's websites or objects that were outdated and not maintained. None had been updated in less than 6 years and several links were broken.

With this in mind, the BCALS Executive determined that maintenance or oversight on a learning object repository was not an achievable goal for this organization because of the frequency of executive turnover. The ALPS LINK portal is no longer functional and it was determined that moving the existing materials into in the Library Toolshed was necessary. BCALS will, however, advocate that sharing learning resources in the Library Toolshed is a welcome and highly encouraged practice going forward.

BCALS SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY & STRATEGY

In an effort to revive the social media presence of the BCALS, a more comprehensive policy and strategy was drafted in order to provide concrete goals and guidance. Adair Harper and Michelle Ng, the iSchool Student Representatives on the BCALS Executive, took on this project along with the Chair.

A new overall policy was developed that was modeled on the BCLA Social Media policy to provide guidelines on general social media practices, professionalism, quality, and focus of social media participation.

It was determined that the Student Representatives would take on more responsibilities around the social media strategy. At the start of their 1 year term, they would draft a strategy of SMART

social media goals (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and timely) that would guide the way they interact with the BCALS social media profiles. This has the dual benefit of a structured social media strategy and allowing Student Representatives to gain experience with designing and implementing a social media strategy.

For 2018-2019, the goals set and achieved were (for Twitter):

- Increase followers to 275
- Increase number of accounts following to 250
- Increase posts to 1-3 tweets or retweets per week
- Interact with other library twitter users or hashtag campaigns once per month

GET INVOLVED WITH BCALS

Want to get involved with the BCALS? New members are always welcome! To learn more, visit the BCALS Website: <https://bclaconnect.ca/bcals/>