

BCALS Executive July Meeting
Time: July 18th, 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Present: David Gill, Roen Janyk, Cassandra Larose, Katharine Shipley, Julie Jones, Susie Wilson, Kat Louro, Lauren Wong, Mira Harvey

Regrets: Maria Mulder

Agenda:

- 1. Quick check-in:**
- 2. Called to order:** 2:31 pm
- 3. Adoption of Agenda:**
 - a. Adopted with no amendments.
- 4. Minutes from previous meeting and 2023 AGM:**
 - a. Minutes from previous meeting adopted with no amendments.
 - b. Minutes from AGM to be reviewed at 2024 AGM.
- 5. New Student Rep Maria Mulder!**
- 6. Round of introductions**
 - a. Name
 - b. Pronouns
 - c. Land acknowledgement
 - d. Position/institutions
 - e. What are you looking forward to this summer?
- 7. Access to BCALS Folders**

Email BCALS email if you don't have access.
- 8. Continuing Education Updates: (Kat, Susie, Katharine, and Julie):**
 - Winter event: Save the date sent; aligned with Keeping it ReAL, theme announced; next steps call for proposal development and circulation
- 9. Keeping it ReAL & Winter Event**
 - a. KiR meeting notes & 2022 Final report**
 - Strike to be removed as a standing item.
- 10. Social Media Updates: (Mira and Lauren)**
 - Meeting July 24 to discuss plan for this year
- 11. BCALS Anti-racism plan**
 - a. Organize our plan**
 - i. [Punia et al. \(2022\)](#) described BCALS reasons for the anti-racism plan. David summarized.

- ii. In 2020/2021, the BCALS executive created the [anti-racism action plan](#) and each year, we select actions that we would like to implement (see our [2022 and 2023 example](#))
- iii. Many of the action items from the 2022 and 2023 implementation plan are either in progress, ongoing, or not started. Do we want to carry forward the existing implementation plan for 2023 and 2024? Or would we like to consider other actions listed in the action plan?
 - **ACTION: Carry forward existing implementation plan for 2023-24.**
 - Discussion around potential item for 2024-25 that might be opportunity for consultation/partnerships BC Campus, Open Education BC Librarians group
- iv. If we want a combination of both (existing and new implementation plan), should we use the same format as the previous years?
 - N/A

a. Perspectives

- i. From the Implementation plan for 2022 and 2023
 1. **BCALS Will:** Interview library workers who are doing anti-racism work in their organization and share via BCALS channels, whether through the BCLA Perspectives column or other means.
 2. **ACTION 1:** Connect with Perspectives folks to put a call out for an upcoming issue to highlight academic library EDI work.
 3. **STATUS:** In progress. Communication with Perspectives started, interest about this idea from both parties.
- ii. If we were to include this action item in our 2023 and 2024 implementation plan, we might want to start the interviewing soon because the next perspective issue due in September on the theme of climate action. Could consider looking for connections between climate action and anti-racism.
- iii. Is anyone familiar with academic libraries and library workers working on anti-racism work and its relation to climate action? We could connect with BCLA's Climate Action Committee <https://bclaconnect.ca/cag/> for possible names of academic library workers/libraries
 1. [SFU Library's strategic priorities](#) include equity and climate action so they might be a possible place to connect with
 2. Discussion around Lisa Nathan's work, unsure if anti-racism focus
 - Mira potentially interested in interviewing; mention to Maria as well
 - **ACTION: David to reach out to Mira and Maria about Perspectives**
 - **ACTION: David reaches out to Perspectives, copying Mira and Maria, re: specifics (timelines, length of piece)**

3. SFU Climate Action working group
 - **ACTION: Julie to reach out to Keshav Mukunda**
4. There was discussion around developing a set of questions to facilitate this work in the future.

12. Old Business:

a. Constitution Changes about membership

- i. Discussion point for AGM re s. 5.5: involve membership in discussion of whether students living in BC but attending online programs in other provinces are eligible to serve on the BCALS exec.
- ii. This was discussed at the BCALS AGM; the executive is to take this forward for further discussion in the year ahead. One option may be to contact UofA to see how many BC students attend their program. The need to attend an online program was raised as an equity issue at the AGM - this could be excluding people living outside the Lower Mainland of BC.
- iii. David reached out to the UofA about the number of BC residents taking the online MLIS program. UofA replied back and included a link to their [self-study](#) from 2020

Table CC - Geographic Distribution of Online Students in Canada

MLIS Online offering	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	TOTAL
Alberta	17	23	21	12	18	15	9	115
British Columbia	10	8	10	12	13	8	13	74
Manitoba	4	1	4	2	1	8	3	23
New Brunswick	0	2	2	2	1	1	1	9
Newfoundland	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	4
Nova Scotia	2	4	0	3	3	2	0	14
Ontario	10	17	23	18	16	16	22	122
Prince Edward Island	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
Quebec	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	5
Saskatchewan	2	3	5	5	6	4	5	30
Yukon/NW Territories	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	4
TOTAL	46	60	67	58	62	56	54	403

