Yodeler

By Hope Power.

Getting hired in higher education: a panel event at SLAIS

By Nicole Penz (UBC SLAIS), ALPS Student Representative.

On Monday, October 20th, SLAIS students at UBC were treated to Getting Hired in Higher Education, a BCLA/ALPS panel event designed to answer their questions about academic librarianship. Despite midterm assignments and busy schedules, over 20 students attended to ask their questions and learn about what employers in academic libraries are looking for from panellists Ophelia Ma (UVic), Julie Mitchell (UBC), Allison Richardson (Kwantlen), and Ron Rooth (SFU).

Many of the questions sought information about the sorts of classes, skills and professional experience that employers are looking for within academic library. Other questions focused on the application and interview process and how to learn about an institution before getting hired. A list of these student questions can be viewed here:
http://alpsgettinghired.pbwiki.com/Questions

Overall, students were instructed to tailor their education and experience to the job they want. They were told that while technical skills, teaching experience, discipline specialty and association affiliation are important in working in academic libraries, it is a person's own particular "fit" with the job and the institution that will get them hired in academic libraries.

ALPS December meeting at Langara College

By Hope Power (SFU), ALPS Recording Secretary.

This year's very successful ALPS December Meeting was held at Langara College on Friday, December 5th and was attended by over 55 academic librarians from across BC. The theme was Interactive Learning and Instruction Online.

The morning speaker program kicked off with a warm welcome from Kevin Paul, Dean of Student Support Services at Langara. Colleen Bell, Information Literacy and Web Services Librarian at the University of the Fraser Valley, then provided an engaging and informative overview of the evolution of the academic library research skills tutorial from the print workbooks of the 1980s to the cutting-edge online modules of today.

Her talk included a demonstration of the interactive Online Library Assignment she created for her own library; this tutorial can be viewed via ALPS LINK (http://www.eln.bc.ca/irl) or at: http://journals.ufv.ca/library/first_year/

Next, Joyce Leung, Communications and Design Coordinator for the Developmental Disabilities Association and a recent graduate of the Interaction Design program at SFU, offered a valuable student perspective on the effectiveness of interactive learning online. She also discussed her work with post-secondary librarians and educators around the province in developing a series of online research and writing tutorials for the BC Campus Project; these Academic Resource Toolbox (ART) tutorials can be viewed via ALPS LINK (http://www.eln.bc.ca/irl) or at: http://www.eln.bc.ca/view.php?id=1603

After lunch, attendees were treated to tours of the beautiful, award-winning Langara College Library: http://www.langara.bc.ca/library/newbuilding/aboutbuilding.html   The afternoon business meeting included reports from ALPS executive members Ophelia Ma (UVic), Chairperson, Katherine Miller (UBC), Incoming Chair, Celia Brinkerhoff (Douglas), 2nd year Continuing Education Director, Nicole Aerts (Royal Roads), 1st year Continuing Education Director, Hope Power (SFU), Recording Secretary, and Nicole Penz (UBC SLAIS) Student Representative. The ALPS LINK Laud a Librarian contest awards were then presented and the meeting concluded with a lively roundtable discussion of BC post-secondary library news.

Many thanks to BCLA for sponsoring and Langara College for hosting this meeting. The presentations and part of the business meeting were videotaped and will be posted to the ALPS web server. Keep your eye out for an announcement on the ALPS e-mail list this month!

ALPS LINK Laud a Librarian Contest Winners

By Katherine Miller (UBC), ALPS Incoming Chair.

ALPS LINK awarded the winners of the Laud a Librarian contest 2008 at the ALPS December meeting on Friday, December 5th.

With the Laud a Librarian contest, BC librarians nominated the best library instruction learning objects. See the full list of prize winners at: http://sharelibraryresources.pbwiki.com/Uploading+Contest:+Prize+Winners All of the winners have been asked to donate their work into the ALPS LINK repository and many have already contributed their learning objects. Thank you!

Thanks to Langara College Library and UBC Library for their support of the ALPS LINK's contest prizes.

Laud a Librarian was a great success and ALPS LINK now has 130 learning objects for library instruction! See them all at: http://www.eln.bc.ca/irl/

UFV Launches the South Asia History Bibliography

By Colleen Bell, Information Literacy and Web Services Librarian, University of the Fraser Valley.

The University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) Library has launched the South Asia History Bibliography: http://www.ufv.ca/library/guide/Asian_Studies/South_Asia_Bibliography.htm

This project originated with Dr. David Milobar from the Department of History, and the contents of the bibliography are resources that David has identified in his years of research on the history of South Asia. History liaison librarian Mary-Anne MacDougall worked with David to turn this into an online bibliography that could be shared with the public using Refworks software, with technical assistance provided by librarian Colleen Bell. UFV student Tamarack Hockin did an outstanding job of editing, verifying and uploading the citations into Refworks. She worked on the first two sections (British Raj and Company Raj) in the Winter 2008 semester. She then went on to complete all the remaining sections (General, Mughal India, Post 1947 India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pre 1947 Punjab and Post 1947 Punjab and Indo-Canadian and South Asia Diaspora) in the Summer semester. To date there are over 3,000 records in the database.

This bibliography is a wonderful example of a successful collaboration between UFV teaching faculty, UFV faculty librarians, and UFV students.

Get involved with ALPS

The ALPS e-mail list, Facebook group, and Yodeler blog are open to all. Join up to learn more about news and events of interest to academic public service librarians across the province — and beyond!

Details about how to sign up for the e-mail list are available here: http://www.bclibrary.ca/listservs/bcla/

Facebook members can view and join the group by searching for us by name (i.e. "BCLA ALPS").

The ALPS Yodeler blog can be viewed at: http://alpsyodeler.wordpress.com

Submissions for the Yodeler blog and Browser column are always very welcome and can be submitted to Hope Power at hpower@sfu.ca Share with your colleagues the news and events happening at your BC academic library or report on a topic of interest to academic librarians!

Hope Power is a liaison librarian at Simon Fraser University and the Recording Secretary for Academic Librarians in Public Service Section of BCLA.