

# VALL Review

Vancouver Association of Law Libraries

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## The President's Desk

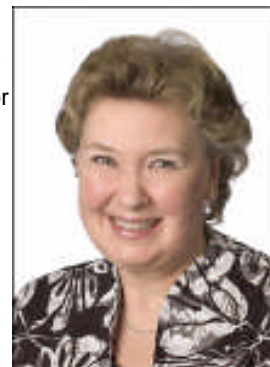
On June 24th the VALL Summer Social brought our 21st year to a delightful close when a record number of 46 members gathered for the annual June roundtable. It was a celebration day and fun for all, with a delicious BBQ served on the terrace of the Shangri-La Hotel.

The June windup provided a rare opportunity to enjoy the company of several of VALL's Honoured Members including Tom Shorthouse, Cay Kerr, Anne Beresford and Astrid Kenning. It was also a treat to welcome Peter Roberts, Arthur Vaz, Amar Sihota, Janette Nation, Mike Pasta and Marty Clarke, who all made a special trip from afar in order to attend.

It was a wonderful occasion to celebrate VALL's Lifetime Membership being awarded to Lynda Mitchell, Anne Ikeda and Jane Wells in recognition of their many years of dedicated service to VALL as they retire from the legal community. Gwendoline Hoar was the first to be awarded a Lifetime Membership upon her retirement in 2009. We trust our Lifetime Members will keep in touch and hopefully perhaps even attend a VALL meeting every now & then.

The new 2010-2011 VALL Executive was announced and once again, we are most fortunate to have an excellent group of both experienced and new volunteers to keep the ship running smoothly next year. President, Elizabeth Kinersly; Vice President, Katherine Melville; Membership, Thea Schmidt; Treasurer, Wendy Holmes; Program Committee, Agathe Holowatinc, Carolyn Petrie & Lynn Smith; Communications Committee/VALL Review, Beth Galbraith & Mica Donnelly; Website Coordinator, Susannah Tredwell and Past President, Gillian Crabtree.

It's encouraging to report that attendance increased for all of the 2009-2010 VALL Seminars with an excellent variety of topics and speakers including the joint meeting with the Knowledge Management Subsection of the B.C. Legal Management Association. The Shangri-La Hotel's location, meeting space and complete technical support meets all the requirements and the staff couldn't be more accommodating in serving excellent meals & catering to a variety of special dietary needs. It's a winner!



**Gillian Crabtree**  
**VALL President**  
**2009-2010**

# VALL Review

## VALL Executive

### President

Gillian Crabtree  
*Edwards Kenny & Bray LLP*

### Past President

Wilma MacFarlane  
*Farris LLP*

### Vice President

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### Membership Secretary

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*Lawson Lundell LLP*

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*Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP*

### VALL Review Editors

Beth Galbraith  
*Clark Wilson LLP*

Mica Donnelly  
*Borden Ladner Gervais LLP*

### Website

Susannah Tredwell  
*Lawson Lundell LLP*

Steve Matthews  
*Stem Legal*

It has been a wonderfully rewarding experience to work with such a dedicated and enthusiastic team of volunteers on the 2009/10 VALL Executive. The good news is that Elizabeth, Katherine, Wendy, Agathe, Beth, Mica, Susannah and Gillian will continue to serve on the new Exec. Team in 2010/11. The sad news is that we have some very big shoes to fill as we say a fond farewell to Graeme Dempsey, Steve Mathews, Lynda Mitchell and Wilma Macfarlane. They have done more than their share of contributing to the success of VALL for many years and we are most sincerely grateful. It's thanks to the many dedicated and enthusiastic members and the organizations behind them that VALL has developed into such a valuable association over the past 21 years. Congratulations to the incoming 2010-2011 Executive. We wish you all the best !

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.

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**Vancouver Association of Law Libraries**

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## From the Editors

**Beth Galbraith**, Clark Wilson LLP and  
**Mica Donnelly**, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

In this summer issue of the *VALL Review* we focus on the theme of mentorship. In a profession such as librarianship, where the accumulation of knowledge is vital to a successful career, it is important to establish connections with our peers and to take the opportunity to learn from one another. I think we can all relate to the apprehension, and even panic, that we felt upon leaving school, arriving at a new job and realizing how much we had to learn. A mentor can provide much-needed guidance and support as one begins to navigate through legislative research, serials records and workplace politics. Associations, such as VALL, allow members to meet others who may have faced similar challenges. Not only does this interaction assist newer members in learning the ropes, but it provides the opportunity for library veterans to pass along their wisdom. Surely you'll recall an individual who has assisted you in your own career as you read about mentorship and some influential library mentors in this issue's feature article.

