

BCLA Library Technicians' and Assistants' Interest Group (LTAIG) Annual Report May 2003- April 2004

An LTAIG planning session held in June 2003 set a number of goals for the group, all of which have been accomplished during this period thanks to the work of the members of the LTAIG Committee. The goals included:

- Redesigning the LTAIG website
- Conducting an LTAIG survey
- Hosting educational and networking gatherings in the Vancouver area
- Broadening and enhancing group communication through the LTAIG discussion list
- Serving as a dependable information resource for the library support staff community.

Members of the LTAIG Committee and their primary responsibilities during this period are:

Kyenta Goodger-Hill – website design, management and maintenance

Christina Tribe – events planning, publicity and co-ordination

Kristine Shum – survey design, management and compilation

Allan Bayhon – discussion list management

Carol Fowler – discussion list communication

Sylvia Skene – treasurer, survey analysis and project assistance

Janie Jackson – project assistance

Diane Walker – committee chair and project assistance

These individuals, in consultation with other committee members, worked to accomplish the following:

- ✓ A complete LTAIG website redesign in 2003. Content is now regularly updated and reviewed for currency and accuracy. Website address: <http://www.bcla.bc.ca/ltaiig/>
- ✓ The 2003 LTAIG Survey, reviewing salary, education, and job responsibilities was formulated, distributed via the LTAIG discussion list, the website, and at events, results compiled and analyzed, and survey reports made available on the website at <http://www.bcla.bc.ca/ltaiig/2003SurveyOverview.html>
- ✓ Greatly increased discussion list communication including employment postings from a variety of sources, targeted informational postings, topic discussions, and “virtual contests.” The virtual contest, inviting submissions of stories about your first – or ideal – library job, for a chance to win a “shushing librarian action figure” was particularly popular.
- ✓ Educational events in the Vancouver area included sessions on continuing education in the library community (April 2003), and what we love about our library jobs (February 2004). A networking dinner (November 2003)

encouraged connections among members in the Vancouver area. A conference session and networking dinner at the May 2003 BCLA conference were well-attended. A session on presenting yourself professionally, with a social following, is scheduled for the joint CLA/BCLA 2004 conference.

- ✓ LTAIG Committee members make presentations to classes, and represent the organization on other groups, as requested.
- ✓ Connections with leaders of Library Technician groups in other provinces have been established, to work toward co-ordinating and growing a national presence for the support staff community.

Future plans for the group include:

1. Fund raising efforts to support the Library Technician program bursaries at Langara College.
2. Conducting another survey and working with the cross-provincial LT groups and others on the feasibility of a national library support staff survey.
3. Establishing LTAIG Committee position procedures and working to broaden the committee, to assure continuance of the group.
4. Continue developing the website to maintain it as a valuable, comprehensive and current source of information.

The accomplishments achieved during this period are thanks to a small, dedicated group working as an effective team. LTAIG wishes to thank the British Columbia Library Association for their continuing support of this organization, which addresses the needs of members of the B.C. support staff community.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Walker
LTAIG Committee Chair

May 2004