

Continuing Education Committee Annual Report: 2011-2012

By Sylvia Nurse.

Members of the 2011 Continuing Education Committee

Our committee was well represented by members from around the province: Melanie Houlden (Director), Sylvia Nurse (Chair), Kathy Anderson, May Chan, Michael DeKoven, Anthea Goffe, Ben Harrison, Susan Laidlaw, Ophelia Ma, Deb Nielsen, Susan Redmond, Allison Richardson and Susan Walters.

Overview

This past year has been another busy and successful one for the CE Committee! We gained three new members and five workshops were organized.

We were very delighted to welcome the following new members to the committee: Melanie Houlden (Surrey Libraries), Deb Nielsen (UNBC) and Susan Redmond.

Allison Richardson (Kwantlen) will be stepping down temporarily from the committee. She has been a valuable member of the committee for many years. Her contributions, enthusiasm, hard work and support are greatly appreciated. We'd also like to thank Deb Nielsen (UNBC) for her contributions to the committee. She is stepping down as her term with ALPS has ended.

All the CE Committee meetings were well attended. Special thanks to the Burnaby Public Library and the Richmond Public Library for hosting the meetings!

Promoting Workshops

CE Workshops were promoted in the Events area on the BCLA website, on the BCLA listserv and the BCLA Continuing Education blog. Committee members discussed changing our web presence and organizing workshops in a new innovative format. It was agreed upon that we need a tool to:

- connect with more members
- house professional development events around BC in one convenient place
- Improve communication and visibility
- Increase attendance

Two committee members were tasked with investigating a tool for a proposed calendar of events.

Workshops

The CE Committee is committed to offering a variety of excellent professional development events each year and this past year was no exception. The following events were organized:



Sylvia Nurse

"Read Dating": Library staff + authors meet face-to-face! - May 12, 2011 (Vancouver)

This was a fun & social event with an educational twist (and no, it wasn't actually about dating). Participants had the chance to talk shop with authors and ask them those pesky questions they always wanted to know. Authors writing in romance, mystery, thriller, children's and YA represented their genres! Many thanks to Vancouver Public Library for hosting this wonderful event at the Central Branch.

Introduction to Patents for Librarians and Information Professionals - June 24, 2011 (Vancouver)

Instructor: Michael White

This workshop introduced participants to the many types of patent documents and patent search tools. Patents are an increasingly important source of scientific and technical information, much of which is not published in journals. In 2010, more than two million new patent applications were filed worldwide. The patent literature is interdisciplinary and international, encompassing innovations in every field of technology, during the last two hundred years. Patents reveal the current state-of-the-art and provide vital information for making informed decisions about new research projects and business opportunities. Many thanks to University of British Columbia for hosting this workshop at the Vancouver campus.

Teaching and Training in a Library Setting - November 25, 2011 (Burnaby)

Instructor: Kay Cahill

This workshop explored a variety of different instructional styles, tools and techniques for designing and delivering engaging training sessions, inspiring your audience to learn, and overcoming the common training challenges encountered in libraries. Training has become an integral part of our profession, whether providing instruction for patrons or other library staff. Working with adult learners and mixed ability groups creates a unique set of challenges, which can often seem quite daunting to the new or inexperienced trainer. Many thanks to Burnaby Public Library for hosting this workshop at the Tommy Douglas Branch.

Introduction to web scripting with PHP - February 16-17, 2012 (Burnaby)

Instructors: Mark Jordan and John Durno

This course introduced the creation of dynamic web pages using the popular PHP scripting language. Participants learned how to write web pages that vary their output based on user input. The basic building blocks of PHP and web programming were covered in a series of hands-on exercise, including: variables, arrays, control structures, sessions, and web application security. Many thanks to Simon Fraser University for hosting this workshop at the Burnaby Campus.

Introduction to Data Manipulation Using Perl - April 12-13, 2012 (Richmond)

Instructors: Mark Jordan and John Durno

This course introduced participants to basic but useful techniques for manipulating the most common data formats encountered in library work: delimited, MARC

(MACHINE-Readable Cataloging) and XML (Extensible Markup Language). Many thanks to Richmond Public Library for hosting this workshop at the Brighthouse Branch.

Education Institute (EI)

The CE Committee liaison was responsible for promoting EI sessions to the BC library community and presenting ideas to the Education Institute committee for EI sessions.

2011 Preconference Sessions

CE offered 1 full day and 4 half-day preconference sessions at the 2011 conference:

- Making Space for the Future & Library as 3rd Space (full day)
- In the Spotlight - Designating & Training your media person (half day)
- Demystifying BC Gov Docs (half day)
- Ergonomics Fun! VPL's Program (half day)
- Single Search? The promises and pitfalls of web-scale discovery (half day)

250 and the Sunshine Coast Incentive Grant

The committee reviewed applications for the grant and were very pleased to award one grant of \$1000 to the Kootenay Library Federation (et al) to support the creation of a video for the 2012 BCLA Conference "The Library Connects Our Community" session.

Sylvia Nurse is a librarian and has served on the Continuing Education Committee since 2006.