*"Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction."* ~ John C. Crosby

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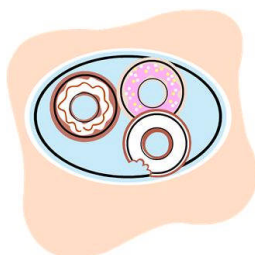
## Marketing Column

### Effective Negotiation: Donuts for Books

**Melissa Williscroft**, Harper Grey LLP

Incentive comes in many different forms. For some, it's money; for others, recognition. Here at the Harper Grey library, it's donuts. I was warned when I started my term at HG a year ago that the two days a year we offer donuts to our lawyers will be very jovial. Not that it's normally gloomy, and no one at this firm is deprived of anything sweet...but it's amazing what the promise of a donut will bring lawyers to do! In our case, they return the books they've been hoarding for months or even years!

That's right, the HG Library uses the deliciousness of donuts to encourage our lawyers to return old books. An email goes out the day before. Then I load up a cart with colourful, sweet donuts (ordered and bought from Safeway) and slowly make my way around all 3 floors. Similar to kids drawn to an ice cream truck, heads poke out of offices and then quickly duck back in, only to return a few seconds later with an armful of books and a smile - all in anticipation of that donut. Which often turns into 2 donuts (Hey, they're lawyers. They can negotiate.)



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## CALL/ACBD Report

**Teresa Gleave**, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

The CALL/ACBD 2010 conference in Windsor offered three excellent speakers for the plenary sessions. Maude Barlow, the National Chairperson for the Council of Canadians, opened the conference with a riveting and thought-provoking talk on the Great Lakes and the water crisis throughout the world. Ms. Barlow was an excellent and relevant choice for a speaker given Windsor's proximity to Lake Erie and the fact that the Gulf of Mexico oil spill was making headlines. Very sobering stuff.

Tuesday's plenary session offered another powerhouse speaker. Susan Gibbons from the University of Rochester spoke on understanding and engaging the Net generation for today's libraries. Her library employed anthropologists to study students to determine the differences between real and perceived needs of library users, and they came up with some interesting results. Some the findings and solutions: the net generation is very team-oriented and has a strong need to collaborate, so the library put the furniture on wheels to allow the students to move things around as they wish to work in groups. Social networking is paramount, so the library has joined Facebook to answer questions. Other ideas: the net generation is visually literate so good graphic design in signage, websites and other library materials is important; time is the students' scarcest resource, and they value speed over accuracy when doing research. One remark Ms. Gibbons made really stuck with me – the net generation is constantly communicating via texting, Twitter, and cell phones, “and they use email for communicating with old people”. Cheerful thought, (although it is those same “old people” who give them jobs...). Ms. Gibbons also reminded us that libraries are no longer in a monopoly position – we are competing with such disruptive technologies as Google, Wikipedia, blogs and Amazon.com. Susan Gibbons has written a number of books and articles which I think would be well worth reading to hear more of her ideas.

The Honourable Madame Justice Micheline Rawlins delivered the third plenary session in which she spoke of the power of language and proposed the idea that children should be allowed to have interpreters when they are testifying in court. Very interesting talk.

Something new was offered Monday evening. Canada Law Book and Windsor Law (University of Windsor) sponsored the Innovation Gallery at the Law School. After some social time with snacks and a glass of wine, participants were able to sit in on short presentations offered in eight classrooms. Each presentation was 20-30 minutes, so it was possible to catch five sessions over the evening. Great idea, great fun and some very cool ideas. I sat in on a session on using mind mapping software for planning and project management in libraries; another on creating a collaborative website for sharing training tools and guides; and a great presentation on how the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society Library collaborated with LexUM to develop an online version of their new civil procedure rules. I hope the Innovation Gallery is offered at future conferences.

