

VALL REVIEW

Volume 17, No.1 (November 2004)

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The VALL REVIEW is the official newsletter of the Vancouver Association of Law Libraries. VALL is composed of members of the law library community interested in discussing issues and sharing ideas. Opinions expressed in the newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent VALL policy or position. Unsolicited submissions are welcome. VALL reserves the right to edit submissions.

<http://www.vall.vancouver.bc.ca>

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THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Valerie Grace, President

Welcome everyone to the first edition of the VALL Review for the 2004-2005 year!

I would like to extend a great big thank you to the [past Executive](#) and to Joanne Lecky as VALL President, for all the hard work last year in putting together such informative luncheon programs, maintaining the website, communicating information, maintaining records and accounts, and publishing the VALL Review for the membership. Everyone did such a super job making all the arrangements and participating in the behind the scenes work necessary to keep everything running smoothly.

And of course, welcome to all the new members of this year's Executive. I am looking forward to an interesting and rewarding year serving on the Executive, and I hope you are too!

Our September luncheon did not go quite as planned, as foggy weather kept the float planes in the harbour. Gail Nash was unfortunately unable to join us as the featured program speaker. However, some very quick thinking by our clever Program Coordinators Steve Matthews and Elena Timoshchouk saved the day. We were treated to a very interesting talk on Class Actions by Derek Mullan, QC of Clark Wilson. A very big thank you to Mr. Mullan for filling in at the last minute. We will definitely look into rescheduling Gail Nash as a luncheon speaker in the new year.

VALL Program Coordinators, in consultation with the June 2004 Roundtable Survey, are organizing the remaining fall luncheon schedule. The October lunch will feature Paul Whitney, Chief Librarian of Vancouver Public Library. The Executive is working hard on arrangements for the upcoming luncheon meetings.

After the Roundtable Survey in June 2004, this year the Executive would like to obtain more feedback from the membership on an ongoing basis, regarding your thoughts, what you would like to see VALL do for you, and find new ways of communicating with each other. By now, the first online survey has been e-mailed to members, and results are summarized in this newsletter issue. We plan to send out mini-surveys this year and report results to members at the monthly meetings and on the VALL website.

Please remember, VALL is your Association and it should serve its membership in a helpful, informative and creative manner. The Executive encourages you to use the VALL website, contribute to the VALL Review, and send us your thoughts and tips, as well as suggestions for guest speakers and topics of interest. We want to make VALL a useful and informative means of communicating. And oh yes, please consider serving on the VALL Executive. It's a great way to meet new colleagues and expand your professional experience.

FROM THE EDITORS



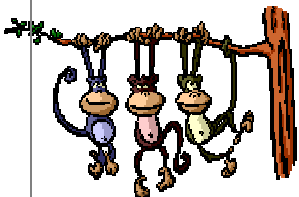
Jean Chong & Christina Tribe, Co-Editors

This bountiful issue is proof that there so much for us to share. There are a few surprises, not the least of which is the length of this newsletter! Hope you enjoy the feature articles by Sarah Munro and Frances Wong as much as we did, and are as interested as we were by the results of the last VALL Roundtable survey.

Consider contributing to the next *VALL Review*. We're looking for future submissions, including: articles, research, tips or tricks, or a blurb on a useful Internet resource. Don't underestimate what you know. A wealth of expertise exists among the VALL membership and we encourage you to share your advice and experiences. We will continue to approach potential authors directly for possible newsletter articles.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this BIG (news, tips, submissions, size) issue. Please continue to forward your ideas and submissions to jchong@blgcanada.com or ctribe@hgelaw.com. Our guidelines are located on the last page of this newsletter.

VALL Goes Bananas for Survey Monkey



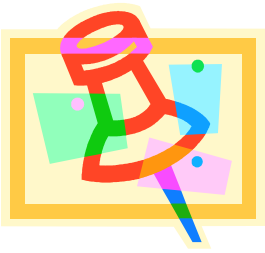
Steve Matthews, VALL Co-Program Coordinator

A Survey Monkey? Yes, a Survey Monkey. Stop laughing, it's **free!** The VALL Executive recently began our monthly mini-surveys with the Survey Monkey --a free web-survey service. Rather than bombard people with a long year end survey, we decided to break down the feedback process. And the results have been great - 65 members responded, with 15 taking the time to make additional comments. [*In comparison, there were only 32 year-end surveys, with few comments. See Survey Says! on page 3. --Ed.*]

The first Survey Monkey question was "**Which new services would be valued additions to YOUR VALL membership?**" VALL members selected from four options: a Listserv, a Members Only Discussion Forum, an Annual Conference, and a Salary Survey. The final results showed a 3-way race between the **Listserv** (40 votes), **Salary Survey** (40 votes), and the **Discussion Forum** (38 votes), with the idea of an Annual Conference trailing behind (17 votes).

