British Columbia Library Association

Library Technicians' and Assistants' Section: Annual Report: 2012-13

By Tamarack Hockin.

Last May, at the 2012 BCLA AGM, LTAS became the third and newest section of the association. The resolution for the creation of LTAS was passed unanimously, aided by another 87 verified proxy votes. LTAS received an outpouring of congratulations and welcome from across the association, and could not have reached this goal without such a broad base of support. The creation of LTAS was two years in the making, and our success is attributed to the hard work and support of many members. Most notably, LTAS owes thanks to the dedication of Stephen Karr and Sandra Cole for collecting petition signatures for two years, and to the LTAIG executive of 2009-10, with Sarah Felkar and Stephen Karr as Co-Chairs, who drafted our constitution and by-laws. LTAS also owes thanks to the 2011-12 LTAIG executive who worked so tirelessly to collect proxy votes, and who communicated the aims and purpose of LTAS out to broader membership.

The 2012 LTAS AGM

The 2012 LTAS AGM was held on October 19th at the City Centre Library in Surrey, with remote participation from the Prince George LTAS Chapter and other members around the province. The LTAS Executive filled 24 positions, and hosted a brief presentation with Q&A from Chris Middlemass, Director with the BCLA Board.
- The complete LTAS Executive for 2012-13 is listed on the website under About Us.
- Please visit the LTAS website for AGM minutes (PDF).

LTAS hosts our AGM to coincide with Canadian Library Support Staff Day in October of each year. The 2013 LTAS AGM will be held Friday, October 18th.

Association Partnerships

LTAS continues to grow our partnerships with the wider association through representation, liaisons and programming. In our new role as section, the LTAS Chair now sits on the BCLA Board for their five annual meetings. This new representation has allowed LTAS to communicate more directly with the board and gain further insight into the workings of the association.

This year LTAS was able to consolidate the Langara and University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) Student Liaison positions with the BCLA Board. LTAS sent representatives to a November meeting at the BCLA Office to discuss the Strategic Plan with other section, committee, and interest group (SCIG) members. LTAS has a joint liaison position with YAACS, and cross-membership with many other interest groups in the association. Library technicians & assistants also continue to be involved with BCLA Mentorship, a program connecting new professionals with their colleagues in the field.

Outside of the association, LTAS connects with the two B.C. LIT schools, Langara and UFV. In February, LTAS took part in Langara's annual Library Associations Panel at the invitation of Department Chair, Susan Burdak. In March, the Fraser Valley chapter partnered with UFV's Alumni Association to host the third annual Speed-Mentoring for LIBIT Alumni & Students.

Meetings & Events

LTAS regional chapters in the Fraser Valley, Prince George and Vancouver continue to serve as home base for membership. Social events, discussion and workshop-based meetings are ongoing for all chapters. New members are always welcome, and announcements of upcoming meetings are circulated on the listserv. Those interested can also contact regional chairs directly.

LTAS Communications

Beyond our three regional chapters, members connect with the section from around the province. LTAS maintains a robust online presence allowing membership to participate despite the distance.
- Twitter: LTAS has over 200 followers @bclaltas
- Facebook: 136 members at the Facebook Group
- Blog: LibTech Soup has had nearly 6000 views since last May, and boasts nearly 250 posts.

Links to all LTAS social media and the listserv are available from our homepage, www.bcla.bc.ca/ltas