

BCLA LTAIG: Alive and Kicking

By Mary Afonso.

The BCLA LTAIG has been busy and active during these first few months of revival. While membership has increased, we hope to have still more Library Technicians and Assistants involved in discussions and active as members.

Our last meeting was held September 14th 2009 at the BCLA office downtown Vancouver with a fairly good turnout. It was a mish-mash of people including Library Technicians, students and a few that were looking into careers in libraries. It was invigorating and exciting to hear about accomplishments thus far and what is next on the list.

A recap of some of the highlights are:

- We have a **blog!** Yes, we do and you can check it out at <http://ltaig.wordpress.com/>. Run by our Chief Blogger, Sarah Felkar, and her fellow bloggers, Tanya Brayer and Heather Duff, it is a news resource covering *Items of Interest* and news in general. If anyone has had Ann Calla as a cataloguing teacher, you'll have a chance to reminisce in the posting *The loss of "Cookery" and other wacky subject headings*. I have to say, cookery was one of those words that stuck out like a sore thumb for me and I couldn't help but shake my head every time I heard it used. And the only time *that* ever happened was in Ann's cataloguing class. But it is quaint and for that I like it, though I'm not sad to have it retired to the list of "no longer used."
- Stephen Karr has improved our website with new links and information. He's our Webmaster extraordinaire and is currently working on the **Mentorship Program**. If you are interested in learning more about the program or becoming a mentor, you may contact him at karr.stephen@gmail.com.

- Feeling stuck in a rut and looking for a challenge or a change? Why not check out our **Education** or **Employment** links? You'll find resources to continuing education programs and courses, library programs, career information and job postings. Run by Bernadette Dowling, This section is your one-stop-shop to self-improvement.
- And I hope everyone has taken a moment to respond to our **Salary Survey**. It is important information to keep current and having as many people as possible respond makes it that much more accurate and representative of Library Technicians.

The September 14th meeting was a lot of fun, and we were able to continue to support our ongoing projects. I look forward to sharing any subsequent meetings with you.

If you are interested in volunteering with LTAIG, have any thoughts, comments or would like more information, please contact me at maryafonso@hotmail.com.

Questions about the BCLA LTAIG website content can be directed to Stephen Karr at ltaigonline@gmail.com.

Mary Afonso is the convenor of the BCLA Library Technician and Assistants' Interest Group.
This article was edited by Sarah Felkar.