

BCLA Readers' Advisory Interest Group

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, April 15, 2014, BCLA classroom

Attended by: Jenny Fry, Co-Chair (Surrey Libraries); Anthea Goffe (Fraser Valley Regional Library); Matthew Murray (SLAIS co-rep); Jessica Brown (Langara library technician rep); Caroline Crowe (Vancouver Public Library); Anna Ferri (SLAIS student); Barbara Edwards (Vancouver Public Library); Michelle Whitehead (Greater Victoria Public Library); Tim McMillan (Vancouver Public Library); Dana Horrocks (Vancouver Public Library); Michael Gray (Library Bound)

Regrets: Heather Bindseil (Library Bound); Heidi Schiller (North Vancouver City Library); Naomi Eisenstat (Surrey Libraries/New Westminster Public Library); Meghan Savage (Surrey Libraries); Audrey Ambrose (Thompson-Nicola Regional District Library); Theresa de Sousa (Richmond Public Library); Tara Matsuzaki (West Vancouver Memorial Library); Margo Schiller (Terrace Public Library)

Meeting reminder: the next meeting is Tuesday May 20, from 9:15-11am, BCLA boardroom

Interesting RA tidbits:

- Jenny: who else is participating in the Ask Us (the 500) CODES Conversation (related to RA) on April 22 & 23? Anna and Michelle signed up too. Might just read the transcript afterwards. Jenny is going to try to participate. Note that it takes place in EST time zone.

Jenny went to SLAIS' session at BCLA and learned about their Graduation Project: <http://www.slais.ubc.ca/courses/coursdes/libr/libr569r.htm> and she thought that maybe it would be a great way to generate research on reading for either this group or VPL. Further discussion at the next meeting.

- Matthew: a good article from American Libraries: Reading Wildly <http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/article/reading-wildly>
- Tim: he is part of a working group that's looking at strategic RA, patron-generated RA, Canadian content, results of last year's staff survey about using VPL's RA tools (78% response rate). Most staff didn't, or didn't know how to effectively use, use Novelist. Discussion.

Michelle noted that her system has an annual Professional Development day at UVIC, libraries are all closed, and there is an RA component. They also did RA training for Circ staff last fall, as part of their re-organization.

Matthew and Anna reported that SLAIS is moving away from RA and teaching these types of traditional library skills toward information. Libraries would have to speak up about how valuable they find RA skills in SLAIS graduates. One required reference course for Langara library technician students (and lots of cataloguing courses).

- Barbara: excited about upcoming non-fiction book club discussion on "Happy City: transforming our lives by urban design" by local author Charles Montgomery. Slow to get going, but she boosted her communications with participants and has generated

more excitement about the book discussion.

- Michelle: is enjoying reading digital ARCs through Edelweiss, which is the main location online for publisher catalogues and also for Digital ARCs.
<http://edelweiss.abovethetreeline.com/HomePage.aspx?rg=4188>

These are some faqs about Digital ARCs and how to download them.
<http://abovethetreeline.com/reading-edelweiss-digital-arcs/>

She has found that using her android phone, it is better to read these files in Bluefire Reader than any other app.

New Co-Chair Policy: Jenny drafted it – discussion. Jenny will incorporate proposed edits, and we'll adopt it at the next meeting. If you are interested, nominate yourself for the vacant Co-Chair position at the June 17th meeting and the group will vote at that meeting.

Social Media/Blog:

- April: Surrey Libraries: Naomi, Meghan, Jenny
- May: SLAIS: Matthew and Anna will coordinate
- June: Greater Victoria/June will coordinate
- July: Surrey (Meghan), Coquitlam & Terrace?
- August: Port Moody: Virginia will coordinate
- September: Fraser Valley: Anthea will coordinate
- October: Richmond: Theresa will coordinate
- November: Thompson-Nicola: Audrey will coordinate

Discussion about appropriate social media platforms and the value of cross-posting. Dana, Anna, Matthew (and hopefully Heidi) will take a look at this and make us more effective and efficient with our social media.

Brief discussion about re-design for the blog and our banner graphic. Matthew will be on the team that leads that, once the new BCLA website is up and running. Anyone else interested? Please let Jenny know.

BCLA Conference: Jenny got the prescription pads and handled the table – with some help from Tara. Not a lot of traffic but got to talk to some great folks. Didn't have resources to do the videos, so we'll save that idea for another time. Some people went to the Bibliocommons lunch (8-10 people) and had a really good discussion with the two reps.

Recruiting efforts: Jessica has recruited her replacement (Joyce Quach). Matthew and Anna are going to recruit next year. Further discussion about recruiting at the next meeting.

RA in a Half Day: Thanks to Theresa, we have venue and date! Monday, October 20, 2014, 9am-1pm at the new Cultural Centre Performance Hall in the Richmond Cultural Centre (7700 Minoru Gate, next to the Brighthouse branch of RPL, short walk from Canada Line skytrain station). Jenny will get a food & beverage quote from the in-house vendor.

- Speed-dating Through the Genres: discussion – we need 6 topics
 - Steampunk – Lee Ann Smith (RPL)
 - Audiobooks – Marion Goriak? (RPL)
 - Popular Science – Anna Ferri (SLAIS student)
 - Fiction for EAL [English as an Additional Language] readers – Anthea & FVRL
 - Literary Fiction – where do you start? – Meghan Savage?
 - Other ideas:
 - Crossover YA – Jenny?
 - Non-fiction graphic novels – Matthew?
 - Cult classics – Caroline? Discussion about making this into a separate session
 - Local/BC literature and non-fiction? Discussion about making this into a separate session
 - What else do you want? Tell us!

- Keynote: Discussion: Barbara will contact Dr. Keren Dali about her interest and availability. Discussion about co-sponsoring her with SLAIS. Can we use Skype? Who else? Email your ideas to Jenny.

- Other ideas:
 - End it on an inspiring note again?
 - Make sure that one or two sessions are interactive
 - Create handouts from previous Speed-Dating genres & formats to hand out. Tim, Caroline and Barbara will do this, deadline is the Sept 16 meeting
 - Bibliocommons discussion – can we turn that into an interactive session?
 - Challenging RA questions again?
 - What else?