What does this all mean? The first issue we took from the survey was that VALL should be looking at how to facilitate electronic communication among members. No one at the most recent VALL Executive meeting had a definitive solution, but the survey prompted some very productive discussion. The second issue of the Salary Survey was also very interesting. Some of the written responses felt we would be replicating the efforts of the CALL survey, while another said the exact opposite, commenting that "CALL is not considered regionally reflective by local managers. It would be nice to have a very specific sample to show our bosses." Whether the future holds a VALL Salary Survey or not remains to be seen, but at least now we have some demonstrated interest and opinions to base our decisions going forward.

The VALL Executive is very happy with the initial use of the Survey Monkey service, and would encourage members to take the time to vote. Each survey should take less than five minutes to complete, and it's a great way to make your contribution to the VALL community.



Survey Says! VALL 2004 Members' Survey Results

Highlights by Christina Tribe, VALL Co-Editor

2004 Survey Results compiled by Elena Timoschchouk & Gillian Crabtree

VALL received responses from 32 surveys as part of the annual VALL Roundtable during the June luncheon.

- **Members were most satisfied with** the presentation by Annie Rochette, from UBC on "*Online vs Print Legal Research Tools - Convincing the Google Generation.*" Survey respondents were also enthusiastic about the "Knowledge Management & Corporate Culture" program by speaker Ginger Grant, conversely a few respondents rated that program as "dissatisfactory."
- **Speaker that most survey respondents wanted to see again?** Annie Rochette from UBC Faculty of Law and Sylvia Teasedale from the BC Courthouse Library. Respondents wanted more speakers from UBC Law School (professors or librarians).
- **Survey respondents were MOST interested in the following topics & issues:** current awareness tools; monitoring legislation; electronic search skills; knowledge management; technology and trends; budgeting techniques & vendor relationships.
- **Respondents were LEAST interested in:** business writing; running a meeting; public speaking; relationships/ reporting structures; marketing; solo librarianship; presentations on human resource management and licensing. **NOTE:** these topics rated only slightly lower than the topics respondents were most interested in.
- **Is the VALL Review informative?** The majority of survey respondents agreed.
What is the most preferred format? .pdf
Should the VALL Review continue? Almost 50% of the respondents said there should be no change to the VALL Review. The other 50% said there should be a reduction of issues. A few respondents suggested the VALL Review be discontinued and instead have members rely solely on the website for information.
- **How can we encourage VALL Review submissions?** Directly approach members to write on a Hot Topic; request comments on topics and to give advance notice for potential contributors, set a theme for each issue and lastly compile results from surveys. There were also suggestions for an "Article of the Year" award or prize for the best submission.
- **Regarding the VALL Review format:** Keep articles short and easier to read; use bulleted Tips & Tricks; have regular columns; "Social Notes" and profile a different library/ firm each review.
- **The best way to attract and retain volunteers for the executive:** have two people for each position; or conversely "reduce the VALL Executive to have fewer members;" "don't charge the executive for the luncheons."
- **Comments regarding the job descriptions:** "Have more detailed job descriptions;" "have more information on the positions;" "inform other members on how much each job takes;" "write a publication entitled 'Executive Myths Debunked'" and "form a relationship path among positions."
- **Additional comments and suggestions:** "Keep up the good work!" "The meetings were well done and the programs were excellent;" "Why were the membership fees increased? -- How did it come about? -- Was the issue voted on?;" "Have a non-vendor event (to discuss some particular issues);" such as "A wine testing meeting".

Treasurer's Report: Show Us the Money

VALL Statement of Income and Expenses. Aug. 1, 2003 – Jul. 31, 2004

Submitted by Kathy Barry, VALL Treasurer Aug. 2003-Jul. 2004

INCOME	Membership fees	\$2900.00
EXPENSES	Postage and Office Supplies	90.65
	Post Office Box	133.75
	Bank Charges (Net)	6.72
	Lunch Meetings (Net)	320.78
	VALL Domain	95.23
	Speakers' Gifts	755.09
NET INCOME		1497.78
Chequing Account Balance	As of July 31, 2004	3961.85
VEPDF (VALL Education Program Development Fund. Est. Apr. '04)		500.00
Total		4461.85
Shares		76.75
Peter Bark Memorial Fund	Term deposit (matures April 22, 2006)	10,500.00
	T-Bill Savings Account	2898.47
	Shares	95.53

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Alaina Buckingham, VALL Membership



New Members

Liam McConachy, Whitelaw, Twining. Vancouver. 604-682-5217

Radha Reddy, Vancouver. Radha_reddy@hotmail.com

Ana Rosa Blue, Lions Gate Hospital Library. North Vancouver. anarosa.blue@vch.ca

Note: If you have recently switched employers, please drop a line to VALL Co-editors!



