

Passing the Torch

By Sandra Wong.

Behind the scenes of publishing

Librarians generally work in a world of published information, in books, magazines, journals and other electronic resources. We review and collect mostly published materials in our working lives. We are often involved in the economy of publishing, mostly as consumers and curators. It is rare for working librarians to participate in the technical aspects of the publishing process. Many librarians are or have been authors, and there are lots of association newsletters and publications out there, but probably few librarians get behind the scenes in the technical production of an online or a print publication.

Librarian conversations around publishing usually revolve around authors and publishers. I suspect that few comment on the design, editing and layout of a publication. Having spent the last 3 years as the Editor of the BCLA Browser, I have a new appreciation for all the technical production work that forms the workflow of creating a publication, especially in an online environment. I now understand the meaning of all those job titles listed on the masthead of a magazine or journal: Manager, Editor, Assistant Editor, Reviewers, Copy Editors, Layout Editors, Designers, Photographers, Sales, Advertising...etc... and notwithstanding the authors themselves.

Member contributions

Indeed, without the willingness of members to contribute and share their stories as authors by making a submission to the BCLA Browser, there would be nothing for us to publish. Thank you to all the authors who have helped to make the BCLA Browser a success.

I would also like to give special thanks to [Simon Fraser University Library](#) – my employer and the host of the [BCLA Browser](#). In addition to the generous donation of hosting services, the technical support provided by the [PKP Open Journal Systems](#) community at SFU has always been prompt and courteous. These thanks go to Kevin Stranack especially, and to numerous other SFU Library systems staff and OJS programmers for

always responding promptly to any questions I had about using OJS.

The Editorial Team

Many thanks also go to current and past members of the Editorial team who helped me put each issue together in time for the scheduled publication date.

All your contributions are greatly appreciated. Indeed, I could not have published it without your assistance. Please join me in saying thanks to all past and current members of the BCLA Browser Editorial Team:

- Rebecca Cleaver
- Ada Con
- Diane Cruickshank
- Joseph Haigh
- Roën Janyk
- Leanna Jantzi
- Shannon LaBelle,
- Katherine Miller
- Tara Stephens
- Donald Taylor
- Christine Wallace
- Jim Walsh

Handing over the reigns

I pass the torch with great confidence to Leanna Jantzi, Liaison Librarian at Okanagan College. She has been with the BCLA Browser as a section editor since the beginning. I am certain that Leanna will bring fresh eyes, great enthusiasm and new ideas to keep the BCLA Browser relevant and valuable to members.

It has been a fantastic 3 years and I have gained new insight into the business of publishing as Editor, a perspective that will help me in my library career when talking to publishers and vendors.

*Sandra Wong is the Electronic Resources Librarian at
Simon Fraser University Library.*