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## Public Companies: Financing, Governance and Compliance – A Review

Agathe Holowatinc, Lawson Lundell LLP

As a “newbie” law librarian working at Lawson Lundell LLP, I am very excited about the scope, breadth, and complexity of the work I do. At the same time, I feel the need to develop my knowledge of the practice areas in which I do research, especially now, at the beginning of my career. Seeking to further my knowledge in securities and corporate law (in British Columbia) led me to discover Simon Fraser University’ two-day course *Public Companies: Financing, Governance and Compliance*.

This course covers the fundamentals of corporate governance, financial reporting, corporate law, directors’ functions and liabilities, and offers an overview of provincial securities regulation. Thanks to financing from the Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary, I was able to enrol. It took place at SFU’s Harbour Centre campus in Vancouver on Thursday and Friday, June 3-4, 2010, and was limited to 50 participants to encourage discussion and participation. This course is offered twice a year, has been approved by the Law Society of British Columbia for continuing professional development for members, and the audience at this session was an eclectic mix of lawyers, directors, officers and employees of public companies, accountants, and me, the sole librarian. Here’s a little summary of what I learned.

### **Day 1**

I was handed a binder that was 3 inches thick when I arrived at SFU on Thursday morning...and I was scared! Four topics were covered on Day 1: Corporate Law, Regulation of Capital Raising, Material Changes and Timely Disclosure, and Shareholder Communications. These sessions explored questions such as:

- What is a corporation and why do we create them?
- Who qualifies to be a Director or Officer and how are they elected, appointed and terminated?
- What are the sources of regulation of capital raising activities? What are Prospectus requirements and Prospectus and Registration Exemptions and where are they found?
- Material changes – what are they? Why is it so important that Directors and Officers of reporting issuers comply with continuous disclosure requirements (and how is that done)?
- Why do corporations hold shareholder meetings? What is the regulatory framework surrounding them? What are the best practices for shareholder communication and Investor Relations (IR)?

In brief, Day 1 focused on defining the “corporation” and elaborating on corporate structure. As well, speakers emphasized that corporate transparency, fairness and accountability, achieved through the continuous, accurate and timely disclosure of all necessary information (to the public) are fundamental principals of corporate law and securities regulation in Canada. These sessions were useful to me in my role as a business and securities law librarian because they covered the essentials (of the above mentioned topics); illustrated the points through “Fact Patterns” and current cases; noted the sources of regulation in Canada and BC (primary sources such as statutes, regulations, National Instruments and Companion Policies); and speakers provided lists of relevant and authoritative websites that lead to more information. Oh, and after one whole day of this stuff, you also learn the “language” of public company governance, regulation and compliance...I can’t wait until I’m fluent!

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## **Day 2**

I lugged that binder home and back the next morning, certain that my muscles were growing stronger with every step. Four topics were covered in Day 2: Financial Reporting, Insider Obligations, Corporate Governance, and TSX VENTURE Filing Requirements. These sessions answered questions such as:

- What are the current financial statement filing and delivery requirements for public companies? What are some common deficiencies and consequences? What do these documents reveal?
- What is IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standard) and why is Canada transitioning to that standard and away from GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles)?
- Why is continuous (financial) disclosure important?
- Who is a “reporting insider” and what are the duties imposed on them by the *Securities Act*? Where does someone file an “insider report”? What is “insider trading” and what are the consequences?
- What events have shaped corporate governance reform in Canada?
- What are the methods of distributing securities to the public and what are the advantages and disadvantages of listing shares for trading on an exchange? What is the listing process?

The sessions in Day 2 were just as comprehensive as those in Day 1, using examples, pointing to relevant regulatory documents, and providing further reading to illustrate the key concepts. In summary, the two fundamental ideas I left with were: 1) full, true and plain disclosure of all pertinent facts (by those offering securities for sale to the public) is the cornerstone of Canadian securities regulation and 2) there sure are a lot of people working together to protect investors in the Canadian marketplace.

## **Speakers**

The speakers were prominent members of the legal, accounting and business communities, as well as staff from the BC Securities Commission (BCSC) and TSX Venture Exchange. Program Coordinators, Charlotte Bell from Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP and David Toyoda from Boughton Law Corporation, organized the sessions and also spoke in-depth, along with several guest speakers, on the topics of corporate law, obligations for company insiders, and corporate governance. The range of backgrounds and areas of expertise of the speakers made every topic stand out and made this course shine.