A Change of Library Manager at BLG

Anne Beresford, Retired

It is with mixed feelings that I am retiring after 24 years with Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, formerly Ladner Downs. An exceptional law firm, BLG is able to instill in its lawyers and staff a strong sense of loyalty and attachment to the firm. Being their law librarian has provided me with a rewarding career and a continually stimulating environment. This career has also enabled me to network with the VALL library community to whom I will be forever grateful for all that I have learned and shared through the years.

I am most pleased to advise you that Jean Chong has been appointed as BLG's new Library Manager, starting in mid November. Many of you know Jean as a member of the VALL executive and this year's editor of the VALL Newsletter.

Jean has a diverse background in information services, both in the public and private sectors, including 7 years in law. Originally obtaining her MLS degree from the University of Western Ontario, Jean has most recently been the Librarian at the Legal Services Society of BC since 2003. Her previous positions include Manager of Tax Research Centre with PricewaterhouseCoopers in Toronto, Reference Librarian with the Ontario Court of Appeal and Superior Court of Justice, and Librarian with the Ontario Ministry of Public Safety and Security.

Jean is not only a good fit for BLG, she is also fit herself, being an avid cyclist who rides her bike to work every day, rain or shine. I wish Jean every success in her new position.

To VALL members, please keep in touch. I will not be far away. My home email is beresford22@shaw.ca



TIPS 'N TRICKS— RESOURCES FOR RESEARCH & HEALTH

Christina Tribe. Library Technician, Harper Grey Easton

1) Vancouver Public Library – Electronic Resources for Card Holders

Michele Pye. Coordinator, Virtual Library, Vancouver Public Library

With a valid VPL library card, you can access various electronic databases via the web. Go to www.vpl.ca and select 'Electronic Resources' (or go directly to www.vpl.ca/extDB/login.remoteDB). You will be asked for your card and PIN numbers. From there, you can access many resources, including:

- MasterFILE Premier – a general interest database
- Canadian Newsstand – news with a Canadian perspective
- Library Literature – for library and information science sources
- World Book Encyclopedia – the online version of an old favourite
- Canada Info Desk - which integrates 6 directories, incl. the Canadian Almanac & Directory

2) Vancouver Public Library - Company Cards

If you have a VPL Company Card, you can access various electronic databases via the Internet, for FREE, from your desktop (see official VPL information above).

To apply for a Company Card, call VPL circulation (604-331-3680) and have them fax you the form. You will need a copy of your firm's business license, as well as a signature from someone with cheque writing authority. You can get as many cards as you need. The cards are FREE *as long as your company is located in Vancouver*, and all access rights are the same as individual patrons.

Please see "Acceptable Use of the Internet" policy on their Public Internet Access Policy page (<http://www.vpl.ca/general/publicInternetPolicy.html>)

Don't forget about the good people at VPL's InfoAction (<http://www.vpl.vancouver.bc.ca/infoaction/>), who are on hand to help with research on any subject, due diligence, mailing lists, research workshops and document delivery

3) The Informed Librarian Online <http://www.informedlibrarian.com/index.cfm>

The Informed Librarian is an American web site devoted to "Professional Reading for the Information Professional." Every month ILO compiles the most recent tables of contents from over 275 library resource titles, including domestic and foreign library/ information-related journals; e-journals; magazines; e-magazines; newsletters and e-newsletters. A new ILO feature includes six full text feature articles a month available free. There is also a "search module" for all journal contents. Free limited access, and paid full access to the entire collection-- including archives, for \$29USD. This service is operated by Infosources Publishing out of New Jersey.

4) Health & Fitness:

Vancouver Corporate Yoga is offering lunch time yoga classes at various locations downtown.. Hour long classes are offered usually twice per week, at noon and one o'clock.. The cost is a bargain at \$5 a class. For more information, check out their web site: <http://vancouvercorporateyoga.com/>

Got a pain in your neck (that isn't a lawyer)? **Massage Therapy** sessions may be available to you for cheap or free, double check your extended medical benefits policies. You do not need a doctor's referral. Go ahead -- give it a try! For more information, or to find an RMT, check the Registered Massage Therapists of BC web site: <http://www.massagetherapy.bc.ca/>



FEATURE ARTICLES:

CALL 2004 Conference Report Highlights – Quebec City.

by Sarah Munro. Reference Librarian, B.C. Courthouse Library Society

Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary Recipient

Thanks to the Peter Bark Bursary, I was able to attend the CALL Conference in Quebec City from May 16 to May 19, 2004. As you could have guessed, it was a wonderful experience. In fact, I would say it was the best conference I have been to.

