



CAPAL Connections

Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians

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Politics of Conversation



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Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the results of this year's election to the Board of Directors. Three candidates put their names forward to fill three vacancies and were therefore elected as a slate. 70 of the Association's eligible members cast votes with 69 votes approving the slate and one vote against the slate. The following three candidates were elected to the Board for terms running from 2019-2022.

1. Mary Greenshields (University of Alberta)
2. Kevin Tanner (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology)
3. Dom Taylor (University of Manitoba)

On behalf of the Association, the Nominating Committee would like to thank the outgoing members of the Board - Anna Wilson, Lisa Richmond, and Doug Fox - for their incredible contributions and stellar stewardship of the organization.

Jeff Newman, Nominating Committee Chair

Advocacy Committee

The mandate of the Advocacy Committee is to advocate for the rights, professional autonomy and interests of academic librarians, nationally and internationally; to research and develop informed opinions; and to work with the standing committees, CAPAL's Board of Directors, and external organizations in the promotion and advancement of issues and causes.

Summary of 2018 - 2019 Projects:

- Congress 2018 panels (June 2018)
- Statement on CFLA National Forum Paper (November 2018)
- University of Lethbridge letter (March 2019)
- CAPAL's second census of Canadian academic librarians (April 2019)

Anticipated Goals & Objectives for 2019 - 2020:

- Grow membership to enable response to more advocacy-related issues
- Committee information session at CAPAL 2019 in Vancouver
- Address ongoing deprofessionalization and other issues in the field

We invite new members interested in advocacy to join the committee. If you would like to get involved or have questions please contact Mary Greenshields, mgreensh@ualberta.ca and/or attend the committee information session at [CAPAL 2019](#).

Mary Greenshields, Advocacy Committee Chair

Research and Scholarship Committee

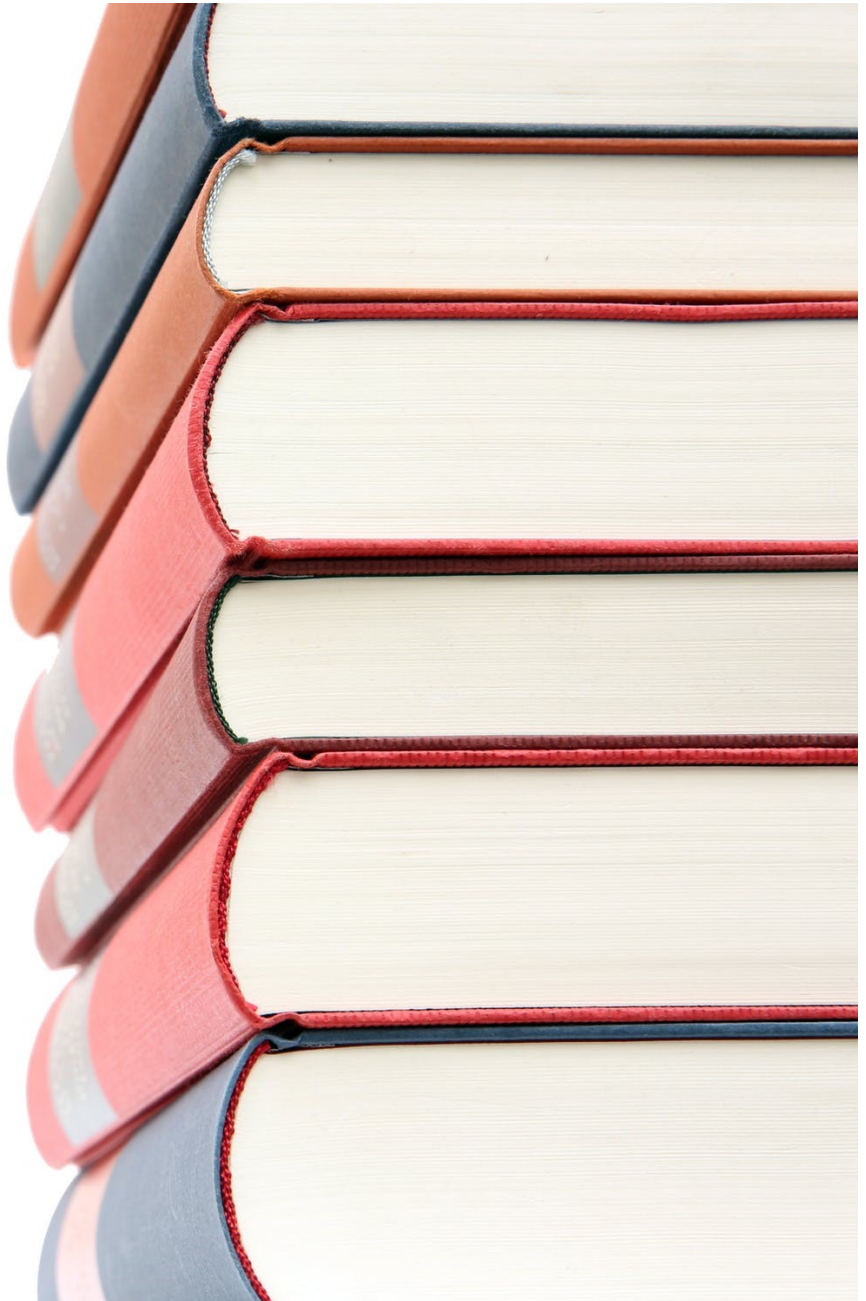
The Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC) has been hard at work this year on two important initiatives that support and promote the diverse scholarly work of Canadian professional academic librarians.