## **Evaluation**

This is an excellent course. It is well-organized, comprehensive and well taught. It offers an inside look into the legal, accounting and communication aspects of public companies in BC, covering what you *need* to know. I strongly feel that this course deepened my knowledge in areas that support the research I do as a librarian at Lawson Lundell LLP and I would recommend this course to librarians working in business and securities law.

## **Thank you VALL!**

I would like to express my appreciation to the Association and to the VALL Executive for selecting me as this year’s recipient of the Peter Bark Professional Development Bursary, which funded my participation in this course. Thank you very much!

## Feature Article: The Importance of Mentorship

Beth Galbraith, Clark Wilson LLP

As library professionals we can all agree that there is only so much that school can teach us about how to do our job. Many of the most important skills and knowledge comes from experience and learning from others.

The last couple of years have seen some long time VALL members retire. With impressive careers in the law community they are leaving with years and years of experience and knowledge about legal research, the history of providing research services in law libraries and the know-how of working with lawyers and staff. When new people start jobs in our library community finding mentors or someone to give a helping hand and teach the skills you don't learn in books is a treasure.

Mentoring can take on many different forms. Many of the trade professions like electricians and plumbers have apprenticeships, which are an important and mandatory part of the education and training process. This connects new students with a professional who can guide and teach them with hands-on learning to supplement the courses they have taken at school. Lawyers, doctors, jobs in the financial sectors, teachers and other management positions have mentoring programs set up to help new professionals with advice and encouragement.

### Mentor for a Lifetime

Oxford defines a mentor as an experienced and trusted advisor  
And I am grateful for so many,  
who couldn't have been wiser

The best mentors teach us by example  
How best to deal with life's good and bad

And there was never a better teacher  
Than my amazing Dad

He had a quiet brilliance  
With a twinkle for all to see

It didn't matter what it was  
He could always show us the key

It sounds like rose coloured glasses  
That our memories often bring

But the only thing he couldn't do  
Was carry a tune and sing!

In memory of my wonderful Dad,  
Charlie Goff

Gillian Crabtree, Edwards,  
Kenny & Bray LLP

Universities also encourage mentorship for students, special community organizations as well as mentoring programs within specific companies can match up new professionals with an experienced mentor who works in their field. The Vancouver Board of Trade has a Leaders of Tomorrow Program, aimed at getting young adults interested in business. The Women in Leadership Foundation has a well known mentor program that focuses on encouraging women in business and increasing the number of women in management and leadership. At UBC, the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies (SLAIS) program has a BCLA/CLA student chapter that organizes a Professional Mentor program to match up library students with a professional librarian. There are also more personal mentor programs available, such as those devoted to teens and young adults, in which they are paired up with an adult who encourages them to finish school and becomes a role model for a successful future.

As a young person, having a mentor can be helpful because it provides someone to talk to about questions that may seem silly or obvious, to get feedback about problems one may be having at work, and to have a source of encouragement when interested in a promotion or taking on more responsibility. Even the simplest matter of knowing you can phone someone up and say "I need

help” can make such a huge difference.

Being a mentor can be rewarding as well. A mentor allows people who have been working in a profession or a particular position for a long time to be able to share their knowledge and experience with another person. Being recognized for achievements, and helping others achieve their own goals are also fantastic reasons for becoming involved in mentoring.

#### **CALL Mentorship Program**

The Canadian Association of Law Libraries launched its Mentorship Program in 2009. The program is an initiative intended to connect law library professionals pursuing new professional development with more experienced professionals. More information on the program, as well as mentor and mentee registration forms, are available on the [CALL website](#).

#### **UBC SLAIS Mentorship Program**

The BCLA/CLA student chapter at UBC’s School of Library, Archival and Information Studies organizes a mentorship program with the goal to foster the creation of mutually satisfying relationships between practicing information professionals and SLAIS students. For more information contact [slaismentorship@gmail.com](mailto:slaismentorship@gmail.com).

#### **My mentor is Wilma Macfarlane**

Over ten years ago, I entered the TD Tower to begin my first day at Farris. I had no idea what to expect as the elevator soared up to the 25<sup>th</sup> floor. I was fresh out of the Langara Library Technician program and had just ended my brief employment at the Law Society filing loose-leaf materials. Once Wilma greeted me she soon put me at ease with her great sense of humour and warm personality. I settled into my first day, and thousands thereafter.

