

CLA President Visits BCLA/CLA Student Chapter at SLAIS

By Jeannine Stickle.

The BCLA/CLA Student Chapter at the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia was honoured with a visit by Canadian Library Association (CLA) President John Teskey on October 15th, 2009.

Mr. Teskey is the Director of Libraries at the University of New Brunswick and Past President of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL). He has served as the CLA President since June 2009.

Mr. Teskey delivered an hour-long talk to SLAIS students about his career, the Canadian Library Association, and the benefits of membership and involvement in professional organizations. He discussed the importance of networking at conferences, as both an aid for job searching and for developing a sense of professional identity.

Mr. Teskey also described a proposed change to CLA membership dues for new graduates that would bridge the student membership rate with the current fee for full professional dues. If implemented, Mr. Teskey believes the new rate would help prevent CLA membership losses among recent MLIS graduates.

Mr. Teskey announced the June 2010 [CLA Conference](#) that will be held in Edmonton, and mentioned that volunteer opportunities might be available for SLAIS students.

CLA prizes were given away at the talk, including a free one-year CLA membership that was won by a SLAIS student.

Jeannine Stickle is an MLIS student at SLAIS and the Canadian Library Association Representative for the BCLA/CLA Student Chapter at SLAIS.