First, we had the wonderful opportunity to guest edit a special issue of the Canadian Journal of Academic Librarianship focused on research and scholarship. The issue aims to engage with the question: What is research and scholarship for academic librarians? The issue contains six peer-reviewed articles and three book reviews and will be out in May 2019 at <https://cjal.ca>.

We also launched our Annual Online Lecture Series. Our first lecture, presented by Sarah Polkinghorne, was held on March 5, 2019, and was entitled "Things Nobody Taught Me: Influences that Shape a Researcher". You can view a recording of Sarah's talk [here](#). Based on the success of the inaugural lecture, the RSC plans to host one online lecture annually going forward.

The Research and Scholarship Committee welcomes input from CAPAL's membership. You can read more about us [here](#).

Jenaya Webb, Research and Scholarship Committee Co-Chair



Keep in touch with CAPAL/ACBAP!





CAPAL19 Conference Activities

CAPAL is offering a few ways to connect with other conference attendees at our annual conference in Vancouver this June. Join us on June 2nd for karaoke or board games in the evening hosted by members of the conference organizing committee, or meet new people and enjoy local food at a dine around. Registration in advance is required for these activities, see more details below.

The conference organizing committee has also booked a space at Biercraft just east of the UBC Campus on June 4th for an informal conference wrap up event. No formal registration is required, but please follow the RSVP link below to let us know if you'll be coming!

La Cigale

1961 W 4th Ave
Cuisine: French Bistro
June 2nd (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
Register [here](#).

The Eatery

3431 W Broadway
Cuisine: Japanese/Sushi
June 2nd (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
Register [here](#).

Burgoo Kitsilano

2272 W 4th Ave
June 2nd (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
Cuisine: Comfort Food
Register [here](#).

Karaoke at Fantacity

1133 Robson St
June 2nd (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
Register [here](#).



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Board Games at Storm Crow Tavern

1305 Commercial Dr
June 2nd (6:30 - 9:30 p.m.)
Register [here](#).

Conference Wrap Up at Biercraft

3340 Shrum Lane
June 4th (1:00 p.m. onwards)
RSVP [here](#).

*** Please note: Depending on the uptake of the conference activities, the conference organizing committee may add additional dine arounds. Attendees are responsible for their own food and drink at all events. Online registration for conference events will close on June 1st. There will be a sign up sheet for any remaining spots at the conference registration desk.

National Student Committee

The National Student Committee has been working hard to overcome the challenges of recruitment and student engagement. Our local student chapters have continued to offer a number of successful, original, and engaging programming and events. For instance, a cultural competency workshop series, academic library tours, a peer mentorship program, a Harry Potter themed fundraiser, and more. To address the issue of high student turnover, the NSC is planning on encouraging membership for both current students and recent graduates on the committee. Thank you to the NSC members who have served this past year. Your enthusiasm, dedication and commitment contributed to this year's successes. Student contributions at a local level are also appreciated, as these efforts made events, communications, and learning opportunities possible.

Lisl Schoner-Saunders, National Student Committee Chair

Communications Committee

The CAPAL Communications Committee provides communications support and assistance to the Board and other committees. To this end, the committee aims to either develop communications at the request of others or to disseminate already developed communications. In addition, the committee has several standing communications initiatives such as the biannual Newsletter and regular social media postings that we solicit from other committees.