The most anxiously awaited session at this CALL Conference was the one put on by the Vendors Liaison Committee and the Copyright Committee, discussing the SCC decision *CCH Canadian v. Law Society of Upper Canada*. My colleague Linda Morrison wrote about this for the previous *VALL Review*, so there is no need for me to elaborate on it now, other than to say everyone seemed to feel that we will have to wait a while longer for the issue to settle down completely, despite the fact that the case first began 10 years ago.

The theme of this year's conference was "Aim high, look ahead!" Tied to this was an excellent suite of sessions on management topics, all inspirational with moments of great practicality as well.

Session Summaries:

Understanding Emotional Intelligence

Two were given by Susan Freeman, of Workwise Partners, a business consulting firm. The first, "Understanding Emotional Intelligence", was based on her work with the Simmons Personal Survey which outlines 13 major facets of character which relate to success in life and measures them, and then those characteristics can be matched up to various types of jobs which have Simmons markers already established, to identify if the person is or will be a good fit for a certain type of job or opportunity. One of the encouraging aspects of this presentation was the stress laid on the fact that we can influence and change our emotional intelligence quotient (EQ) with sufficient effort. The more aware we are of our own EQ, the better we can adapt our behaviours to a group, and the more aware we are of others' EQ, the more we can capitalize on everyone's strengths.

Aiming in the Right Direction

The first session flowed nicely into Ms. Freeman's other presentation, "Aiming in the Right Direction: Showing Leadership at Work". This was a discussion of the differences between leadership and management, with reference to emotional intelligence characteristics. Leadership involves a vision of where the organization is going, while management involves how the organization is getting there. Neither role necessarily corresponds with an organization's strict hierarchy; they can occur in any position. Leaders tend to score higher in the EQ categories of direction, assertiveness, self-esteem, courage and tolerance, while managers need to be higher in the detail and work categories, with medium direction, assertiveness, and even lower tolerance (because they are the ones that need to keep others working to achieve the goal). Be aware: these terms are used quite specifically in the EQ context. For example, assertiveness means more a willingness to share what is going inside one's head, and is a measure of to what degree a person will try to motivate others to believe or do something, and to what degree a person can resist complying with others. Ms. Freeman used the example of two early polar explorers, Stefansson and Shackleton, to illustrate differences in types of leadership, what makes a good leader and what, in fact, makes a poor leader despite appearances. She recommended *Leading at the Edge: Leadership Lessons from the Extraordinary Saga of Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition* (Dennis N.T. Perkins. 2000: Amacom Press).

As an aside, I highly recommend attending sessions given by Susan Freeman. She spoke very well, was organized, kept to the point, followed her prepared presentation with enough adlibbing that it didn't seem rote by any means, and she had tailored it to a library audience which made it all the more relevant.

Further management-oriented sessions were given by two well known personalities in the Canadian library world: Ulla de Stricker and Stephen Abram. Unfortunately, I have to abbreviate their points drastically, but suggest you pursue suggested readings if interested.

Making the Bosses' and Clients' Jobs More Fun: Relationship Management Strategies for Influence

Ulla de Stricker suggested some strategies for forging pro-library relationships, trust, and business integration necessary to put law librarians in positions where they can influence the success of the organization. She suggested:

- Take the time to work on relationships within the organization, and keep at it.
- Insert ourselves into the reality and experience of our users since we can't expect them to turn to us by instinct.
- Hire for personality more than skills; skills can come later.
- Begin with an information audit to find out about the perception of the library.
- Monitor opinion constantly, in an informal way, to ensure that the library maintains the position and reputation you would like for it.
- Be sure to find out what internal and external pressures and work are affecting the organization.
- When fact finding, focus on the organization's projects, changes, plans, and expectations, rather than on specific information needs.
- Keep in mind that everyone is a possible future client in an organization, so maintain your presence and keep working at those relationships all the time.

Her reading reference is "Hunches and Lunches" (Ulla de Stricker, *Searcher*, April 2004, vol. 12, #4, p. 57).

It's All on Google –NOT! Selling Yourself in Competitive Times

Stephen Abram was very animated on the topic of "It's All on Google – NOT! Selling Yourself in Competitive Times". He gave suggestions about how librarians can position themselves with funders and user groups so that they understand the value of the information professional and also the value of the services they provide. Selling ourselves is crucial. He believes that we need to be arrogant about what we do well. As well, knowing what our users are looking for and how they'd like to do that looking helps us know how to sell better to our users. He covered 5 personality types and the kinds of information behaviour that result. ("Five Personality Dimensions and Their Influence on Information Behaviour", Jannica Heinstrom, Abo Akademi University, Finland (October 2003), <http://informationr.net/ir/9-1/paper165.html>). Selling means understanding the person you're selling to, not just telling them about the product. It can take place over a long period of time. It can be learned. We could also be selling functions, features, advantages, or benefits. There are a number of techniques to put a sale into action; the one Mr. Abram thinks we don't use often enough is plain old asking for the sale. He suggests we choose who we can sell to and sacrifice the others. He reminded us to use simple longstanding techniques such as business cards and e-mail signature files. Mr. Abram recommended two books that are written for non sales people: *Selling for People Who Hate to Sell: Everyday Selling Skills for the Rest of Us* (Ingrid McGrath Massie and John N. Watters, Prima Publishing, 1996) and *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Dynamic Selling* (Anthony Parinello, Alpha Books, 1998).

