



CAPAL-ACBES

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES BIBLIOTHÉCAIRES EN ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR

Board of Directors Report to the Annual General Meeting

Hybrid Meeting

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Voting Directors

- Aneta Kwak (University of Toronto), Chair
- Courtney Lundrigan (University of Victoria)
- Richard Hayman (Mount Royal University)
- Kyle Feenstra (University of Manitoba)
- Hannah Tanna (University of Toronto)
- Katie Harding (McMaster University)
- Carol A. Leibiger (University of South Dakota)

- Amanda Wills (Northwestern Polytechnic)
- Sarah Wood-Gagnon (University of Rochester), Vice-Chair

Update on Standing Committees

Welcome to new (co)chairs this year:

- Tianyang (Joe) Qiu (Western University), Student Committee Chair
- Brianna Calomino, University of Calgary, Membership Committee Co-Chair
- Hiu Wing Sze (Ann), Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine, Membership Committee Co-Chair

Welcome to the new Secretary

- Yeliz Baloglu Cengay (University of Toronto)

Update on Partnerships with Other Associations

- **Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA):** Based upon the direction of the AGM 2016, CAPAL/ACBES joined the CFLA-FCAB for a period of three years (to be reviewed on a three-year cycle), for the membership cost of \$300 per year. This cost was and will be applied as a levy in addition to your CAPAL/ACBES membership dues. Membership with CFLA will be up for review in 2025.
- **Canadian Association of Learned Journals:** We have an annual membership with this organization in support of our journal, the Canadian Journal of Academic Librarianship / Revue canadienne de bibliothéconomie universitaire.
- **International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA):** We have been associated with IFLA since ~2013.
- **National Indigenous Knowledge & Language Alliance / Alliance nationale des connaissances et des langues autochtones (NIKLA-ANCLA):** CAPAL joined NIKLA as an institutional member in September 2023.

Update on Student Chapters & Student Support

- Tianyang (Joe) Qiu has been serving as the Student Committee Chair and Liaison to the Board

- To support the upcoming Student Mentorship program and the professional development of students and new graduates, the Student Committee is starting a new LinkedIn group with Board approval, and is currently gathering student input for logo design ideas to be submitted to the Board for final decision.
- Update on current and future active chapters
 - McGill University Chapter - recently started a new Instagram account to promote events, the current chair is graduating, and is in the process of selecting a successor
 - Western University Chapter - chapter on hiatus, one PhD student is taking an unspecified executive role
 - University of Toronto Chapter - had several recent events, and successfully requested funding from the Board for their Human Library event
 - University of British Columbia Chapter - the current chair is still working on reviving the chapter
 - University of Alberta Chapter - 4 students expressed a clear interest in reviving the chapter over the summer. The chapter is currently represented by a librarian and CAPAL member there for the Student Committee meetings.

Update on the Canadian Journal of Academic Librarianship

In 2024 the Canadian Journal of Academic Librarianship / Revue Canadienne de bibliothéconomie universitaire published [volume 10, with a Special Focus on Libraries and/as Extraction](#). The volume comprised 13 articles, 10 of which were from the special focus section. A webinar celebrating the newly-launched issue was held on April 8th, 2025, included authors from six of those articles, and was well-attended.

In 2025, the journal is publishing [volume 11, with a Special Issue on Reflections and Speculations on Critical Librarianship](#) guest edited by Sam Popowich (University of Winnipeg), Lydia Zvyagintseva (University of Alberta), and Maura Seale (University of Michigan). To date, three articles have been published as part of volume 11. Thank you to the guest editors, to our authors, and to our peer reviewers for contributing to the rigour and excellence of our journal.

After our call for co-editors in 2024, CJAL has welcomed a team of both new

and returning co-editors, onboarded through the fall: Emily Carlisle (Western University), Chelsea Humphries (Memorial University), Maura Seale (University of Michigan), Nailisa Tanner (McGill University), and Lydia Zvyagintseva (University of Alberta). We have also established a team of copy editors: William Denton (York University), Dave Hudson (University of Guelph), Leanna Jantzi (Simon Fraser University), and Elaina Lawn (University of Regina). We will be onboarding a new French editor in the coming months, following an open call.

After retiring CJAL's Twitter/X account during the previous year, we are now active on social media via [Bluesky](#) and [Instagram](#).

Goals for the coming year include growing our reach on our new social media platforms, revising our journal statistics collection, and reviewing and enhancing our anti-racist editorial practices.

Projects Completed

- A working group developed the Terms of Reference for a Conference Planning standing committee to provide more continuity and stability for individuals involved in planning the annual conference. The development of a standing committee demonstrates the value of the annual CAPAL conference for our community and the Board's commitment to supporting the continuation of an annual conference.
- The Treasurer and past Treasurer successfully transitioned the CAPAL banking institution from BMO to TD.
- A CAPAL Translator Working Group provided a list of 4 translation service options, including two agencies (Acolad and Stevenson) and two individual translators (Jonathan Dorey and Wordfrog). All four services were approved by the Board and shared with the Communications Committee and Publications Committee to select their preferred options for translation needs.
- The Board updated the CAPAL Funding Policy and provided a French translation. The Chair also developed an online Google form to collect funding request submissions.
- The Board approved the [CAPAL Research Summer Accelerator Program Pilot](#), a six-week certificate-based learning opportunity.
- The Advocacy Committee wrote a [letter of support for the supporting funding for Ontario college libraries](#). This letter was approved by the Board and submitted to Premier Doug Ford and Minister Nolan Quinn.

- The Board provided a public statement on the proposed revisions to the Tri-Agency open access mandate.
- Continued to work towards a financially healthy CAPAL, by increasing revenues and membership, and reviewing costs, as well as creating investments.
- Will continue to develop better experiences for membership by responding to issues as they arise.

Projects in Progress

- An Online Workspace Working Group was formed to explore the online workspace needs of the association and suitable options. Members explored alternatives to larger US based corporations (Google, Microsoft, Zoom) due to privacy and security concerns. They are currently collecting input from Chairs of Committees and Facilitators of CAPAL Community of Practices to assess the online workspace needs and preferences of these CAPAL groups.
- A Webmaster Working Group was struck to develop a Webmaster posting and to facilitate the search and selection of a new Webmaster. The addition of a Webmaster role as an Officer in the CAPAL By-Laws has been proposed in the By-Laws update, which will be presented at the CAPAL AGM for approval. The working group is currently reviewing CV's of interested individuals and plans to complete the on boarding in June.

CAPAL25 Conference

Conference Theme: The Fabric of Librarianship: A Patchwork of Experience

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the Conference Organizing Committee for their dedication, leadership and efforts in bringing together an informative conference.

Conference Organizing Committee:

- Julie Morris (Conference Co-Manager and Program Chair)
- Nathan Wolfe (Conference Co-Manager and Communications Coordinator)
- Yeliz Baloglu Cengay(Local Arrangements Coordinator)

- Kyle Feenstra (Budget Officer)

Program Subcommittee:

- Jennie Fallis
- Tina Liu

Thanks and Appreciation

I would like to take a moment to thank all the Board members, all the Committee Chairs, and all the Committee and Community of Practice facilitators who have served this year. CAPAL has had a successful year thanks to the hard work and dedication of its volunteers, board members, committee members, and members at large. Thank you so much for all you do and for allowing me the privilege of working with you all.

Respectfully submitted,

Aneta Kwak, Chair

On behalf of CAPAL/ACBES Board of Directors, 2024-2025