- iv.
- v. Thoughts?
 - Susie looked into Alberta library association analogous to BCALS; they don't currently have interest groups, nothing analogous to this that allows students to take part
 - There was support for keeping 5.5, allowing in-province students attending out-of-province programs

b. BCALS award winner and conference attendance for free

- i. Talked to Rina and mentioned that BCLA would like to do it for every award winner and because of cost that would not be feasible

- ii. Winners who are not attending the conference can attend the awards lunch for free

c. Slush funds from BCLA to support grassroots libraries

- i. Karleen email from April to Rina
 - Every year BCALS as our Winter Event and one of the topics we discussed today [during April meeting] was that our honorarium is made possible through the collaboration we've been facilitating with Keeping it ReAL. However, we are wondering if there is a possibility of slush fund in the future?
The reason we ask is that we try to keep the Winter Event free for accessibility. However, our dependence on Keeping it ReAL means our control over how the funds are spent depends on that year's host (in this year's case it will be UBC). David is interested in how BCALS can support Vancouver's grassroots libraries (ex. the Vancouver Black Library), however UBC does not allow donations. If BCALS had its own money would there be a possibility of donating funds?
- ii. Rina's response
 - Unfortunately, BCLA doesn't have any slush funds nor do we currently have any funds available to support this kind of section event. Some of the sections/committees/interest groups do have some funds which they created by charging small registration fees for events, but BCALS does not. One option is to think differently about whether the event has to be free to remove barriers, and consider an equity approach rather than an equality approach: registration costs are not a barrier for everyone, and not charging them has consequences that may create other barriers, as you've identified. You could consider a [sliding scale option](#), like [Joyful Learning's Equitable Pricing Model](#) or [Aorta's Public Program Rates](#) or offering a certain number of tickets that are no-cost for those who self identify as having a financial barrier, etc.
- iii. Thoughts?
 - Avoid term 'slush fund?'
 - Membership dues vs/ specific fundraising campaign that gives people the option to contribute
 - CECs are cognizant of costs of events, funding opportunities while planning events.
 - a. Is there support from BCLA to manage funds, open bank account, etc.? Support for managing and distributing, how could we do that. Used to charge money for cost recovery.

- Small amount of \$\$ to be managed - complicated keeping track of registrations & who had paid; \$\$ kept informally.
- b. Bank account created to deposit \$\$ from EventBrite; donation to Black Lives Matter (2020?)

Connecting with other sections/interest group about anti-racism work

- iv. After David's presentation with the Multicultural services interest group (MSIG) about BCALS anti-racism work, members of the group asked if we had checked in with other interest groups and sections about their anti-racism work
- v. Before checking with them, Karleen checked with Rina. Rina suggested that we wait until The Commons Consulting published their report and training could be provided to key people (board members and section/interest group) training so that everyone is brought up to the level. Rina mentioned that issue is not all interest groups and sections are at the same level of involvement in anti-racism work as BCALS is
- vi. Now the conference is over and we heard from the Commons, David reached out to Rina about connecting with the other sections. David wondered if the training for the key people would happen. David also mentioned "one of the reasons why we wanted to connect with them [other sections and interest groups] is to learn from them and share what we learned so as to maybe inspire them to think about this work. So regardless of where they are in the journey, we would like to engage with them. For example, A presentation of BCALS work like I did with multicultural services could be something that isn't onerous on section/interest groups and a time for them learn and share their experiences in a q&a"
- vii. Rina replied back that the The Commons Consulting report and recommendations are still being finalized with the project advisory group and there will be a discussion at the BCLA meeting in september. So not sure when the training for key folks will be. Rina agreed that my event with MSIG was a lower barrier and we could do with others but we need to recognize that all the groups are at different stages in this work.
- viii. Do we want to connect with the other interest groups, committees, sections and discuss our anti-racism work with them to inspire and learn from their experiences?
 - [Link to list](#) After doing a quick survey of the web pages, it looks like many of them are inactive. Apart from MSIG and BCALS, these groups are still active on word press: Community Led interest group, Climate Action Committee, Cataloging & Technical Services Interest group, Young Adults and Children's Section, Intellectual freedom committee (active on the forum but not word press) - David waiting to hear from Rina about this as she

mentioned that word press or forum is not always indicate activity and level of participation depends on the group

- **ACTION: Moved to next meeting after david hears back from Rina**

13. New Business:

- a. BCALS logo?
 - i. David was emailed by the BCLA Project Coordinator
 - ii. David mentioned to the coordinator that student reps created a logo back in 2020 that we use for our YouTube and Twitter page. But it might be interesting to participate in this project soon to be with expert designers.
 - iii. Are we interested in collaborating with the VCC program? If so, we would need to nominate someone to collaborate with the design students

Would have to let them by July 21st if we want to collaborate with them. Would need to have 2-3 Zoom meetings with student in September? Do we need a new logo? Not at this moment.

Action: David will follow up with project coordinator to let them know we are happy with current logo.

14. Adjourned: 3:43