A Great Energy and Networking Booster

CALL Conferences are information packed and busy events, and I believe attendees come away with a general energy boost as far as work is concerned. There is one further invaluable element of the conferences: networking. Socially, the conferences are wonderful. I have found that the conference starts in the airport, because inevitably you are travelling on the same flight as someone else from Vancouver, and you pick up further conference attendees the more airports you go through. Somehow, travel together is a bonding experience, and you end up happily connected to the people from Vancouver

in a way that you rarely attain even with assiduous attendance at VALL lunches. Once at the conference, there is plenty of time to meet new people as well as to catch up with old connections. A number of librarians from foreign shores attend CALL conferences. I have new contacts now in Australia, the U.S., and South Africa, not to mention the renewed contacts across the country, and I'm happy to know that those people now have at least one contact in B.C., if not more, thanks to the CALL Conference. One hint: if you haven't been to a CALL Conference before, consider attending the breakfast held on the Sunday morning for first-time attendees. It is a good chance to meet people, and an opportunity to hear, in a cosier setting, about the work CALL is doing.

If this seems like advertising for CALL Conferences, it is, and it was made possible by the Peter Bark Bursary. My sincere thanks go to VALL for awarding me the Bursary this year. I strongly recommend that VALL members apply for it next year. The 2005 CALL Conference will be in St. John's, Newfoundland.



Report on AALL 2004 Annual Conference—Boston

Frances Wong. Reference Librarian, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

I would like to thank the firm Borden Ladner Gervais LLP for giving me the opportunity to attend the 97th Annual Meeting and Conference of the American Association of Law Libraries.

Overview

The 97th Annual Meeting and Conference of the **American Association of Law Libraries** was held in the beautiful and historical town of Boston, Massachusetts (July 10-14, 2004). The theme for 2004 was **Boston to Mumbai: The World of Legal Information**. Increasingly, we discover that law librarians are responding to questions that require them to access foreign and international legal information. This conference aimed to cover those topics and in addition, looked at the publication, access and preservation of foreign and international resources. The world of legal jurisprudence and the practice of law have all changed thanks to the advances of technology and the ability for instantaneous communication with people around the world. Law librarians need to operate outside of their own jurisdiction by thinking more globally about their work and to 'recognize the many ways entities, events and policies external to ... libraries impact the world of legal information.' As usual, the size of the American conference resulted in a wide variety of interesting sessions to choose and learn from. Below are summaries of a few of the sessions that I attended.

Delivering Documents to Mumbai: KM Strategies and Software for a Global Legal Environment

Nina Platt of Faegre & Benson LLP discussed what Knowledge Management (KM) was, what the future holds for KM, what roles KM team members play, the skills they need, and how to create a KM strategy. She concluded that KM is not just about systems, but that it is about connecting the right people together. We need to bridge the skills gap to be more effective and play a greater role in KM. Platt believes the future is both frustrating and exciting.

The other speaker, Steven Anderson of Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman Hoffberger & Hollander LLC, focused more on document management systems (DMS) and their advantages: all documents should ideally be in one place and can be searchable and catalogued by field etc. He took a balanced approach by discussing the positives and negatives of authority issues, searching issues and cataloguing issues. To quote Matthew Parsons (Law Technology News), DMS is a 'detailed catalogue of a junkyard' that contains both valuable and irrelevant information.

Globalization Moved My Cheese: Or, How Do I Find Foreign Law?

This was an extremely informative session that I believe can be applied when I get those occasionally odd and anxiety-inducing foreign law questions. Jean Wenger of Cook County Law Library reviewed the various types of legal systems: Common Law, Civil Law, and the Mixed Legal System. She gently informed the audience to "appreciate" the country's legal system and reminded us that terminology, translations, concepts and spelling may differ and will affect online searching. Mary Rusey of the University of Minnesota Law Library walked the audience through a sampling of foreign law questions and provided us with various options on how to handle them.

