

## Library Technicians' & Assistants' Interest Group Annual General Meeting 2011 Friday, October 21, 2011 at Surrey City Centre Library

*Attendees:* Tamarack Hockin, Stephen Karr, Yvette Isparelexi, Annalee Chow Wone, Jeffrey Libby, Liza Capdecoume, Satinder Kahlon, Mieke Quinn, Ashley Van Dijk, Amanda Hurst, Christina Neigel, Janet Ho, Mary Afonso, Michelle Tang, Heather Duff, Linda Laronde, Ashley Lavoie, Linda Roberts, Tracy Bergey, Dan Vitaly, Anne Astle, Anita Thompson, Jen Pride, Caroline Boyce, and Sandra Cole

*Online attendees:* Debbie Hazell, Danell Clay, Mary Bertulli, Helen Lapp, Mandi Schwarz, Vaunda Dumont, and Shanna Meunier. Due to technical problems their comments were read out by Sandra Cole.

**NOTE: While volunteers were identified for many positions at this meeting, more are welcome.**

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm by Chair, Tamarack Hockin.

### Projects & Initiatives Updates

- 1) BCLA Conference 2012 – Stephen Karr
  - i) BCLA Sections, Committees, & Interest Groups each have rep on conference planning committee this year; Stephen was selected to represent LTAIG.
  - ii) Conference will be May 10-12, 2012, at Sheraton Vancouver Airport in Richmond. Theme will be “License to Read.” There will be 27-35 sessions. Committee is working on selection criteria.
  - iii) Session reserved for speed mentoring; modelled on LTAIG’s session at UFV. Other reserved sessions: Tradeshow Orientation, Libraries & Literacy, Author Talks, Great Debate
  - iv) There will be no association-wide pre-conference, so LTAIG could organize its own pre-conference sessions. Stephen supports this if we can keep cost low and start planning soon. Richmond Public Library will offer space for SCIG sessions.
  - v) Further details will be announced via the listserv, Facebook, and Twitter, and the discussion forum.
- 2) LTAIG Blog – Heather Duff
  - i) Two new contributors have joined the blog: Phil Menger and Grace Ju.
  - ii) Posts, suggestions & feedback welcome. Working on new graphics.
- 3) Communications – Stephen Karr
  - i) *Website:* made menus more efficient, added event pictures, and added & edited pages. Planning list of online reference tools in various subject areas.
  - ii) *Proboards Discussion Forum:* active about 15 months so far; 45 members plus many guests, 155 topics, 2017 posts; many people find it through listserv.
  - iii) *Facebook Group:* active over 2 years so far; 118 members; primarily announcing events; high number of member contributions on Wall. Upgrade by Facebook means members can now chat, but people must request to join the Group and can’t message members directly. Questions could be posted to Group to promote response.
  - iv) *Twitter:* 108 followers, 90 tweets; used to announce events and retweet relevant tweets by others.
  - v) *Linkedin Group:* just formed open group; 11 members already; members can post anything, but non-members must submit discussions and comments for approval.

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- 4) Salary Survey – Sandra Cole
  - i) Survey site is now active; link sent to LTAIG listserv, Facebook group and blog plus other listservs; over 100 replies so far. Closes in 1 month; report should be done month later.
  - ii) Link to survey:  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?hl=en\\_US&pli=1&formkey=dGRJMzRTcmJIQkEOND M4dUd2dTVscGc6MQ#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?hl=en_US&pli=1&formkey=dGRJMzRTcmJIQkEOND M4dUd2dTVscGc6MQ#gid=0)
- 5) Mentoring – Tamarack Hockin
  - i) Next intake shortly; applications on website in few days; will sign up mentees & mentors through November.
  - ii) BCLA will start association-wide program modelled on LTAIG's program in 2012; Tamarack helping with launch; LTAIG program will join BCLA's.
  - iii) Speed mentoring session very likely in 2012 BCLA conference
- 6) Dialogue – Tamarack Hockin
  - a) Pre-dialogue questionnaire had good response from members; **report on LTAIG website.**
  - b) Dialogue session June 8, 2011 re what people want from group; participants from all over province; [final report on website](#); biggest issues were relevant professional development, networking & advocacy for library technicians & assistants (LTAs).
  - c) This AGM informed by the dialogue, especially scope & positions; trying to spread work more widely.

Member question: Is the same content on all LTAIG communications platforms (ex. Blog, Facebook, etc.)?

- LTAIG does try to duplicate announcements across platforms. Suggestion to promote issues on listserv then have actual discussions about issues on forum.

- 6) Petition for Section Status – Stephen Karr for Sandra Cole
  - a) Purpose = become Section for greater voice, especially seat on BCLA executive
  - b) Need successful petition to put on BCLA AGM agenda; all signers must be individual BCLA members, not institutional; at least 10% of BCLA membership must sign and signers must be individual members in good standing @ time of AGM; . Then  $\frac{3}{4}$  of BCLA AGM attendees must vote for it to pass.
  - c) First attempt started at 2010 BCLA AGM for submission to 2011 AGM; had enough signers (99) but not enough of them were individual members in good standing (66).
  - d) Started second attempt right away at 2011 BCLA AGM; petition currently has over 80 signatures. Plan to step up petition drive in January, then put on agenda at 2012 BCLA AGM.