Over the years, Wilma has instilled faith and confidence in my abilities to learn and grow in my position. Her loyalty, encouragement and commitment to my success have been unwavering. Having this support has enabled me to take on new roles and responsibilities in my job and in external associations of which I am actively involved.

There are two things that serve to be greatest lessons that Wilma has taught me not only as a library professional, but also as a friend. First, I learned that a good mentor provides the mentee the freedom to cultivate their own strengths and also trusts their ability to complete a task. Building confidence in my skills and abilities was essential if I was going to continue working in a law firm library.

Once I had confidence in what I was doing, I needed to polish up my interpersonal skills. Having had a shining example sitting twenty feet away from me, I learned to go outside my comfort zone. I started to build a rapport with the people I worked with in and outside the office. This brings me to the second greatest lesson that Wilma taught me. Kindness goes a long way. It will strengthen your professional network, and open doors you once never knew existed.

Wilma’s last day at Farris was June 30<sup>th</sup>. Wilma, thank you for being an excellent mentor. Your wisdom will continue to be the bedrock of my success for years to come.

**Kathy Barry**, Farris LLP



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Many associations like VALL provide an opportunity for mentorship. Regular meetings provide an opportunity for members to interact and create relationships that allow people to share their knowledge, experience and guidance to those who are newer members. The inclusion of our Honoured and Lifetime members is also an opportunity for those who may not work in the field anymore to continue to be involved in the association, and to share their expertise and experience with others.

Mentors, role models and those who encourage, inspire, teach and encourage us are an important part of our professional lives and should not be overlooked.

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## News from the Courthouse Library

**Maureen Heaney**, Courthouse Libraries BC

No doubt we've all been preoccupied with shortfalls and shrinking budgets lately. Though new purchases are few and far between these days, we're pleased to be able to tell you of some recent additions to our collection. The Library has acquired updated volume sets for a number of US and UK encyclopedias, namely *American Jurisprudence (AmJur) Legal Forms*, *Atkin's Court Forms*, *Corpus Juris Secundum* and the *Encyclopaedia of Forms and Precedents*. These new sets replace volumes which were fast becoming outdated and are certain to be well-used.

For those who may need a refresher...

*AmJur Legal Forms* provides sample forms for drafting legal documents and instruments for business transactions. It is a comprehensive collection covering all areas of law in which legal forms are used, often providing examples pertaining to particular situations and circumstances not found elsewhere. Lord Atkin's classic *Court Forms* not only contains precedents for pleadings but provides detailed commentary and a synopsis of English civil law. Reissued volumes are now fully compliant with the Civil Procedure Rules 1998 and new titles include developing areas of litigation such as Marriage, Civil Partnership and Cohabitation, Human Rights, and Privacy and Data Protection.

*Corpus Juris Secundum* is an American legal encyclopedia, similar to the *Canadian Encyclopedic Digest* (CED). Case summaries and statutory references are arranged by subject to provide a comprehensive and contemporary statement of the law. Handy referrals to West's key number digest system facilitate research in related areas.

Last but not least, the *Encyclopaedia of Forms and Precedents* is published by LexisNexis Butterworths and contains precedents for deeds, agreements and contractual and non-contractual forms in areas of law ranging from advertising to e-commerce to sale of land to wills and administration. Commentary and annotations are provided throughout and accompanying finding tools are excellent, including a detailed subject index and easy to use "form finder" table.

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## **VALL Represented at the Langara College Library Technician Program Association Panel Discussion**

**Beth Galbraith**, Clark Wilson LLP

On March 11, 2010, I spent the morning with Langara College's Library and Information Technology first year students participating in a panel discussion about associations. Susan Burdak, an instructor in the Library Technician program had contacted me about representing VALL at the presentation because I had spoken to the class last year. This year's panel discussion was much bigger and better developed than the previous year. There were representatives from six other associations: British Columbia Library Association (BCLA), the Library Technician and Assistants Interest Group (LTAIG), Special Library Association (SLA), Canadian Library Association (CLA), Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA), Health Libraries Association of British Columbia (HLABC) and the Canadian Association for School Libraries (CASL).