Crossing Borders: Teaching a Distance Education Research Course

Irene Good of the Boston College Law Library discussed her experience in creating an online distance education course in 2003. She talked about the factors to consider when moving a lecture-based course into an online format. She emailed students a course outline and requirements along with the resources needed for the course (Internet Explorer, Quick Time). She also included a course roster that included students' pictures. Students were required to read certain materials and to complete exercises, which allowed students to be proactive in their learning. In addition, students got hands-on experience by doing searches based on what they learned by watching CamStudio videos of Good Lecturing. There was also a WebCT bulletin board that provided valuable interaction between the students and instructor. While librarians do not need to take it to this level, the potential is there for us to create materials for incoming law students to learn research methods online and it would be beneficial for the students during hours where no library staff are available to assist them. I believe some of these tools would be applicable to any library intending to provide some sort of interactive instruction to its users!

Electronic Law Journals: The Invisible Literature

Deanna Barmakian of Harvard Law School Library gave a session on the ever-increasing number of electronic law journals. She did a broad survey of 65 electronic law journals from law schools in the US, Australia, Canada, Ireland, and the UK and came to a few conclusions. Most of these e-journals were difficult to identify as they were not catalogued and therefore not all available in OCLC. In fact, their representation was fairly spotty, with some overlap and some missing from OCLC, RLIN and Ulrich. Some catalogued records showed only the equivalent of the print-based journal. She came to the conclusion that these e-journals were multiplying rapidly - from 1 in 1993 (out of Australia) to 65 by 2004 and that most of these were specialized, in particular, to topics of law and technology and/or intellectual property, especially the earlier journals. She discussed some common features of e-journals, such as the fact that most are free, and ironically, published in a non-html article format (such as pdf). Many had email notifications of new issues but at the same time, there were trends towards migration of these electronic publications to print as well as the disappearance of older content off the web! The lack of standards and the fact that many student editors are not working with publishers mean that bibliographic conventions are not being followed; this is an area in which librarians can help make a change. Barmakian had a few predictions for e-journals: it is unlikely that they will replace or displace traditional print literature, newer e-journals are becoming more 'beautifully executed', and more are being created to the point that there will eventually be conventions or standards developed, and they will then be collected and maintained as their existing print cousins.

Harvard Law School Library Tour

Being in Boston, I could not pass up an opportunity to head to Cambridge to tour the law library at Harvard. Riding on a bus in the pouring rain, we pulled up to Harvard Law School, the oldest existing law school in the United States. I found out that the Harvard Law School Library is the "second largest member of the bibliographical commonwealth of Harvard University." Impressive figures for 2003 include a total staff of 120.82 of which 35.5 are librarians, and a budget exceeding ten million dollars. The library acquires more than 30 000 new books each year to add to its collection of over two million books, bound manuscripts, and volume-equivalents in microform, along with archival papers and an art collection. We were given a tour through acquisitions, cataloguing, and conservation and preservation (there is a full time conservationist!) before we made our way up into the main Reading Room. The Reading Room,

which houses U.S. law materials, had high ceilings and windows, giving it an open and spacious feeling. The artwork in some of the rooms was beautiful as well.

Conclusion

It is always energizing and inspiring to be surrounded by others in the same profession who are eager to share their knowledge with the rest of us, and I have returned with new ideas and knowledge gained that I hope to put to good use. While it's too late to attend the conference, I would also recommend a trip to Boston just for the sake of seeing this great historical city!



News from B.C. Courthouse Library Society

Submitted by Debbie Schachter, Head, Strategic Planning and Development & Sarah Munro, Reference Librarian

BCCLS Announces new Executive Director

The Board of Directors of the B.C. Courthouse Library Society announces the appointment of **Johanne A.C. Blenkin** as Executive Director of the BCCLS, commencing November 1, 2004.

Ms. Blenkin has been practicing law on Vancouver Island since 1994. From 1990 to 1994, she was Chief Librarian at Russell & DuMoulin where her responsibilities included management of the main library and three satellites. Ms. Blenkin was one of two CBA BC representatives to the BCCLS Board of Directors from 2000.

BCCLS staff welcome Ms. Blenkin to her new position.

Collection News from the B.C. Courthouse Library Society

Have you seen these titles yet? Contact us if you would like to.

- *Business Interruption Insurance*
- *The Complete Guide to Contract Lawyering: What Every Lawyer and Law Firm Needs to Know about Temporary Legal Services* (3rd ed.)
- *Courtroom Advocacy Skills* (Trial Lawyers' Association)
- *Employment Litigation Manual*
- *Law of Limitations* (2nd ed.)
- *On Trial: Advocacy Skills, Law and Practice* (2nd ed.)
- *Parry and Grant Encyclopaedic Dictionary of International Law* (2nd ed.)
- *Practising Law in an Aboriginal Reality* (Isaac Pitblado Lectures 2001)
- *Standards of Review of Federal Administrative Tribunals*
- *Tax for the Business Lawyer* (CLE)
- *Theater Tips and Strategies for Jury Trials* (3rd ed.)