### Positions for 2011-2012 Year

- 1) Communications Committee: Collaborates on internal and external LTAIG communications.
  - a) *Blog Coordinator* – Heather Duff writes for, administers and maintains blog.
    - i) Wants people to write and/or collaborate on posts; if busy can suggest ideas for others to write; need more voices; opportunity to become known in library field and practice writing for public. Expressions of interest: Amanda Hurst, Ash Lavoie.
  - b) *Website Coordinator* – Stephen Karr adds, edits and controls content for 0-2 hours/week.

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- i) Wants someone to research free reference tools/resources/databases and produce list divided by subject; no deadline on project. Expression of interest: Christina Neigel.
  - ii) Would welcome help with website itself; opportunity to develop job skill.
- c) *Forum Moderator* – Stephen Karr moderates Proboards forum; already set up so takes small amount of time, sometimes adds new topics.
- d) *Social Media* – Stephen Karr updates Twitter feed, Facebook group and LinkedIn group with items of interest, discussion topics, and announcements; small time commitment.
- i) Wants person to take over; opportunity to explore tools and build job skill.  
Expressions of interest: Ash Lavoie, Amanda Hurst
- e) *Publications Liaison* – New position; will coordinate with BCLA Browser and other LTA-relevant publications; solicit articles, write articles, track deadlines, etc. Volunteer can define scope and time commitment.
- i) Volunteer: Mary Afonso
- f) *Marketing/Design Coordinator* – New position; volunteer can define scope & time commitment; maybe work on logo and package for program grads; graphic design background or interest would help.
- i) Volunteer: Liza Capdecoume
- 2) Salary Survey – Sandra Cole and Vaunda Dumont have distributed survey and will tabulate results; next survey in 2 years.
- 3) Continuing Education Committee – Shanna Meunier announces workshops, conferences, and courses on forum and listserv.
- i) Wants person to help find items and post on social media and in more places, plus help arrange in-house continuing education; if interested contact her through [shannameunier@shaw.ca](mailto:shannameunier@shaw.ca).
  - b) Re presenting continuing education: opportunity for public speaking practice and training job skill. Also, online sessions/webcast/video reach more members across province. Ash Lavoie doing Twitter for Lib Techs workshop at UFV soon. Prince George chapter organizing book repair workshop.
    - i) Workshop volunteer: Christina Neigel
- 4) Mentoring Committee – Tamarack Hockin recruits and matches participants plus publicizes and administers program.
- i) Want helper(s) to share workload; busiest in November; volunteer could continue involvement with BCLA program next year too. Volunteers: Liza Capdecoume, Ash Lavoie
- 5) Careers Coordinator – new position; watches for LTA-relevant job postings and sends them to listserv.
- i) Volunteers: Amanda Hurst, Mandi Schwarz; others happy to forward postings to coordinator(s).
- 6) Accreditation and Credentialing Liaison – New position; will keep members informed on topic, inspire and facilitate discussion, and liaise with related projects.

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- a) Christina Neigel developing proposal to CLA for accreditation of English-speaking Library Technician programs in Canada. Accreditation would check that a program has met standards set by governing organization, whereas credentialing involves individuals meeting standards. Programs would be evaluated and vetted to ensure their grads have certain competencies. Not trying to define strict roles for LTAs vs. Librarians. CLA has Guidelines for Education of Library Technicians but no evaluation process. Christina is asking LTA associations for letter of support re interest in project; Ontario (OALT) has given letter already.
- b) The Partnership is doing pilot project of continuing education credentialing.
  - i) Volunteer: Jeffrey Libby
- 7) Langara Student Liaison – New position, not work-heavy
  - i) Volunteer: Jeffrey Libby
- 8) UFV Student Liaison – New position, not work-heavy
  - i) Volunteer: Jen Pride
- 9) Chapter Liaisons – **MOTION** that chapters choose Liaisons in discussion among themselves and [contact Convenor](#). Moved by Tamarack Hockin. Seconded by Mary Afonso.

Thanks to BCLA for the conference microphone!

- 10) LTAIG Convenor – Tamarack Hockin has been Interim Convenor for past 6 months in collaboration with Chapter Liaisons Jeffrey Libby (Vancouver) and Vaunda Dumont (Prince George). Interesting position; challenging but rewarding. Large time commitment but lighter if co-convenors share. Opportunity to practice project management and facilitation skills, plus networking.
  - i) Wants new convenor or co-convenor. Please consider it and [contact Tamarack](#) later if interested.
- 11) Secretary of the Association – New position; will coordinate annual work plan, maintain & publish records, and track deadlines for reporting. No experience needed; opportunity to get more familiar with LTAIG & BCLA. Time commitment maybe 1-3 hours/week.
  - i) Expression of interest: Linda Roberts.
- 12) Association Working Group – Sandra Cole and Stephen Karr want help with managing petition for Section status, investigating directions for growth independently or in partnership with other organizations (including becoming independent association; not mutually exclusive options), and making recommendations to membership. Group plans to be active for the next 6 months – 1 year.
  - i) Volunteers: Tamarack Hockin, Amanda Hurst. Expression of interest: Mary Afonso.
- 13) Members-at-Large – New position; flexible duties and time commitment; “gateway position”.
  - i) Volunteers: Anita Thompson, Annalee Chow Wone, Tracy Bergey, Dan Vitaly, Ashley Van Dijk.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

*Minutes by Heather Duff*