Each of the presenters gave a description about their association and the benefits and special membership for students. One of the representatives from BCLA asked the students if they were members of any associations. Out of the 30 students in the classroom, only two were members of an association. When asked why they were not members, students responded that they did not know what associations existed (until this presentation) and others said that they did not know what kind of library work they were interested in.

Both the BCLA and the CLA representatives discussed the current challenges facing large associations. The CLA was seeing a decrease in its membership numbers and was concerned they may not even have an election at this year's CLA conference. The CLA was looking at ways to change or rebrand to ensure the organization could continue. This made the call for student memberships seem more important than in previous years.

The response to the VALL presentation was very positive. VALL offers a free membership for students and a voucher for a half price lunch. Students were very interested in the membership opportunities and took all the registration forms that I brought and asked many questions about what it was like to work in a law library and what kind of training or knowledge was necessary to work in a law firm library. Graeme Dempsey also sent along with me a wonderful write-up about his experiences as a law library technician and what his job entails. Students were happy to receive this insight about what kind of jobs library technicians can look forward to when they graduate.

Susan Burdak is intending to continue this association panel discussion next year, and it is a great opportunity for VALL to outreach to new student members.

## VALL June Seminar & Social



VALL Honoured Members Cay Kerr, Tom Shorthouse, Anne Beresford and Astrid Kenning



Agathe Holowatinc, Larisa Titova, Janette Nation and Patricia Antunes



BBQ lunch on the Shangri-La terrace

Lifetime Memberships were awarded to Jane Wells, Anne Ikeda and Lynda Mitchell



Wilma Macfarlane and Tom Shorthouse



Shangri-La Hotel



Agathe Holowatinc and Lynda Mitchell

## Member Announcements

**Katherine Melville** has moved from Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP and will be starting a new position with Farris LLP as Director of Library Services.

**Wilma MacFarlane** has moved from Farris LLP to create MACINFOSERVE to provide competitive intelligence, knowledge management and business research services to the law firm sector. Her consulting services cater to smaller law firms and boutiques, specializing in needs assessments for electronic and paper resources.

Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP's new Research Specialist is **Eric Sherbine**, a new member of VALL. Eric and his wife moved to Canada from the United States in October 2009. Before moving to Canada, Eric was a "labor" and employment lawyer in Maryland, and he also has several years of experience as an information technology consultant. He earned his law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law, and he has a masters degree in computer science from the Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor's degree in information science from the University of Pittsburgh. Welcome to VALL Eric!

**Christina Tribe** has returned to Harper Grey LLP from her maternity leave. Welcome back Christina!

New VALL student member **Yin (Connie) Kang**, just graduated from the Library & Information Program at Langara and is temporarily working at Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP following a practicum there. Connie was previously a library technician in the Chinese Community Library, located in Chinatown, and was a librarian in China, holding a Bachelor's degree in Library Science and a Master's degree in Information Science. She enjoys hiking, swimming, sewing and blogging. She is also a happy mother and is excited to have graduated at the same time as her daughter who will be a law school student this fall. Connie is interested in any openings for a library technician (or clerk) position, either full time or part time. Welcome to VALL Connie!

VALL's newest Lifetime Members are **Lynda Mitchell, Anne Ikeda, Jane Wells** and **Joan Mulholland**. Congratulations!

The 2010/11 VALL Executive consists of President, **Elizabeth Kinersly**; Vice President, **Katherine Melville**; Past President, **Gillian Crabtree**; Membership, **Thea Schmidt**; Treasurer, **Wendy Holmes**; Program Committee, **Agathe Holowatinc, Carolyn Petrie & Lynn Smith**; VALL Review Editors, **Beth Galbraith & Mica Donnelly** and Website Coordinator, **Susannah Tredwell**.

### VALL Review Newsletter Article Content Submission Guidelines

Please take a look at the guidelines below and contact the *VALL Review* Editors if you have any further questions. You do not have to be a VALL member to write for us. Anyone is welcome to contribute to the *VALL Review* as long as you meet the guidelines below. Thanks for your support and interest!

#### Purpose of *VALL Review*

- 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 the 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:

- 1) In Microsoft Word, plain text or RTF.
- 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 any new product developments that the vendor has not yet publicly released or that 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.)