News from [UBC Law Library](#)

Anna Holeton, Reference Librarian. UBC Law Library

UBC Law Library's homepage continues to grow and expand. Here are some interesting developments.

- All **Research Guides** [.pdf] were updated and three new guides were added:
 - [Court Rules and Civil Procedure](#)
 - [Finding Family Law Cases and Materials](#)
 - [Guide to Treaty Research](#)

- New **Legal Websites & Databases** links were added (accessible via [International Resources](#))
 - [Treaties](#)
 - Legal Information Institutes
 - [Web Resources for Chinese Law](#).

- A [Law Library Blog](#) was designed for UBC law students and faculty.

- New [Voyageur catalogue](#) went live May 1. These few tips will help you to use it more successfully:

General Tips:

- **Navigate** by clicking the tabs. Avoid using the browser BACK button.
- Use **Search Results** tab to return to search results from a specific record.
- Use **Search History** tab to see prior searches in the same session.
- For search **result lists longer than one page**, check boxes next to desired items. Click the grey button, **Retain Selected Records** to avoid losing checked items. Once you have selected all desired items, choose the display format you want then click the **E-mail** or **Print or Save** button.
- Use the **Journal/Ejournal Title Search** box when looking for journal titles.
- When finished, always click the **Exit** tab.

Simple Search Tab Tips:

- Default **Keyword (ranked by relevance)** search uses an **OR** connector (not AND), then sorts relevance ranking.
- Select **Keyword (USE and, or, not or "phrase")** for **Boolean searches**.
- **Title** search is an exact match -- it does not generate a browse list if you misspell or make a typing error

Guided Keyword Search Tab Tips:

- This interface allows you to combine search sets for more complex searches.
- Read [Help with Guided Keyword Search](#) hints at the bottom of the screen.

- **Community users** (including institutional borrowers) wishing to borrow items from UBC Law Library should review our [Interlibrary Loan Service - Fee-for-Service Clients](#) information page.



VENDORS' CORNER

NEWS from QP LegalEze

- You can now link to the full-text Order-in-Council and the Gazette Part II Regulations from the **Cumulative Regulation Bulletin**
- Links have been added within the **Table of Legislative Changes**, to the "In Force" and "Not in Force" sections
- Free access is available to QP LegalEze at all BC Courthouse Libraries, Government Agent Offices, BC Public Libraries and most BC Post-Secondary Institutions
- In addition to our historical consolidations of Statutes since 1996 Revision, we will soon be making available historical consolidations of Regulations since July 2004
- We are **seeking input** on B.C. historical and private acts QP LegalEze customers would like added to our database. Please email the title, year and chapter number of statutes you would like us to include.
Email: QPLegalEze@gems9.gov.bc.ca)

For more information please call our Customer Service line at 604 927-2914 or www.QPLegalEze.ca

NEWS from Canada Law Book

As of **October 13, 2004**, Canada Law Book will close the doors of the Vancouver office. Canada Law Book has had a downtown office since joining forces with Western Legal Publications in 1982. After October 13, both Peter Roberts and Jennifer Shillington will be working from their homes. The same telephone numbers will apply. You may reach Peter, Jennifer and David for enquiries until 5.00pm PST, Monday through Friday. Ordering caselaw can be done through Extension 3333. Peter's son, David Roberts, who has been working for CLB over the past year, will also be working out of his home. Our Fax numbers will remain the same.

Caselaw will be transmitted by e-mail in November and until that time, CLB will fax cases to all customers. Peter will be retaining certain quantities of stock in his new home office for urgent orders. The following numbers should be retained for future purposes:

Telephone: 604-844-7855
Toll-free: 1-800-263-2037
Fax: 604-844-7813

Peter Roberts: Ext: 6405
Jennifer Shillington: Ext: 6406
David Roberts: Ext: 6408

NEWS from LexisNexis Canada (www.lexisnexis.ca)

Autolink

LexisNexis Canada is excited about its new program Autolink. Autolink automatically embeds hyperlinks to full text caselaw into your firm's own documents. The program scans your documents for appearances of case citations. When it comes across a citation it automatically creates a hyperlink to the full text of that case on Quicklaw. To retrieve the full text, simply click the hyperlink.

QuickFIND

Customers may now use QuickFIND to retrieve journal articles and tribunal decisions.

Quicklaw

9,000 historical court decisions have been added to the British Columbia Judgments (BCJ) collection. Recent additions include all the cases in the *British Columbia Reports* (1867-1947) and 3,000 decisions from 1959 to 1985.