This past year, the Committee has worked diligently to distribute and communicate the activities of the Board and CAPAL's committees. Additionally, the Committee developed a new initiative to showcase our membership by developing a "Member Profile" series. Kevin would like to extend a thanks to all of the committee for their work on putting this together and to Chris Thomas for soliciting the content each month.

Next year, the committee will continue to liaise with committees to ensure their information is communicated and marketed appropriately. Additionally, the committee should take on projects related to French inclusiveness in the association as directed by the board and further investigate ways to reduce translation costs incurred by communications efforts.

This year, Kevin will be stepping down from the Committee to join the CAPAL Board of Directors. He would like to thank the entire committee for their work over the past two years, with a special thanks to Colleen Burgess who originally invited him to join the Committee when he was on co-op at Western University. Her experience and mentorship on CAPAL and in general has been invaluable.

Kevin Tanner, Communications Committee Chair

Diversity and Equity Committee

Over the 2018-2019 year, the Diversity & Equity Committee sought to enhance the ability of students from traditionally underrepresented populations in the library profession to attend the annual CAPAL conference, through a proposed Diversity Scholarship. The CAPAL Board has agreed with this idea in principle, and it was suggested that the Committee should seek sponsorships to fund it. To this end, the Committee is in the process of drafting letters of solicitation to send to academic libraries and database vendors.

The second major initiative was a proposal for the CAPAL 2019 conference involving a discussion of the themes and implications of the 2017 Library Juice Press book, *Topographies of Whiteness: Mapping Whiteness in Library and Information Science*. Unfortunately, the proposal was ultimately rejected.

The Committee is looking forward to taking on new initiatives in the coming year, including developing and hosting a webinar series for CAPAL members on diversity and equity issues.

Michael Dudley and Maha Kumaran, Diversity and Equity Committee Co-Chairs

Web Content Accessibility Guideline (WCAG) Community of Practice

The Web Content Accessibility Guideline (WCAG) community of practice meets on a monthly basis to learn how to reduce barriers encountered by people with disabilities when using the web. We have completed a seven-month intro to WCAG, gone on a [WCAG field trip](#), and done a five-month case study to develop a WCAG evaluation methodology. Member Aneta Kwak (New College) was invited to speak at [Code4Lib North in April](#) and members Jasmine Clark (Temple) and Mark Weiler (Laurier) were invited to MIT Libraries for a [national forum on principles for designing accessible and inclusive digital library systems](#). In 2018, we hosted a [Global Accessibility Awareness Day webinar by Greg Vanderheiden](#) (co-editor of WCAG 2.0).

We are now meeting experts to discuss their accessibility work. Asako Yoshida (Manitoba) is organizing the next GAAD webinar. Mark Weiler (Laurier), a certified Web Accessibility Specialist, facilitates the CoP. Interested? Contact Mark at mweiler@wlu.ca.

Mark Weiler, WCAG Community of Practice Coordinator

Publications Committee

The Publications Committee has been hard at work the past few months, specifically on our CAPAL/ACBES Survey of the Membership. In January 2019, we collected responses from the general membership to create a report on current satisfaction levels of the association and to help direct all committees toward new work. We are currently coding the results into themes and drafting reports to be presented and distributed among the committees.

Currently, we are reviewing applications for a new editor for the Canadian Journal of Academic Librarianship. As the oversight committee for the journal, we will be putting forward a name for the new editor this spring. The Publications Committee is also looking forward to working with the Conference Committee to collect, review, and disseminate the conference proceedings for CAPAL19.

If you would like more information on our projects or upcoming work, please feel free to contact us by email at capalpublications@gmail.com.

Amanda Wheatley, Publications Committee Chair

Education and Professional Development Committee

It's been a busy year! Big thanks to the Education and Professional Development (EPD) committee members for their work over the past year, including Martha Attridge Bufton, Deniz Cevik, Rhiannon Jones, Donna Langille, Lorisia MacLeod, Caitlin McClurg, Diane Michaud, Helen Power and Mark Weiler.

The EPD supports CAPAL/ABCES's Communities of Practice and we're looking for expressions of interest for new topics and facilitators. What topic in the field are you passionate about? Are you looking for opportunities to share and converse with your colleagues? A Community of Practice may be an ideal platform. Let us know!

Current Communities of Practice:

- Information Literacy, coordinated by Helen Power and facilitated by Carol Leibiger
- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, facilitated by Mark Weiler

For more information about or to join the EPD Committee or a Community of Practice please contact James Murphy or reach out to a facilitator. Guidelines and committee members are available to provide support.

James Murphy, Education and Professional Development Committee chair