Lexis

VALL Review Volume 17, No.1 (November 2004)

LN recently added more than 50 titles from **NewsRX**, highly regarded trade publications supporting not only the general healthcare industry, but the business and law behind this industry. Also available exclusively on LexisNexis is the complete set of insurance Policy Forms from ISO, as well as the fully annotated and indexed Standard Insurance Policies from Miller.

LexisNexis is pleased to announce it will provide Factiva content on an exclusive basis to law firms. The agreement allows LexisNexis to expand its well-known current news and business information offerings, totaling approximately 20,000 global sources, to its attorney customers with unique content available only through Factiva, including Dow Jones and Reuters newswires, as well as 9,000 other sources from around the world. For the first time, LexisNexis users at law firms will enjoy access to the full text of The Wall Street Journal, a critical information source for legal researchers.

UK Patent Applications are now available. The applications will generally contain the same information that is available in existing LexisNexis patent files. Data components such as the patent publication number, issued date, the application number, filed date, inventor name, class, assignee, abstract, detailed description, and claims will appear in UK Patents when they are published by the UK Patent Office. UK Patent Applications will generally contain the same information that is available in existing LexisNexis patent files. Data components such as the patent publication number, issued date, the application number, filed date, inventor name, class, assignee, abstract, detailed description, and claims will appear in UK Patents when they are published by the UK Patent Office.

For more information or a demo of any of the new programs and sources, please contact your local LexisNexis account representative.

NEWS from LexisNexis Butterworths

2004 continues to be extremely positive for the LexisNexis print division as we are well on our way to publishing over 50 new titles. Some of the published titles that have been well received are:

- ***On Trial – Advocacy Skills Law & Practice*** (Adair) \$115
- ***Advertising and Marketing Law in Canada*** (Pritchard) \$ 75
- ***Canadian Companies' Guide to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act*** \$ 75
- ***Employment Litigation Manual*** (Knight/Goodfellow/Overhold) \$165
- ***Law of Evidence in Canada, 2nd Ed. Supplement*** \$ 65
- ***Law of Limitations, 2nd Ed.*** (Mew) \$135
- ***Bidding and Tendering: What is the Law? 3rd Ed.*** (Sandori) \$ 85
- ***Personal Injury Damages, 2004 Edition*** \$135
- ***British Columbia Business Corporations Act and Commentary*** \$ 65

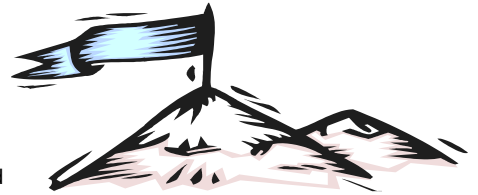
Soon to be published titles include the following:

- ***Canadian Brownfields Manual*** \$195
- ***Assessment of Personal Injury Damages, 4th Ed.*** (Bruce) \$115
- ***Independent Medical Examinations for Insurance
And Legal Reports, 2nd Ed.*** \$ 75
- ***The Doctrine of Res Judicata, 2nd Ed.*** (Lange) \$165
- ***Internet and E-Commerce Agreements, 2nd Ed.*** (Abe) \$ 80
- ***British Columbia Municipal Law & Commentary*** \$ 85

We will be transitioning the Matthew Bender business to our Canadian LexisNexis office. Over the next two months, I will be contacting our customers to go over existing Matthew Bender lists as well as highlighting any new titles.

Please give Arthur Vaz a call at 604-689-4133 or email arthur.vaz@lexisnexis.ca for more details on these new titles and initiatives

VALL REVIEW NEWSLETTER ARTICLE CONTENT -- SUBMISSION GUIDELINES



To provide short news and articles on library information and knowledge management developments of interest to VALL members with a priority focus on legal information and related issues concerning legal sector.

To highlight resources of interest to VALL which would be useful to the legal community and for professional library staff development.

Authors are advised to submit their draft articles that meet the minimal criteria:

For articles:

- 1) In Microsoft Word, Plain text or Rich-text.
- 2) Maximum of up to 800 words for full articles.
- 3) Single spaced with paragraphs.
- 4) Functional URLs and corresponding footnote bibliographic information for further reading.
- 5) Identification of author, their official position title and parent organization.

Publishers and vendors should only highlight for submission:

- 6) No more than 3-4 resources of key value per issue. Title, edition, author and projected price is helpful.
- 7) Of value, would be very recent new product developments that the vendor has not yet publicly released or the vendor would like feedback from its customers.

Note: If a vendor has already released public marketing information to all customers on its corporate web site, VALL Review editors will exercise rights to determine if there is sufficient space to include the submitted information, in light of other VALL content publishing priorities.

These guidelines are also at the VALL website: <http://vall.vancouver.bc.ca/vallreviewguide.htm>